# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TALENT IRRIGATION DISTRICT APRIL 1, 2025

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. President Winters called the board meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL BY:** 

Manager Derry

PRESENT:

Mike Winters ----- President

Jeff Hogan ----- Vice-President

Jeff Bohn ----- Director

Wanda Derry ------ Secretary/Manager Sharee Burns ----- Assistant Manager Bo Bergren ----- Dam Operator

VISITOR:

Matt Borman ----- Bear Creek Orchard Manager/MID

**Board Member** 

Sean Naumes ------ Naumes Inc./MID Board Member
John Funke ----- Water User at 585 W. Valley View Rd.

and Green Springs Power Plant

Operator

Ricky Clark ----- OSU Extension Service

Brian Sephton ------ Water User at 7121 Dark Hollow Rd.
Larry and Lynn Lucas ----- Water Users at 3775 Coleman Crk. Rd.
Bill Schwartz ------ Water User at 787 Anderson Crk. Rd.

Patty Holman ---- 767 Roca Street

Carry Vargas ----- Water User at 4455 Pioneer Road Dawn Watson ----- Water User at 4491 Pioneer Road

# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR AND EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS OF MARCH 4, 2025

The Minutes of the Regular and Executive Session board meetings of March 4, 2025, were considered. Director Bohn made a motion to approve both minutes as presented, and the motion was seconded by Vice President Hogan. President Winters, Vice President Hogan and Director Bohn all voted in favor of the motion. All board members and Manager Derry signed the minutes.

#### FEBRUARY CLAIM SHEET TOTALING \$341,260.61

The Board reviewed the Claim Sheet for February for check numbers 3446 through 3511 and the itemized list of Visa charges for the month. The total Claim Sheet amount of \$341,260.61, less the

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exceptional items of \$189,497.20, leaves a Claim Sheet balance of \$151,763.41 for the regular expenses for the month.

Manager Derry asked the Board if they had specific questions regarding the exceptional items. Director Bohn asked if the \$14,156.06 to Tucker Sno-Cat Corp included the rebuilt transmission and Manager Derry stated that it did not. The transmission work was done by Dusty's Transmission for just over \$13,000. Because the amount was over \$10,000 Dusty's required payment in full before we could pick up the machine.

A motion was made by Director Bohn to approve the Claim Sheet and the list of itemized Visa charges for February as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice President Hogan. President Winters, Vice President Hogan and Director Bohn all voted in favor of the motion. 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 FEBRUARY 2025

Manager Derry stat that the budget should be 42% for February; the Income is 34% and Expenses are 45%. The bills are due today and the office has been extremely busy collecting payments over the last week.

# WATER SUPPLY - DISCUSSION ON SEASON START DATE

Manager Derry stated that the water supply is looking very good. The supply numbers as of this morning are:

Howard Prairie	44,070 A/F	73%
Hyatt Lake	11,722 A/F	72%
Emigrant Lake	36,918 A/F	94%
Total Storage	92,710 A/F	80%

Emigrant Lake is currently 582 acre feet below the Flood Rule Curve. So far, approximately 3,600 acre feet has been released to stay under the Flood Rule Curve. The lake must remain under 38,950 acre feet through April 30<sup>th</sup> and then it can be filled.

Manager Derry stated and Dam Operator Bergren is doing daily On-going Visual Inspection Checklists (OVIC's) on Hyatt and weekly OVIC's on Howard as required since the SOD work was completed on both dams.

As of this morning, there is 30" of snow at the Howard Prairie Base. On April 1, 2024 there was no snow.

Manager Derry stated the last time the reservoirs filled was in 2017 with a total supply of 110,000 acre feet. In 2013 the total supply was 101,000 acre feet; 2012 it was 99,000 acre feet and in 2011 it was 115,000 acre feet.

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Manager Derry stated that the office is receiving numerous inquiries as to when the irrigation season will start. She stated we are telling people we do not have any idea at this time due to the continued rain and snow events. President Winters stated that this is correct. Once things warm up and dry out, the Board will decide when the season will begin. Even though we have a good water supply, we still want to be as conservative as possible to hold water over to next year in case we have a dry winter.

# PUBLIC COMMENTS (LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

John Funke – Water User at 585 W. Valley View Rd. with .60 irrigated acre. John is also the Green Springs Power Plant Operator

No comment.

Matt Borman – Bear Creek Orchard Manager and Medford Irrigation District Board Member

Matt stated that the soil moisture at 40" is wetter than they have seen in many years.

Sean Naumes - Naumes, Inc. Owner and Medford Irrigation District Board Member No comment.

Ricky Clark - OSU Extension Service No comment.

Brian Sephton – Water User at 7121 Dark Hollow Rd. – 16.10 irrigated acres No comment.

