



AGENDA
HUNTLEY PROJECT IRRIGATION DISTRICT

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Main Office

September 11, 2024

7:30 p.m.

- I. Approval of Minutes
- II. Approval of Warrants
- III. Treasurers Report
 - Joint Powers Trust 2025 Health Insurance Renewal
 - Office furniture update
- IV. Manager's Report
 - Headgate Estimate
 - Drain Issue
 - Encroachment Permit – Bridge replacement, Rd 6
 - Drainpipe issue – Rd 13 & W I
- V. Bill Oxendahl – Bridge replacement on Rd 6



**HUNTLEY PROJECT IRRIGATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 11, 2024
7:30 p.m.**

The Huntley Project Irrigation District held the regular board meeting at its main office on September 11, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.

Present at the meeting was, President, Cody Kuntz, Vice President, Justin Hein. Commissioners, Denis Adams, Mark Fox, and John Mahan. Manager, Travis Kamp, Secretary/Treasurer, Sandra Rush & Lead, Mark Strobbe. Also present were Landowners, Bill & Dave Oxendahl & John & Rebecca Dahl, Rich Rose & Reporter, Andrew Bolerjack with the Yellowstone County News.

Minutes

Cody called the meeting to order. The meeting minutes from August 14, 2024, were reviewed. With no questions or comments being brought forward, Mark Fox made a motion to accept the minutes as they were read. John Mahan 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Warrants & Stockman Bank Debit card.

Warrant numbers 79029840 – 79029898. John asked Travis if the Case-4694 tractor that we purchased had been serviced yet. Travis said they were just starting to bust through that. John requested a complete service to be done on it. Oil drained out, etc. Travis said that would do that. Cody asked if Spectrum had paid their balance for encroachment inspection fees, Sandra said they have not. She said that Spectrum has requested Scott provide them with locations and time spent on the site before they will pay the 2 invoices, I have sent to them. Cody asked when the office invoiced them. Sandra replied, on 7/25. He said our invoicing gave them 30 days and I say we stick by it. If they do not want to pay us the balances, then we will shut them down. Cody then asked the other Commissioners how they felt about it, and they were all in agreement that the invoices sent to Spectrum should be paid within 30 days. The Commissioners said to let them know they are giving them 10 days to pay their balance with us and if it is not paid, Travis was instructed to shut their construction down until payment is received. With no other questions or comments being brought forward, Denis Adams made a motion to accept the warrants and the Stockman Bank debit card purchases. Mark Fox 2nd the motion. Motion carried.



Treasurers Report

Sandra presented the September budget variance report and the balances in all accounts. \$22,143.44 was received in assessments, and an additional \$898.09 in penalties & interest was earned. The total amount of interest earned in all accounts combined = \$8,512.83. No deposits were made. Sandra stated the renewal of her QuickBooks program will be automatically withdrawn from the Stockman account on 9/19. The amount for renewal is \$1,922.00. She requested to create the reimbursement check to that account for the month of September after that has hit the account, to ensure that we have the available balance needed after that debit for operational needs. The Commissioners said they had no issue with that.

The health insurance plan for the employees is due to be renewed. There was an increase this year of \$60.39. The cost would per month for 2025 rates will be \$702.84 per month. She said that with everyone's insurance rates being impacted by inflation, she believed the renewal rate we received is very competitive. Denis made a motion to renew the health insurance with Joint Powers Trust for 2025. John Mahan 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Sandra reported to the Commissioners the O&M Main Cash account balance and explained that the main cash account needed to be reimbursed for the unbudgeted expenses that have been paid with this account to make the year balance out according to our budget. The cash account has spent \$109,581.14 in system expenses that are not budgeted; the repairs of the screens were a large portion of this expense. Also were the funds that went towards the Riverbank Stabilization Project & the Lower Canal Lining Project. This totaled \$127,585.00. After discussion the Commissioners agreed to move \$127,585.00 from Infrastructure to O&M Main Cash & \$109,581.00 from O&M Construction to O&M Main Cash. Justin Hein motion to transfer the funds into the O&M Main Cash account to cover unbudgeted expenses. Mark Fox 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Sandra presented quotes for a new conference table & chairs and requested 8k to complete an update to the office. Included in the update would be 2 monitors for the conference room, blinds, phone system & security cameras for the office & shop. Denis made a motion to fund 8k for an office update. Justin Hein 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Manager's Report

