

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
TALENT IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MAY 7, 2024**

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TALENT IRRIGATION DISTRICT met in regular session at the office of the district located at 104 West Valley View Road, Talent, Oregon, on the above date. Mike Winters called the board meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

Mike Winters -----	President
Jeff Bohn -----	Vice President
Wanda Derry -----	Secretary/Manager
Bo Bergren -----	Assistant Manager

VISITORS:

Dave Westerberg -----	Water User at 816 E Valley View Rd
Matt Borman -----	Bear Creek Orchard Manager and MID Board Member
Bill Swartz -----	Water User at 787 Anderson Creek Rd.
Ricky Clark -----	OSU Extension Service
Brian Sephton -----	Water User at 7121 Dark Hollow Rd.
Steven Vieira -----	Water User at 226 Hidden Ln.
Dina Cantrell -----	Water User at 2035 E. Main St.
Ralph Gysine -----	Water User at 4720 Coal Mine Rd.
John Funke -----	Water User at 585 W Valley View Rd.
Dawn Watson -----	Water User at 4491 Pioneer Rd.

ABSENT:

Jeff Hogan -----	Director
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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 2, 2024

The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 2, 2024 were considered. Director Bohn made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by President Winters and unanimously passed. President Winters, Vice President Bohn and Manager Derry signed the April Minutes.

EXPLANATION OF CLAIM SHEET FOR MARCH \$199,738.44

The Board reviewed the Claim Sheet for March for check numbers 2428 through 2509 and the itemized list of Visa charges for the month. The total Claim Sheet amount of \$199,738.44, less the exceptional items of \$73,739.86, leaves a Claim Sheet balance of \$125,998.58 for the regular expenses for the month.

Manager Derry pointed out the two exceptional charges for the month were for shotcrete jobs on the East and Talent Canals that are now finished. A motion was made by Director Bohn to approve the Claim Sheet and the list of itemized Visa charges for March as presented. The motion was seconded by President Winters and unanimously passed. Both President Winters and Manager Derry signed the Claim Sheet.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY, ITEMIZED BUDGET COMPARISON, ASSESSMENTS RECEIVABLE, BALANCE SHEET AND PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT FOR MARCH 2024

The Board was supplied with copies of the Financial Summary, Itemized Budget Comparison, Assessments Receivable, Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for February 2024.

The budget should be at 50% for March; the Income is at 73% and Expenses are at 44%. Collections are in line with what they were in March of 2023.

WATER SUPPLY AND DISCUSSION ON SEASON START DATE

Manager Derry went over the following current water supply numbers as of today:

Howard Prairie	32,131 acre feet or 53% of capacity
Hyatt Lake	9,779 acre feet or 60% of capacity
Emigrant Lake	29,381 acre feet or 75% of capacity

Comparison to this time last year:

	<u>5/6/2024</u>	<u>5/6/2023</u>
HOWARD	32,131 53%	25,288 41%
HYATT	9,779 60%	6,929 43%
EMIGRANT	29,381 75%	26,876 69%
	71,291 62%	59,093 51%

STARTING NUMBERS FOR THE 2023 SEASON ON 5/22/23

HOWARD	30,402 OR 50%
HYATT	9,289 OR 54%
EMIGRANT	28,910 OR 57%
	68,601 OR 59%

Manager Derry stated that we have a sufficient water supply to start the season. We currently have more water than last year. Our goal this year is to give everyone a sufficient supply of water for their crops and have supply left over to carry over for next year. Manager Derry recalled a phone call she had received last week from John Pratt, President of the Rogue Valley Wine Growers. He called to say he would love to see us start as late as possible and run as long as possible.

Manager Derry printed out a 14-day weather forecast showing the temps running in the 80s and near 90 degrees.

Following a brief discussion, the Board made the decision to start flushing the canals on Monday, May 13th and start water deliveries on Monday, May 20th.

