

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 12, 2022
64697 Cook Avenue
Bend, Oregon 97703

BOARD: Ron Cochran, Jack Farley, Steve Putnam, Carol Shull, Martin Warbington
STAFF: Chris Schull, April Harris Spath, Bob Varco, Brett Christensen
GUESTS: Greg Mohnen, Doug Stout, Bob Buddenbohn, Van Jepson, Annette Coulon, Tom Bishop, Bruce Hoover

Chairman Cochran called the regular board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and appointed April Harris Spath scribe.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

At 10:01 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, the regular session was reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 2022 BOARD MEETING

Director Putnam made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2022 board meeting. Director Shull seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

WATER SUPPLY REPORT

Manager Schull reviewed the current water supply report and attached graphs, which indicated that Crescent Lake was down to 7,300-acre feet and 9% full. Tumalo Creek had a mean daily flow of 76 cfs. The cold weather has helped to keep the snow in the mountains from melting too early, however the current flow is not enough to significantly benefit our overall water supply.

With the historic drought and lack of available water for the District, two options for the upcoming irrigation season were discussed for when Tumalo Creek runs out of water. Hopefully, we will have enough water to do a 7-day on, 7-day off rotation (as we did last year) for the month of July. But that's only for July. By August, we will have to choose one of the two options listed in the survey that was sent out last month. The survey contained the two scenarios that the District had discussed as workable options for the upcoming season: 1) turn off the system in August when the amount of water does not allow for a 7-day on, 7-day off rotation (like last year), 2) change the rotation schedule to a 7-day on and 14-day off rotation and run into September before shutting off. As of today, the results of the returned post cards were 91 votes for Option #1 and 87 votes for Option #2. The Board listened to suggestions from the guests and discussed the options. Director Putnam made a motion to deliver 70% to the entire district beginning April 18th until Tumalo Creek runs out. At that time switch to a 7-day on, 7-day off rotation (like last year) until August. Then the rotation will switch to the 7-day on, 14-day off rotation and run into September. Vice Chair Farley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

It was noted that starting the season later does not mean we are able to run water longer. The water we deliver in the beginning of the season comes from Tumalo Creek, which is a live flow and is fully

dependent on the past year's snowpack. If we don't take the Tumalo Creek water, it will just stay in-stream and travel to the Colombia River. Every year when Tumalo Creek snow melt runs out, we switch from Tumalo Creek water to storage water from Crescent Lake. Unfortunately, because of the relatively small drainage area around Crescent Lake, the lake is slow to fill and is mostly filled with spring runoff from the snowpack, which at this time is below average and the lake is not refilling as quickly as it has in past years. Not having enough water in the reservoir to deliver a full season to all patrons requires TID to go to a rotation schedule. Also, we need enough "carry water" in the system to get the water down to the end of the ditches and laterals, and that is why we cannot reduce the flow to 50% all the time and still deliver to the entire district. Furthermore, in order to stay in compliance with the Habitat Conservation Plan, during August and September the district will still have to let a small percentage of water out of Crescent Lake for the benefit of the Oregon spotted frog; therefore, shutting down completely in August won't save a significant amount of water.

STEIDL DAM UPDATE

The new slides gates for Steidl Dam have been installed and they are working on getting them automated. Manager Schull stated he is in the process of searching for funds for the remaining 5 gates that need to be replaced and recently applied for a grant.

CRESCENT LAKE BOAT RAMP

Manager Schull scheduled a meeting with the Forest Service and Kevin Crew to review the public comments that he submitted on behalf of TID in opposition of the proposed Crescent Boat Launch and Infrastructure Project that would interfere with District water rights.

DECLARE TRAILER SURPLUS

Manager Schull found a 1990 TrailMax Trailer that fits into the budget that was authorized at the August 14, 2019 board meeting and would replace the 1978 Miller Tilt Trailer. Director Putnam made a motion to declare the '78 Miller Tilt Trailer surplus. Director Shull seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OTHER

Manager Schull introduced Brent Christensen. He was hired in January and is now training for the Field Supervisor position that will be vacant upon Bob Varco's retirement in July.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Todd Peplin, Programs Lead with the Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District, was unable to attend the meeting in person but he provided the office with an update on Session 1 of the Irrigation Water Management Workshop Series: Adapting to Drought Conditions that took place on April 7, 2022. There were 34 participants, including a few TID patrons. He stated that the participants had great questions and felt that they learned a lot. The series consists of three workshops combining classroom sessions with on-farm field application and focuses on improving your irrigation system and management skills in times of drought. Session 2 will be held July 21, 2022 for the classroom portion and July 23, 2022 for the field portion and will cover soil moisture monitoring, irrigation water application and timing. Materials will be posted on the DSWCD website.

Tom Bishop asked if TID would be delivering water to KCDG this year. Manager Schull explained that they will receive their allowed allotment of irrigation water.

MOTION TO APPROVE APRIL 2022 VOUCHER LIST

Director Warbington made a motion to approve the April 2022 voucher list. Director Putnam seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The date of the next board meeting was set for May 10, 2022.

ADJOURN

Director Shull made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:30 p.m. Director Putnam seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.