WBYC has submitted an encroachment permit for the areas they are crossing with their project. Mark Fox motioned to approve the permit. Denis Adams 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Headgates – Approx 18 X cads that are leaking. Cody asked if we are going to be reimbursed by B.A. Fischer for defective headgates, Travis said he has called and left voice mails and has emailed his contact as well and has still received no reply. He said he will continue to try and connect with him. Regardless, Travis said we would have to pay the freight to return them, and they are out of Idaho. Travis said to try and conserve funds they are not replacing the leaking headgates that have a spillway. We are only replacing the ones that are leaking badly, and the water has no place to go. Totally we need to replace 67 headgates. 10-18", 15-15", 20-12" toggle gates are what I need to order now. Travis said if he can get an



approval tonight, they could be here by the 1st of October if ordered them this week. Travis also said that he would like to order the headgates needed in 1/3's. He said if we get these in and installed and then put another 1/3 of the order in late October that would keep things rolling. Also, if the weather turns bad, we don't have headgates sitting here that we cannot install right away. Justin Hein motioned to order the headgates needed and to transfer out of the O&M Construction account into the O&M Main Cash account the cost of all the headgates which is \$34,849.00. Mark Fox 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

Fiber Optics Construction – Nemont has done some arial installs in Huntley, but I have not heard anything from them since. Charter is working in Huntley to Rd 10 & several other areas on Lower Canal road. One of our turn outs (pipe) was hit a couple days ago and will be repaired by them this fall. He also said that they have had to change some of the arial installs to be buried. Travis said he will explain to Jeremy Lind that this will change the dollar amount on the crossing fees as they will cross more burying, versus arial. Travis asked the Commissioners if they wanted Charter to fill out another permit for the changed areas or piggyback them on the current permit. The Commissioners said they would not require a new permit to be submitted for these changes as long as the fees are collected for the additional crossings. Denis Adams said he would like the changes documented with the permit, Travis said we will file it with the existing permit.

Bill Oxendahl, John & Rebecca Dahl – Bridge over main canal on Rd 6 S

John & Rebecca Dahl came with Bill & Dave Oxendahl came before the Board to present a construction plan for the new bridge on Rd 6 South. The original bridge is approximately 45 years old and. The Bureau of Reclamation is requiring the bridge to be rebuilt or be condemned. The original bridge was built with a middle peer for support. Cody said the Commissioners do not want the middle peer design to be mimicked and would prefer a single span. Mark Fox said that the lowest part of the bridge needs to be at least 12 ft higher than the than the highest point of the bank, Travis said they must constantly check and clear that area of debris that gets caught up there. Travis also said that Amy Blakenship with the BOR may not approve the new bridge with that middle peer design as well. He said he is pretty sure it also goes against their O&M regulations. John Dahl said the cost is going to be a much higher cost for them if they have to redesign it without the middle peer. The Commissioners said they understand the cost difference but unfortunately, it goes against the O&M bridge regulations. Justin Hein reiterated that the Commissioners understand that they are not the ones having to write the check but our crews cannot be there all the time trying to clear that peer so water will flow freely by it. Cody requested this to be tabled until the October meeting so the Commissioners could have a little more time to discuss this. John Dahl said they need to get this approved by fall so they can get started. He said he cannot get propane to his place nor can fire trucks get to them, if necessary, until the bridge is rebuilt. Cody said to give them a couple weeks to discuss this, and Travis will get in touch with him with an answer.

Rich Rose

Rich Rose came before the Board regarding the seep that goes into his in laws basement. Rich said the pump is running constantly when his neighbor is irrigating. He said since he was here at the meeting last



month, his pump has been cycling about 5-10 seconds. He said the bottom of the well is full of and now he is having to get a drilling company out there to see what they can do without having to drill a new well. He said this is becoming very expensive to keep this house above water, so to speak. He said he understands there is expense in fixing this issue, but he cannot continue this for another year. He said he has his 93-year-old mother-in-law in this home, and they have to do something before the house collapses. Mark Fox asked if this only happens when the neighbor is irrigating. Rich said no, it gets worse when they irrigate but the seep is constant. He said he believes the seep is occurring between the driveway culvert and the concrete check. It is about 60 ft. He is asking for assistance from the district in preventing this seep. Understanding he does not know the cost of materials & labor involved in lining the area, he said he is willing to help as much as he can with the cost of lining this 60ft. Rich said this area was lined about 25 years ago and it worked great, but then around 3 years later, the District tore it back out and we have been fighting it ever since and it gets worse every year. Cody said he understands his frustration and the board will take it into consideration.

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: 10/9/2024