

**MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
TALENT IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MAY 16, 2024**

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TALENT IRRIGATION DISTRICT met in a budget meeting 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
Jeff Hogan -----	Director
Wanda Derry -----	Secretary/Manager
Bo Bergren -----	Assistant Manager
Bob Wilson -----	Foreman
Shirley Bird -----	Bookkeeper
Heather Hasset -----	Administrative Assistant

President Winters stated that we are going to get an early start to the budgeting process this year since this will be our new Bookkeeper, Shirley's first time going through the budgeting process. Bookkeeper Christie Fetty ended up leaving on shorter notice than expected and she was not able to do any training on this process.

President Winters wants to get everyone's input on what the district needs to continue operations for the next few years. The idea being to get a vision that includes a list of vehicles, equipment, water measuring technology, etc., to be compiled and then prioritized for planning purposes in the coming years. We want to try to find grant funds to help with this process.

The district went a period of 5 years in a row without any fee increases at all, even for inflation, and we are still feeling those affects.

The Board reviewed the list of equipment which has not been updated since 2021. The following items were discussed for disposal:

#6	1974 Oshkosh Dump Truck at Howard Prairie Base
#10	1978 Military Boom Truck at Howard Prairie Base
#26	2005 Ford F350 4X4
#36	2008 Ford F350 4X4
#121	2004 Kubota KX121-3 Excavator
#413	2004 Mauldin N423XT Grader

We will have the mechanic do a compression test on #55 the 2012 Ford F150 to see if it is worth fixing. It is being reported that it does not have any power.

The following were purchases for consideration:

350 or larger 4X4 diesel to be set up as a service truck with tool boxes, welders, etc.
2 newer ¾ ton pickups for maintenance

5 new ditch rider pick ups (if fleet purchasing is available). It was noted that just trying to purchase 1 new pick up a year has been a struggle since COVID.

1 new 5-yard 4X4 diesel dump truck with a snowplow attachment to be used at Howard Prairie in the winter months and then brought down to transport the small excavators in the summer – Assistant Manager Bergren was asked to spec this out and do the research to find an estimated cost.

Small equipment trailer with a 5th wheel to move the small excavators. A pintle hook trailer or a bolt on pintle hook or ball coupler that can be switched out. Foreman Wilson will research which is best and get prices.

Sell #75, 2013 Kubota Track Loader (Skid Steer) and replace it with a larger Skid Steer with a mower attachment. Director Bohn thought this would be a good idea so the district can do our own mowing, rather than hiring outside people for the work.

A vacuum trailer would be very useful in locating irrigation lines. Foreman Wilson will talk to the City of Talent to find out what the specifications are for theirs and get pricing on a new one.

A camera to be able to view inside pipes for leaks and plugs.

An interim way to read the water flows on the canals might be to install portable cameras next to a weir measuring device so that pictures can be taken at certain times of the day to check on the water levels in the canals.

Work on getting existing measuring devices up and running. There are some that have not been operating for many years. Some of these stations are owned by the Bureau, some by Jackson County and some by the district.

President Winters stated that the way information is taken and moved from the office to the ditch riders is archaic. It would be more efficient if the calls were taken in the office and sent electronically to cell phones or mobile data computers in the ditch trucks. We still do everything by paper now.

Look into tracking cell phones as a safety issue. When the ditch riders or maintenance people are out in the field, they could get hurt and we would not know where they were located.

RENEWAL OF MEDICAL, VISION AND DENTAL INSURANCE

At the May 7th board meeting a decision on whether to remain with the current insurance or switch plans was tabled by the Board to give them more time to review the information.

Manager Derry asked the Board if they have had time to do their review. If the Board decides to change companies, we will need to have all employees complete new paperwork soon so we can make sure they have their new insurance cards prior to the July 1st renewal.

There was a lengthy discussion on not reducing the insurance benefits to the employees and putting more financial burden on them, while keeping in mind the expense to the district. Following this discussion, a motion was made by Director Bohn to approve staying with the current plan through

Regence, which will keep the employee benefits the same. The motion was seconded by Director Hogan and unanimously passed.

There being no other business to come before the Board, President Winters adjourned the meeting at 8:39 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

[Signature]
Mike Winters, President

[Signature]
Jeff Bohn, Vice President

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