

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2026
64697 Cook Avenue
Bend, Oregon 97703

BOARD: Ed Galazzo, Ron Cochran, Martin Warbington, Yves Teirlynck, Jack Billings
STAFF: Chris Schull, April Harris Spath
ATTORNEY: Mark Reinecke
GUESTS: Susie Hart, Steve Putnam, Carol Shull, Doug Stout, Karin Cody, Nunzie Gould, Jan Harper, Greg Mohnen, Brina Lokting, Jeff Kramer, Janet Craig, Marianne Walker, Carolyn Sufit, Jeremy Giffin, David Arnold, Becky Arnold, Frank Siemsen, Casey Roscoe, Gary Moss, Matt Foster, Patrice Spyrka, John Gilbert, Shelly Samples, Seth Flanders, Karen Moss
Zoom Attendees: Jeff Stuermer, Jon White

Director Cochran called the regular board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and appointed April Harris Spath scribe and announced that patron Susie Hart was recording the meeting.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Yves Teirlynck read and signed his oath of office for Director of Tumalo Irrigation District, representing Division 1. Jack Billings read and signed his oath of office for Director of Tumalo Irrigation District, representing Division 3.

NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF BOARD CHAIR

Director Warbington nominated Director Cochran for the position of Board Chair. Director Billings nominated Director Galazzo for the position, and Director Teirlynck seconded that nomination. The appointment of Ed Galazzo was approved by Director Galazzo, Director Warbington, Director Billings, and Director Teirlynck with a 4-0 vote. Director Cochran abstained.

NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Director Cochran nominated Director Warbington for the position of Vice Chair. Director Galazzo nominated Director Billings for the position, and Director Teirlynck seconded that nomination. The appointment of Jack Billings was approved by Director Galazzo, Director Warbington, Director Billings, and Director Teirlynck with a 4-0 vote. Director Cochran abstained.

APPOINT MANAGER/SECRETARY TO THE BOARD

Chairman Galazzo made a motion to appoint Chris Schull as the District Manager for 2026. Director Warbington seconded the motion. Director Teirlynck, Director Cochran, and Vice Chair Billings all voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF BOARD SECRETARY

Chairman Galazzo made a motion to appoint Chris Schull as Secretary to the Board. Director Warbington seconded the motion. Director Teirlynck, Director Cochran, and Vice Chair Billings all voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

At 10:09 a.m. the Board recessed the regular session and entered executive session per:

- ORS 192.660(2)(f): To consider information or records that are exempt from disclosure by law, including written advice from your attorney.

- 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, Chairman Galazzo reconvened the regular session at 11:06 a.m. and announced that patron Susie Hart was recording the meeting.

APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2025 BOARD MEETING

The board reviewed Yves Teirlynck's recommended revisions to the public comment portion of the meeting minutes, and Director Cochran made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 2025 board meeting, accepting those revisions. Director Teirlynck seconded the motion. Chairman Galazzo, Director Warbington, and Vice Chair Billings voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

WATER SUPPLY REPORT

The current water supply report and graph indicated that Crescent Lake was 27% full at ~23,700 AF. Manager Schull stated the snowpack levels so far this year continue to be very low, which is not a good sign for the upcoming irrigation season.

GRANT FUNDS

Manager Schull stated everything is still moving forward with funding. He is currently working on a request to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to increase the \$25M cap on the Watershed Plan (WSP) funds and asking for \$3.5M to complete Phase 6B, since the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) WaterSmart grants were pulled. Once Phase 6B is a go, we can begin the process of utilizing the grant funds from the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) for Group 6C.

ONBOARDING

Chairman Galazzo welcomed and introduced TID's two new board members, Yves and Jack.

SET REGULAR BOARD MEETING PLACE, DATE AND TIME

The District will continue to hold the regular board meetings at the district office on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. (Executive session at 10:00 a.m. and return to regular session at approximately 10:30 a.m.)

There was discussion about holding the meeting after business hours and the challenges that come with that. Director Teirlynck proposed discussing a new process of recording meetings. Patron Carol Shull commented as a former board member that she agrees with the suggestion of recording the meetings, as a patron is currently recording them anyway. Vice Chair Billings volunteered to research options for doing so.

2026 BOARD MEMBER MEETING FEES

Director Galazzo made a motion to leave the board member meeting fees at \$50.00 per meeting for those members who choose to take the fee, and Director Warbington seconded the motion. Vice Chair Billings, Director Cochran, and Director Teirlynck voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

2026 DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS & OPERATING BUDGET

Director Teirlynck proposed they discuss the budget prior to approving district assessments, as we need an approved budget to determine the assessments. The rest of the board agreed.

Director Teirlynck pointed out that, although we are exempt from Oregon budget law, it makes sense to have a budget so that we can base the assessments on the district's anticipated financial needs for the year. However, Teirlynck stated that he was not comfortable approving the budget at this time because as a new director, he has not had adequate time to properly review it. He proposed they postpone the discussion until the end of the month. Chairman Galazzo made a motion to postpone approving the Operating Budget, Annual Assessments, and District Fees for 2026. Director Warbington seconded the motion, and a special board meeting was tentatively scheduled for January 28th. Vice Chair Billings, Director Cochran, and Director Teirlynck were all in agreement and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Carol Shull stated she would like the board to consider setting per-diem rates for staff travel and meals.

