



AGENDA
HUNTLEY PROJECT IRRIGATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Main Office
April 09, 2025
7:30 p.m.

- I. Reorganization of the Board
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Approval of Warrants
- IV. Treasures Report
- V. Manager's Report
- VI. Scott Aspenlieder/Performance Engineering – Encroachment permit compliance issues with Charter
- VII. Darrell Bohl
- VIII. Seth Katolas – Vantage Point/Nemont



HUNTLEY PROJECT IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES April 9, 2025 7:30 p.m.

The Huntley Project Irrigation District held its regular board meeting at its main office on April 9, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.

Present at the meeting was, President, Cody Kuntz, Vice President, Justin Hein. Commissioners, Mark Fox, and John Mahan & Marc Vogel. Manager, Travis Kamp, Secretary/Treasurer, Sandra Rush. Also present was Scott Aspenlieder with Performance Engineering, County Commissioner, Mark Morse, Seth Katolas with Vantage Point-Nemont, Landowner, Darrell Bohl & Andrew Bolerjack with the Yellowstone County News.

Re-organization of the Board

Cody called for a re-organization of the Board President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. Justin Hein motioned to re-nominate Cody Kuntz as President, Justin Hein as Vice President and Sandra Rush as Secretary/Treasurer. John Mahan 2nd the motion. Motion carried, unanimously.

Minutes

Cody called the meeting to order. The meeting minutes from March 5, 2025, were reviewed. Sandra said that an approval was not gained at the last meeting for the requested 23 irrigation shares for Russ Steele. Travis said he spoke with Russ and said he understood that he had to request enough shares for the entire piece of ground. Justin reiterated his position in the discussions held in the March meeting regarding this request and said, “everyone else out here that has irrigation on their parcel has to pay for the entire parcel whether it is irrigated or not. No one gets to take off the easements and other areas that they may not be able to irrigate and not pay the irrigation tax on it. If he wants to right the entire parcel, then I am fine with that.” Justin then motioned to approve the 23 irrigation shares. John Mahan 2nd the motion. Motion carried. With no other questions or comments being brought forward, Mark Fox motioned to accept the minutes as they were read. John Mahan 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Warrants & Stockman Bank debit card purchases

Sandra presented warrant #'s 79030312 – 79030376 along with the debit card purchases made with the Stockman Bank account. With no questions or comments being brought forward, Justin Hein motioned to



accept the warrants and the Stockman Bank debit card purchases, Mark Fox 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report

Sandra presented the budget variance report and the balances of all restricted accounts. All accounting activities reflected the latest trial balance date of 2/28/2025. Deposits made into the O&M Main Cash account totaled \$13,619.83. The deposits consisted of encroachment permit fees, inspections fees, cost of goods sold & dividends. Invoicing from the office for inspection fees are current with 2 bills being outstanding with Spectrum and due by May 1st. Sandra said surplus contracts were mailed out and payments are already being made. The Edwards Jones Investment showed a loss for the 1st quarter of 2025, down -\$24,105.11.

Manager's Report

Travis reported the screen materials are expected to be shipped on the 17th & delivered on the 24th. Planning to have water in the canal by the 28th.

Still waiting for the encroachment permit & payment from Cameron Jones regarding his pivot that was approved last year. They also covered up lateral N05 without permission, however, this does not affect anything else. If they leave the check structure in place and they understand that we are not giving up our easement there, I have no issue with this. The Commissioners also had no issue with it. Travis will speak to Lyle Peterson and let him know that we are still waiting for the permit to be returned & for payment. He will also inform him our easement on N05 will remain our easement even with the lateral covered up.

Extension line by the Osness place has caved in and washed out at the spillway. With 5 pivots going you will have a constant flow of water there. I have proposed to Brian that we put a prefab box to spill. Approximately 200 ft of 24" pipe will be needed to fix this. We can place the pipe, put some liner down and fix this issue. If we don't, it will continue to cut back, and we will have a bigger issue to deal with down the road. Cows have already been lost due to them getting caught up in it.

Pam is needed; 1 pallet is approximately 7k. A pallet should last us 3 years. Commissioners said to go ahead and purchase it.

Lateral A is complete. The only thing we still need to do is put the grates on it.

Pump bearings are not in good shape after closer inspection. Last time these were changed out was 7 years ago. The bearings are \$5,034.00. Both pumps use the identical bearings. With that being said, we really should also have a spare bearing on hand if something were to happen mid-season. Travis said when he checked on the availability of the bearings, he discovered there are currently only 2 in the US & currently in Nevada. If we do not purchase these or only purchase 1 for now, Travis told the Commissioners that the time frame to get one here will be approximately 45 days at the earliest. The Commissioners said to get these 2 bearings ordered now and we can order a spare bearing in the fall.