MC DONALD SYSTEM START UP

Manager Derry reported that we are going to start flushing the upper West and Frederick's Canals later this week. We will begin water deliveries the week of May 13th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (LIMITED TO 5 MINUTES)

Dave Westerberg – Valley View Beef, 816 E. Valley View Rd.

Agrees with the Board that it is a good plan to start flushing on the 13th.

Matt Borman - Bear Creek Orchard Manager and MID Board Member

From the orchard perspective, the soil moisture content is back to full. They will not start testing their system until the end of May. They will not be leaning heavily on the canals at all this month.

Bill Swartz – 787 Anderson Creek Road, Talent

No comments

Ricky Clark – OSU Extension Service

There are 5 new Agrimet stations. One had broken down but has been repaired. The grapes are not doing much currently.

Brian Sephton – 7121 Dark Hollow Rd.

Asked if the water delivery usually happens 1 week after the flushing date. Manager Derry confirmed that this is typically what happens, but not everyone in the district can start at the same time.

Steven Vieira Ashland – 226 Hidden Ln.

Water user had numerous questions about canal start up, what the volume in the canals are and if water is adjusted for Neil Creek. Manager Derry answered that start up volume increases slowly to protect the canals; the volume varies by canal and we do put water down Niel Creek when it's needed for our water users.

Dina Cantrell – 200 Tolman Creek Rd.

No comments

Ralph Gysine – 4720 Coal Mine Rd.

The canals are cleaner than he has seen them in several years, the ditch cleaning is excellent this year. He is not here to complain this time, however he thinks he still needs a couple more repairs done. He will talk to Bo.

John Funke – 585 W Valley View Rd.

Appreciates the good job of cleaning the canals.

Dawn Watson – 4491 Pioneer Road, Medford

No comments

CREW WORK REPORT AND EQUIPMENT REPAIRS

Manager Derry reported that most of the month was spent finishing cleaning the canals. The Billings Siphon repair has been completed and backfilled. We finished cleaning the Talent Canal yesterday.

UPDATE ON RBWUC, INC. ISSUES

Biological Opinion

No update

Adjudication

No update

Water Right Regulation

On-going discussions with the Water Resources Department and Forest Service regarding the installation of a structure to send water from Fourmile Lake to Klamath Lake.

Manager Derry reported that MID & RRVID received a copy of the draft settlement document from the Attorney General yesterday regarding the installation of a system to deliver water to Fourmile creek.

Jordan Ramis invoice for 3/31/2024 - $\$4,357.50 \div 3 = \$1,452.50$ per district

REVIEW BID FOR NEW FLAIL MOWER

Manager Derry sent out bid requests on April 12th for the purchase of a new flail mower. The bid requests were emailed to Brim Tractor, Pape Machinery and Rogue Valley Farm Equipment.

The bids were due back by 3:00 p.m. on April 29th. The only bid received was on April 29th from Rogue Valley Farm Equipment. The bid amount is \$12,782.24; we budgeted \$8,500, so the cost is \$4,282.24 over our budgeted amount. The flail mower is heavier duty than the ones we have purchased in the past which added to the increased cost. Director Bohn made a motion to approve the purchase of the Flail Mower from Rogue Valley Farm Equipment. The motion was seconded by President Winters and unanimously passed.

SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY AT THE J&C AUCTION HELD AT THE JACKSON COUNTY EXPO

Manager Derry reported that we received the check from J&C Auctions for the surplus property we delivered to the Jackson County Expo, that was sold at the auction. There were 61 items sold for a grand total of \$35,015.00. The auction commission was 20% of the total, so the check we received was for a total of \$27,897.50. Another benefit of using the auction is that we did not have to bring anything back to the yard! A complete copy of the items sold and the amount they were sold for was supplied to the Board.

RENEWAL OF MEDICAL, VISION AND DENTAL INSURANCE

Manager Derry explained that when we signed up for our dental plan last year, the rates were guaranteed for 2 years so there is no increase.

