

**Minutes
North Unit Irrigation District
Regular Board Meeting
December 10, 2024**

Chair Kirsch called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 8:32 am, in regular session at the Jefferson County Annex, 66 SE D Street, Madras, OR 97741. Remote participation available via Teleconference 1-408-638-0968 Meeting ID 373-976-1157 Participant ID # or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3739761157>

Board Members Present

Mike Kirsch, Chair
Ryan Boyle, Vice Chair
Vern Bare, Director
Evan Thomas, Director
Ryan Feigner, Director

Staff Members Present

Josh Bailey, Secretary, District Manager
Michael Britton, Executive Manager
Gary Calhoun, Operations Manager
Dennis Krueger, Watermaster
Leslie Maynard, Finance Manager
Collin Cowsill, Water Operations Specialist
Michelle Camphouse, Water Records Clerk

Others Present

NUID Patrons: Ron Oliver, Marla Rae Vibbert (arriving 9:19 am)

Approval of Agenda

DM Bailey requested the addition of Resolution 2024-11 OWEB Oregon Watershed Enhancement Grant Agreement. DM Bailey requested to postpone Lateral 43 Segment 2 Change Orders until the January 14, 2025 meeting.

Directors Bare/Feigner moved/seconded to approve the agenda with the above revisions. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained from the vote.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

None.

Approval of Minutes

Draft minutes from the November 12, 2024, regular board meeting were presented. **Director Thomas/Vice Chair Boyle moved/seconded to approve the November 12, 2024 regular board minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained.**

Approval of Bills

Finance Manager Maynard presented the October 1-31, 2024, bills. **Vice Chair Boyle/Director Bare moved/seconded to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained.**

Financial Reports

Finance Manager Maynard presented the October 2024 Budget Comparison, DBBC Report, Reserve Funds, and Bank Statement. **Directors Thomas/Feigner moved/seconded to approve the financials as presented. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained.**

Resolution 2024-09 OWRD Grant Agreement

Grants from OWRD & USBR to be directed towards the automation of Wickiup Reservoir outlet works, eliminating the need for a dam tender. NUID will cover the in-kind labor costs. **Directors Thomas/Feigner moved/seconded to approve Resolution 2024-09. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained.**

Resolution 2024-10 District Water Meter Policy Update

Identifies water users as being responsible for new deliveries requiring a water meter and appropriate valving. Board requested a revision to Schedule of Deliveries bullet point 4 to read "Pipeline and Main Canal metered deliveries above Haystack Reservoir may temporarily divert water back into the Main Canal in cases of emergency and while changing irrigation lines; this water will be regulated in Haystack Reservoir". **Vice Chair Boyle/Director Feigner moved/seconded to approve Resolution 2024-10 with above revision. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained.**

Resolution 2024-11 OWEB Bend Fish Screen Grant

Approximately \$10 million is needed for the project. \$6.63 million in funding has been awarded with an additional \$999,999 from OWEB Restoration Grant Program that may be used as non-federal cost share applied towards construction costs. **Directors Thomas/Bare moved/seconded to approve Resolution 2024-11. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained.**

Water Operations Specialist Report

Water Operations Specialist Cowsill presented the water operations report at the meeting. 43 head-end automation nearing completion, 43-J meter repaired, 58-11 diversion bad charge controller replaced, Salty Typhoon nationwide cyber-attack briefing (no action for NUID), website ADA compliance requirements (deadline 2027), CRPS data loss resolution, waiting on BOR to proceed on 58-11 Flume grant project, Emrgy Floating Solar update, Wickiup Automation Grant update, continuing tail-end dynamics data review.

O&M Report

Operations Manager Calhoun presented the O&M report at the meeting. Crew backfilling old section on 43-2 lateral, dam tenders performed monthly OVIC, backfilling on PL43-I, mowing throughout district, main canal core trenched near 33 radial gates, tree removal ride 34, 37 house roof repair, post irrigation season inspections and repair lists, shot-crete blowout repairs, excavator digging bucket repair, fab shop built deliveries for PL 43, fleet maintenance, dump truck brake line repair, blown head gasket repair on 930 Cat loader, grader hydraulic hose repair, management staff attended OWRC conference.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Bailey presented the following Manager's Report at the meeting.

- District Staff Update - Caleb Kody is now in the position of Wickiup dam tender. NUID has begun receiving applications for maintenance and assistant manager positions.
- DM Travel Schedule: 1st quarter travel schedule distributed.
- COID/NUID Delivery Fee Resolution Plan - NUID provided proposal to COID re: conserved water delivery fees. COID board has requested additional discussions/meetings.
- Redmond Resiliency Project Update - Over canal solar with battery packs is more cost effective and has a higher energy output than previous hydropower plans.
- Forbearance Agreement – All Deschutes Basin irrigation districts to avoid using conserved water and send conserved amounts to NUID. Final edits to the document are being performed. Waiting on a response from other Districts.

Executive Manager's Report

District Executive Manager Britton presented the Executive Manager's Report at the meeting.

- Bend Fish Screen Update – Progress meetings with BOR.
- Fish and Wildlife Commission Roundtable on Working Lands
- OWRD 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget
- DBBC Strategic Planning Meeting Review

Water Supply/Water Allotment Discussion

Watermaster Krueger presented the Water Supply Report. Review of current supply, water remaining to be delivered, precipitation, and storage vs. same date in 2023.

Backhoe Purchase Options

Backhoe quotes were distributed. Board to approve up to \$65,000 to replace damaged backhoe with equipment reserve funds.

Director Thomas/Vice Chair Boyle moved/seconded to approve up to \$65,000 to replace damaged backhoe with equipment reserve funds. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained.

Public Comment

Marla Rae Vibbert recommended NUID management contact Todd Taylor of Taylor NW to pass along praise of current canal piping work.

Other Business and Announcements

None

Next Board Meeting

The next meeting date is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 8:30 am.

Meeting recessed at 10:53 am before entering into Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(i).

Board returned to open session at 1:00 pm.

Board adjourned at 1:01 pm.

Signed,



Mike Kirsch
Chair



Joshua Bailey
Board Secretary/District Manager