There is a check on G13, between roads 18 & 19 that according to the ditch rider was used at one point for surplus water but has not been used in years. Travis requested permission to pull the check out so they can pull the ditch and go be able to go straight down the ditch. The Commissioners said to pull it out.

Scott Aspenlieder/Performance Engineering

Scott said he has no new information regarding the Water Saving Commodity USDA funding of 15M. He is heading to D.C. to meet with Montana's federal representatives and others to advocate on HPID's behalf.

We were awarded a 125k Renewable Resource grant through the DNRC that we had discussed using toward the repair of the discharge lines to possibly include with a larger BOR grant. Once the USDA funding opportunity was brought to our attention, Travis and I spoke about using it to leverage a lining project on the Highline canal. There is a match but the match for HPID would be the installation of the lining. The Commissioners had no issue with this and said to move forward with it.

The bores being drilled by Spectrums contractors (Vahalla & PUSH) have been failing inspections. Scott said his engineers have inspected 85 bores and over half have failed the depth requirements. Some of the bore's logs were missing entirely while others were found to have been fabricated. Scott said we had already halted any further construction until they were in compliance with what they had already done but feels at this point he cannot trust anything they are doing out there. The Commissioners agreed with Scott and said they want to continue with the stoppage of work and do not want them to perform any new work until they are in compliance and are providing Scott with digitalized bore logs that can be recorded. No more handwritten logs will be accepted. The Commissioners also said due to the issues that have been had and the fabricated bore logs provided by the company PUSH, they no longer will allow them to perform any work, ariel or underground in our canals, laterals or on the easements. Scott said he informed Spectrum that going forward an inspector from PE must be on site for all bore drilling being performed.

Harold Wilson

Harold Wilson came to discuss the cost of his services to spray weeds on our ditches & easements. Harold has his aquatic, ag & ariel licensing. Travis provided the dollar amount we spend on chemicals and the cost of the employees that we have to spray each season to the Commissioners. Justin Hein made a motion to hire Harold to do the spraying with an allotted 15k budget. Mark Fox 2nd the motion. Motion carried. Harold said all sprayed areas will be mapped and logged. Travis said once we reach the budget limit, we can come back and discuss what to do going forward.

Darrell Bohl

Darrell came before the Board saying that he has a 3-acre area located across the canal that he states his father had righted back in the 1950's or 60's. The area has not been irrigated since approx... 2010 but he would like to begin irrigating that area once again. Justin Hein brought forward that although the farm unit is righted, the area this acreage is in is not within the boundaries for irrigation being located on the south side of the canal. He feels if we allow Darrell to irrigate this then we will open up a whole new can



worms with everyone else out there that wants to move their irrigation to corners of their property that also are not considered irrigatable acres or not within our boundaries. Justin said he understands that a lot of folks like himself pay for 40 acres of irrigation on a parcel that you may only be able to irrigate 36 acres of but that doesn't mean you can move the unused irrigation to another area, especially if it is on the south side of the canal where even surplus water is not allowed. Sandra said she would look for meeting minutes to see if any documentation could be found regarding his father having the ground righted. The Commissioners asked Darrell to provide them with some kind of documentation stating that it was approved, Darrell responded and said he did not have anything that he knew of. He said check structure and a pipe were placed there for this irrigation. Cody asked how long it has been since this piece has been irrigated, Darrell replied and said it has not been irrigated since 2012. Travis said he has no proof this was ever righted and it is below the canal which is not an irrigatable area. Cody told Darell to let us look into it and see if we can find any documentation before we make any decisions.

Seth Katolas/Vantage Point - Nemont

Seth Katolas came to the meeting to request for Nemont the linear feet fees of 1k in & 1k out + \$2.00 per ft be waived for the easement needed for fiber being installed to service the Homesteader Hall, Huntley Museum and the Experiment Station. Seth said he reached out to the Lions Club and asked them if they wanted service to these buildings and they said they would like this service to be available to them. Seth said that due to Nemont being a co-op from the Corp they are unable to pay for easements. He assured the Commissioners; nothing would be constructed above ground on this easement and stated, "you will never know we were even there". Due to these entities being on HPID ground and being a part of our community, the Commissioners decided to waive the fees for this easement. Travis said he had no issue with this considering they are not crossing the main canal anywhere on the back side of that, there is an underground drain there by the railroad, but they are staying away from that too. John Mahan said he would want to be included on this agreement that this is contingent for this easement only. Seth said he would contact their attorney and get that wrote into the agreement. Justin Hein said they also need to include there will be no above ground construction done on the easement and the fiber installed is to only service those buildings. Justin Hein motioned to waive the fees to service the Homesteader Park, Huntley Museum & the Experiment Station. Marc Vogel 2nd the motion. Motion carried. With no other issues being brought forward, the meeting was adjourned.



Minutes are transcribed and respectfully submitted by:

Sandra Rush - Secretary/Treasurer

Approved By/Title: Cody Kuntz – President

Date: 05/12/2025