

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 12, 2024
64697 Cook Avenue
Bend, Oregon 97703

BOARD: Ron Cochran, Martin Warbington, Steve Putnam, Carol Shull, Ed Galazzo
STAFF: Chris Schull, April Harris Spath
ATTORNEY: Attorney Reinecke
GUESTS: Dave Arnold, Jack Farley, Larry Edwards, Greg Mohnen, Mary Wallis, Casey Roscoe, Hanna Cooper, Barrie Durfee, Marianne Walker, Susie Hart, Scott Maricle

Chairman Cochran called the regular board meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and appointed April Harris Spath scribe.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

At 10:05 a.m. the Board recessed the regular session and entered executive session per:

- ORS 192.660(2)(e): To conduct deliberations with persons you have designated to negotiate real property transactions. – NO DISCUSSION
- ORS 192.660(2)(f): To consider information or records that are exempt from disclosure by law, including written advice from your attorney. – NO DISCUSSION
- ORS 192.660(2)(h): To consult with your attorney regarding your legal rights and duties in regard to current litigation or litigation that is more likely than not to be filed.

RECONVENE

Following the executive session, the regular session was reconvened at 11:04 a.m.

APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2024 BOARD MEETING

Director Putnam made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 2024 board meeting. Vice Chair Warbington seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

WATER SUPPLY REPORT

Manager Schull reviewed the current water supply report and attached graph, which indicated that Crescent Lake was 16% full at ~13,600 AF. This is 5,000 more-acre feet than last year, and Schull expects total spring runoff to be 12-15,000 AF. There will be a District meeting sometime in May to discuss our water outlook for the 2024 season. Once a date and location have been determined, TID will notify patrons by text, email, and postcard.

GROUP 4 UPDATE

Manager Schull stated that K&E Excavating is progressing on schedule and has started performing some pressure tests.

FUTURE PIPING PROJECT UPDATES

Group 6B, which goes from Hwy 20 to Connarn, is 50% funded. We are still waiting for BOR to approve the WaterSmart grant. Both Federal and State funds have been secured for Group 6C, which will continue from Connarn and end at Deschutes River Ranch Group. Funding for Group 5, which will pipe the Couch lateral, is under review by BOR.

BOARD MEETING TRAINING

Directors Shull, Galazzo, and Putnam attended a SDAO Public Meetings Training on February 26, 2024. Director Galazzo expressed that they learned a lot. On January 1, 2024, HB 2805 went into effect adding a new mandatory public meetings training requirement for every member of a governing body to receive Public Meetings Law training at least once during their term of office. There will be more clarification later this year on whether the training that they attended qualifies or if they need to attend a special training approved by the Oregon Government Ethics Commission.

ELECTION POLICY UPDATE

To be aligned with the current ORS outline for irrigation district elections and to address potential recalls, the District's Election Policy needed to be revised. A draft was presented to the Board to review at the last meeting. Chairman Cochran and Vice Chair Warbington would like to clarify a few points before approving. They will discuss their recommendations for changes and present them at the next board meeting.

VERIZON CELL TOWER LEASE

The lease administrator for the Verizon cell tower has submitted another proposal for a lease extension for an additional 40 years. The proposal included a one-time signing bonus of \$2,000 and a \$200 monthly increase. The Board discussed the proposal and determined that the amount was significantly low considering the amount of inflation that could occur over 40 years. Vice Chair Warbington stated that a 5-year extension made more sense than 40 years. Attorney Reinecke stated that his office could prepare some comps for the Board to review to determine the market value of this type of lease. The Board will discuss this further once they have more data for reference.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Wallis asked when we are going to complete winter maintenance and start cleaning the ditches. Manager Schull stated that the field crew has been busy helping with the Group 4 pipe connections but that in the 2 weeks before water starts, the two ditch riders will be focused on ditch cleaning. She suggested we send a text out the week before water starts reminding patrons to clean out their own private ditches. Schull said that he would think about it and see if he can come up with an idea to help the situation.

Hanna Cooper asked about her unique delivery situation and what she can expect this season.

MOTION TO APPROVE MARCH 2024 VOUCHER LIST

Vice Chair Warbington made a motion to approve the March 2024 voucher list. Director Putnam seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular board meeting was moved out one week to April 16, 2024, as Manager Schull will be in Washington D.C. from April 5th to April 15th.

ADJOURN

Director Shull made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:50 p.m. Vice Chair Warbington seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.