



AGENDA
HUNTLEY PROJECT IRRIGATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Main Office
June 10, 2026
7:30 p.m.

- I. Approval of Minutes
- II. Approval of Warrants
- III. Treasurers Report
- IV. 2027 Budget Proposal
- V. Manager Report
- VI. Glenn Stahl/Main Canal-ditch issue



HUNTLEY PROJECT IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2026
7:30 p.m.

The Huntley Project Irrigation District held its regular board meeting at its main office on June 10, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.

Present at the meeting was, President, Cody Kuntz. Vice President, Justin Hein. Commissioners, Mark Fox, John Mahan & Marc Vogel. Manager, Travis Kamp, Secretary/Treasurer, Sandra Rush. Landowner, Glenn Stahl, Andrew Bolerjack with Yellowstone County News & County Commissioner, Mark Morse.

Minutes

Cody Kuntz called the meeting to order. The meeting minutes from May 13, 2026, were reviewed. With no questions or comments coming forward, John Mahan motioned to accept the minutes as they were read. Mark Fox 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Warrants & Stockman Bank debit card purchases

Sandra presented warrant #'s 79031215 – 79031264 and the Stockman Bank debit card purchases. With no questions or comments being brought forward, Mark Fox motioned to accept the warrants, and debit card purchases on the Stockman account. John Mahan 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report

Sandra presented the monthly budget variance report and reviewed current account balances with the Commissioners. Total income received and deposited during the month was \$71,135.15, while interest earned across all accounts totaled \$10,990.67.

Outstanding inspection fee invoices currently total \$12,965.00 and are due no later than July 2, 2026. Total deposits received during the month amounted to \$74,715.00, consisting of revenue from surplus water sales, inspection fees, and encroachment fees.



Sandra directed the Commissioners' attention to the Materials Account, which reflects a 21% overage on the budget variance report. She explained that this does not represent an actual operating expense overage. Of the amount reported, \$20,981.98 is attributable to materials sold to landowners and recorded as cost of goods sold. Materials purchased for District operations totaled \$21,983.15, placing the District at approximately 69% of its annual budgeted amount for materials expenditures.

Manager Report

- **Lateral D03** - Travis initiated a discussion regarding ownership of Lateral D03 where it terminates near the drain at Road 13 North. Historical maps from various years were presented to the Board for review. While one map depicts the ditch in question, the original 1921 map does not show the location. The discussion arose due to a recent property purchase on Road 14 North by a landowner interested in irrigating the property. Travis reported that he had spoken with a neighboring landowner whose property is also served by the ditch and who has farmed the area for many years. According to the landowner, neighboring property owners collaborated prior to the 1970s to extend the ditch in order to deliver water to an approximately six-acre parcel. Water has not been delivered through the ditch for many years. Travis stated that while an old structure exists at the site, its presence does not necessarily indicate District ownership. He further noted that the original design of the irrigation system in that area had clearly been modified over time and that he was not prepared to assume the ditch was District-owned without supporting documentation. Based on the information available, he believes the ditch is a private facility. Commissioner Justin Hein agreed, stating that if the ditch does not appear on the District's original system map, it should be considered a private ditch rather than District infrastructure. The Board discussed that neighboring landowners would need to work together to facilitate water delivery to the ditch. Travis added that the neighboring landowner he spoke with has expressed a willingness to assist the new property owner in obtaining water delivery so the property can be irrigated.
- **Lateral HC** – Travis discussed an approximately six-acre parcel owned by Joe Cleveland, with appurtenant water rights that is currently unable to receive irrigation water. Travis stated that he had inspected the area and reviewed how water was to be delivered to the property in the past. He noted that several siphons are located along the route where the interstate crosses the irrigation system. Travis further stated that evidence suggests a headgate and check structure had previously been installed to facilitate water delivery to the parcel. Mr. Cleveland indicated that the structure was originally installed by the District but was removed during maintenance activities at some point in the past and was never replaced. During his inspection, Travis also observed that the ditch extends past several residential properties where access approaches contain collapsed culverts. He noted that if water delivery to the parcel is restored, those culverts would need to be replaced at the



respective property owners' expense to ensure proper water conveyance. Travis stated that he would not object to installing a flipper gate to allow Mr. Cleveland access to water again; however, he does not believe the existing ditch configuration is part of the District's original system design. He further expressed the opinion that the District is not responsible for delivering water beyond the siphons and that it is the responsibility of the affected landowners to determine how water would be conveyed past those structures. Following discussion, the Commissioners determined that they would like to inspect the area before making a decision. The matter was tabled pending a site visit and further review.

- **Fly Creek Siphon** – Travis reported that the siphon has not leaked since the installation of a new cap. However, he reminded the Commissioners that the repair was intended as a temporary solution and recommended that the siphon be fully reconstructed to provide a long-term, reliable solution and ensure the structure's longevity.
- **Charter Communications** – A permit application was submitted for approximately 186 service drops to residential properties. Travis reported that he had reviewed the proposed crossings and found no issues with any of the locations identified in the permit application. Commissioner Justin Hein made a motion to approve the permit for all crossings as submitted. Commissioner Marc Vogel seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Landowner/Glenn Stahl

Glenn appeared before the Board to request the installation of a headgate off the main canal. He explained that issues have arisen with a neighboring property owner regarding access to the irrigation ditch that serves his property and traverses the neighbor's land. Glenn stated that while cleaning the ditch, the neighboring landowner contacted the Sheriff's Department, and he was subsequently advised that he could not access the ditch on her property.

Glenn expressed his preference to access his irrigation water through a headgate connected directly to the main canal rather than continuing to utilize the existing ditch easement, which has resulted in ongoing conflicts with the neighboring landowner when maintenance is required.

Commissioner John Mahan explained that, under Montana water law, Glenn may possess an easement if the ditch has historically been used to irrigate his property. However, he noted that Glenn would need to consult legal counsel if he wished to pursue enforcement or clarification of those rights.



The Commissioners informed Glenn that the District generally prefers to avoid installing additional headgates on the main canal. They encouraged him to attempt to resolve the matter directly with the neighboring landowner and suggested that he have further discussions with her regarding access and maintenance concerns.

President Cody Kuntz stated that the Board would take the request under advisement and revisit the matter later in the irrigation season, closer to the fall.

2027 Budget Review

The Commissioners conducted an additional review of the proposed 2027 budget. Further discussion took place regarding operating expenses, payroll costs, and the District's ongoing financial needs.

The Commissioners also discussed the potential need to increase the current assessment rate of \$44.00 per acre in order to adequately fund future maintenance requirements and anticipated payroll increases. The Board acknowledged that a final decision regarding the 2027 budget and any assessment adjustments will need to be made at the August meeting.

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: 7/8/2026