Manager Derry explained that Jake at Boeck and Associates obtained the renewal rate with our current plan at Regence and they are proposing a 5% premium increase. Jake also looked at the market and found plans with Health Net, Providence, and Moda which all came in with rate reductions. Health Net has one plan with 7% and one with 3% rate reductions. Providence and Moda each have a 3% rate reduction.

The Providence plan includes vision, which we are currently paying to another vendor. The current cost of the stand-alone vision plan is about \$2,100 per year so this cost would be eliminated. The prescription benefits, office copays, specialty, urgent care, lab, and x-ray benefits are all better than the Moda Plan.

The total cost savings to the district with the Providence Plan, compared to the current Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield policy, would be just over \$10,000 per year (including the savings on the existing vision plan). The only downside to this plan is a \$700 increase in the Out-of-Pocket Maximum (OOPM) for an individual and \$1,400 for a family. Assuming most employees never hit this OOPM, the most used benefits of the plan are improved.

The Moda Plan has a lower OOPM, but everything else in the plan is more expensive and it does not include vision benefits.

Manager Derry stated that the district will save money with both Providence or Moda. Manager Derry recommends the Providence Plan because she feels it will be the most beneficial to the majority of our employees.

President Winters had concerns about increasing the financial burden on employees with the increased OOPM. The Board would like some more time to review the plan details. They decided to table the decision until the next meeting.

INFORMATIONAL

Billings Siphon Repair

Pictures of the repair to the siphon were provided to the Board. The repair is complete and we finished backfilling it yesterday.

East Canal Crossing for the Jackson County 911 Communications Tower

Pictures of the 911 Communications Tower crossing work was provided to the Board. T3 Construction has made several adjustments to the original plans, but the Bureau has let them proceed any way. The crossing is projected be completed sometime this week.

Emigrant Dam Low Flow Bypass Pipe

Manager Derry reported that following our meeting with the Bureau on April 10th, Tom Heintzman said that Denver's Technical Service Center (TSC) outlet works has a tunnel expert that can determine if the concrete can support hanging the pipe from the ceiling. He believes that the ceiling mounted pipe may be feasible. They have some specialized software that can analyze this using

“big math” methods. This expert discussed 2 methods, one hanging directly from the ceiling and another with cross members mounted on each side of the tunnel and pipes sitting on top of the cross members. This would still separate the pipes but would also create a “headbanger” where each support is located. Tom made the point, that if the ceiling hanger option can work, it is preferred. The Bureau regional office is filling out an agreement form for TSC to work on this, but TSC’s availability sounded like it is months out.

The Bureau may not want to wait “months” for TSC to do this research. The Bureau people on the April 10th call indicated that they have limited money and time, to get this project done.

Kershaw Pond Lease Renewal

Manager Derry contacted Dan O’Connor who is the attorney for the owners of the property where the Kershaw Pond is located and let him know that we will be renewing the lease for another 25 years. She then contacted our Attorney, John Blackhurst, and let him know about the renewal and sent him all the previous lease information. He will be drafting the lease renewal and sending it to Dan O’Connor for his review. When they both agree to the language, John will send it to us for the Board’s review and approval.

Update on Chamberland (EMC) and Tarry Lane (TMC) Shotcrete Jobs

The Chamberland and Tarry Lane shotcrete jobs have both been completed. We had estimated that both jobs would be covered under the remaining state grant funds which totaled \$85,700. It ended up with the total application costs being \$36,855; the shotcrete charges were \$56,077 for a total of \$92,932, so we exceeded the grant funds by \$7,322. Manager Derry stated that both jobs needed more material than was originally thought.

There being no other business to come before the Board, President Winters adjourned the meeting at 7:18 a.m.

Official Minutes: Approved as presented: X
 Approved as amended:
 (If marked here, see minutes of the next meeting for text of amendment(s).

DATE: June 4, 2024

ATTEST: Wanda Derry
Wanda Derry Secretary/Manager

Mike Winters
Mike Winters, President

Jeff Bohn
Jeff Bohn, Vice President

Jeff Hogan
Jeff Hogan, Director
Constituting the Board of Directors of
the Talent Irrigation District