Larry and Lynn Lucas – Water Users at 3775 Coleman Creek Road - .60 irrigated acres No comment.

Bill Schwartz – Water User at 787 Anderson Creek Road – 12.80 irrigated acres
Bill stated that the minutes from February and March have not been posted on the website and wanted to know if we have stopped posting them. Manager Derry stated that she did not get the February minutes posted simply because she has been so busy. The March Minutes were just approved by the Board today, so they will now be posted.

He asked if we knew when we are going to start water on the McDonald System and we told him it will just depend on the weather. When the precipitation stops and things dry out, we will then decide on when to start. He asked that this statement be posted on the website, so all McDonald users have an update. Manager Derry stated that she will post an update on the website.

Patty Holman – Citizen at 767 Roca Street – no irrigation No comment.

Carry Vargas – Water User at 4455 Pioneer Road – 5.00 irrigated acres No comment.

Dawn Watson – Water User at 4491 Pioneer Road – 5.20 irrigated acres No comment.

# CREW WORK REPORT AND EQUIPMENT REPAIRS

Manager Derry briefly reviewed the work that was accomplished along with maintenance performed, which includes the following:

The Ashland, East and West canals are all cleaned. As of yesterday, we have 2 machines cleaning on the Talent Canal, which should be completed by the end of this week, or possibly the first of next week. The Fredericks and Upper West have also been cleaned but will need to be rechecked for downed trees because of all the wind we have had.

The newest excavator is going into the shop today with an overheating problem, so we are down one machine.

All canal screens have been rehabilitated and placed back in the canals and are ready for the season.

We installed 64' of 36" pipe in the West Canal at 7816 Wagner Creek Road because the pipe was collapsing.

# **UPDATE ON RBWUC, INC. ISSUES**

Manager Derry stated these are attorney-client privileged topics and the following statements are very general.

#### **Biological Opinion**

Participate in monthly status calls with Reclamation.

Jordan Ramis invoice through February 28, 2025, \$807.50 ÷ 3 = \$269.016 per district

#### Adjudication

Receive and complete the review of the Klamath County Circuit Court's Opinion. Jordan Ramis invoice through February 28, 2025, \$765.00 ÷ 3 = \$255.00 per district

The District's one-third amount for both items is \$524.16

# REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST SENT TO EPA FOR PHASE 1 OF THE BILLINGS SIPHON PROJECT

Assistant Manager Burns did a brief explanation of the \$5M of Congressionally Authorized Funding the District received for the East Canal/ Billings Siphon project. This funding will be used for an inspection of the Billings Siphon to determine what shape the pipe is in and determine what can be done to fix the area of the pipe that has been leaking for several years. She also stated the District applied for, and received a waiver, for the \$1.25M required in matching funding.

Assistant Manager Burns stated that after some delays with the government's pause on federal fund reimbursements, we finally got the go ahead to ask for our first reimbursement for Phase I of the Billings Siphon Project. This reimbursement request is for the period of February 1, 2024, through February 28, 2025, and totals \$260,358.42. The request was submitted to EPA on March 25<sup>th</sup>. We do not know what the timeframe will be to receive these funds. (A copy of the invoice sent to EPA is made part of these minutes.)

# **Informational**

### **Evasco Water Measurement Project Update**

The Eyasco crew of 3 will be here the week of Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup> to do the installation of the new equipment in the field and in the office. They plan on being here the entire week. Assistant Manager Burns stated that they will be installing 6 measuring stations on the canals to monitor in real time, what the canal flows are, to allow the District to manage water more efficiently.

# **Markovich Crossing**

Manager Derry stated that the crossing has been completed. She supplied the Board with 3 pictures of the finished crossing.

## New Employee Handbook

Manager Derry let the Board know that the new employee handbook has been updated and sent to our attorney's office for review. Once we receive it back, it will be supplied to the Board for their review.

# Office Furnace Gas Leak

Manager Derry stated that on Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> we began smelling gas in the office when the furnace would run. We called Avista and Jahnke Heating and Airconditioning and they both responded quickly. The Avista man's meter detected gas in all vents in the office. After some diagnostic work by Jahnke, they found a leaking valve on the furnace and replaced it at a cost of \$818. They told us this is a band aid repair because the furnace is 26 years old and needs to be replaced. They are supposed to get us information on the type of furnace we would need to buy to replace the old one.

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

# ANNOUNCEMENT TO START EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Regular Board meeting was adjourned at 7:20 a.m. and President Winters announced the Board will meet in **Executive Session held pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h)**, which allows the Board to meet in executive session to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body regarding current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are asked to leave the room. Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on any of the deliberations during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. At the end of the executive session, we will return to the open session and welcome the audience back into the room.

Mike Winters, President

Jeff Hogan, Vice President

Jeff Bohn, Director

Constituting the Board of Directors of

the Talent Irrigation District