Teirlynck and Billings will meet with Office Manager April Spath and TID's auditor Rich Winkel on January 19th to discuss any questions they may have regarding the district's financial statements.

There was discussion about using reserve funds to pay off the DEQ loans. Director Cochran recommended loan documents be reviewed, confirming there is no penalty for paying the loans off early. In the meantime, it was pointed out that one of the loan payments was due at the end of the month. Director Warbington made a motion approving the use of district reserve funds to make the one upcoming payment, and Chairman Galazzo seconded the motion. Vice Chair Billings, Director Cochran, and Director Teirlynck were in favor and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Director Teirlynck pointed out that we need to get a better understanding, and plan on how to deal with the provision for future repairs, which has been part of our annual assessments since 2019. While the money was collected and made its way into the cash position on our balance sheet, it was never reflected as a separate provision on the liability side of the balance sheet. In the meantime, during the same period as of 2019, we kept on expending major projects against actuals (i.e. hit the P&L at the same time as building a provision on the balance sheet). How to improve the recording of these events will be discussed during our upcoming call with Mr. Winkel.

NEW BUSINESS

Manager Schull will be meeting with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on Thursday to discuss the easement that runs through property owned by John Gilbert & Shelly Samples, and BLM.

Manager Schull informed the board that he was notified by the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGEC) that a complaint was filed against him. Schull had not yet seen a copy of the complaint but said he would update the board when he learned more.

Patron Susie Hart had submitted two more grievances since the last meeting. Chairman Galazzo stated that a letter was mailed to Hart in response, and that today the board was formally acknowledging receipt of the grievances and outlined the board's process for responding. Hart asked the board which statute allows the board to discuss a grievance outside of a regular meeting. Galazzo stated the board commits to follow all public meeting laws. Director Warbington recommended the board appoint a committee to review the grievances and prepare a recommendation for the board. Chairman Galazzo agreed with the recommendation and suggested the two newest directors make up the committee as they are new to the board and believed that made them unbiased observers. Director Teirlynck thought it best that he focuses on reviewing the budget. Chairman Galazzo made a motion to appoint Director Billings to review the grievances and bring a recommendation to the board. Director Warbington seconded the motion and Vice Chair Billings accepted and agreed to be a committee of one. Director Teirlynck voted in favor, and it passed with a vote of 4-0. Director Cochran abstained.

Chairman Galazzo asked Ms. Hart what her endgame was, what would be a resolution for her. Hart replied that her main complaint was that the board was not following the bylaws and making excuses. She would

like Director Cochran to resign from the board. Galazzo explained that it would have to be voluntary and not a decision the board would make.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Seth Flanders, the new Irrigation Specialist for the Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District, introduced himself and said that he was looking forward to working with the district.

Regarding the meeting Manager Schull scheduled with BLM, as mentioned earlier, Gibert presented a letter to the board that explained their issue and the purpose of the meeting. They are requesting the downed trees and debris within TID's easement be removed by TID. Schull had explained that TID needs permission from the federal government to remove timber from BLM land, but Gilbert believes that TID does have the authority and invited anyone interested to come to view the property. Vice Chair Billings and Director Cochran accepted the invitation to join the on-site meeting with BLM. Cochran announced, for full disclosure, that he is a real estate business partner with Gilbert. Patron David Arnold suggested that TID set guidelines for accepting responsibility on these issues, how long after piping they should be held accountable and how much money should be expended.

Carol Shull stated that in addition to her previous comments about the board setting up per-diem rates for travel and recording the board meetings, there were three more points that she wanted to be made as a former board member:

- 1) She recently visited a county building and noticed a whiteboard that listed what staff was in and who was out. She thought that was a great idea.
- 2) She recommended the board create an HR committee that meets with staff for evaluations.
- 3) She has observed that the time the attorney has had to spend on responding to filed grievances has been extensive and it needs to stop, as patrons do not appreciate paying for additional legal fees.

Patron Nunzie Gould requested that board packets be uploaded to the district's website. Susie Hart reminded patrons that they can always submit a public records request to Office Manager Spath requesting a copy.

Patron Gary Moss made a statement that he respected Susie Hart's concerns but hopes that with two new board members we can all work towards reconciliation.

MOTION TO APPROVE JANUARY VOUCHER LIST

Director Warbington made a motion to approve the January 2026 voucher list. Chairman Galazzo seconded the motion. Director Cochran, Vice Chair Billings, and Director Teirlynck voted in favor, and passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The date of the next regular board meeting was set for Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. (Executive session at 10:00 a.m. and returning to regular session at approximately 10:30 a.m.)

ADJOURN

Director Teirlynck made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:15 p.m. Vice Chair Billings seconded the motion. Director Cochran, Vice Chair Billings, and Director Warbington voted in favor, and it passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.