

December 5, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Pathfinder Irrigation District met in their office in Mitchell, NE on Tuesday, December 5, 2023.

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with reference being made to the "Open Meetings Act" as posted in the Boardroom.

Those present were: Mick Lookabill, President, Brady Howell, Jeff Jenkins, Alan Fenning, and Randy Hoff, Directors, Rick Miller, Manager and Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas. Absent: Monty Reisig.

The reading of the minutes was dispensed with as the minutes had been given to the Directors for prior review. A motion was made Hoff second by Lookabill to approve the minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Howell, Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff and Lookabill voting yes. Absent: Monty Reisig. Motion Carried.

Payroll and bills in the amount of \$228,693.04 were approved on a motion by Jenkins second by Hoff. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill and Howell voting yes. Absent: Reisig. Motion Carried.

Matt Wells of the Bureau of Reclamation met with the Board on routine business. He reported that as of December 4, 2023 the Irrigation account stood at 632,618 acre-feet. The inland lakes account was 26,000 acre-feet.

Adam Reed met with the Board regarding moving a drain ditch on his property to allow more convenient access for a center pivot to cross. Hoff made a motion, second by Howell to allow the relocation of the drain ditch with the understanding Mr. Reed would stand all the costs of moving it and any liability caused by moving the current location of the drain ditch. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill, and Howell voting yes. Absent: Reisig. Motion carried.

The Manager informed the Board about the reports the NRCS and DNR made concerning Wildhorse 5-A, Wildhorse 9-A, and Wildhorse 14-A. The Manager will inform the Board of any new information regarding these dams.

The North Platte Valley Irrigators Association sent out a letter regarding nominees to sit on the board. The Directors did not have anyone to suggest.

A motion was made by Fenning second by Jenkins to award the fuel contract to Panhandle Co-op. A roll call vote was taken with Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill, Howell and Jenkins voting yes. Absent: Reisig. Motion Carried.

The Four States Irrigation Council Conference will be held on Jan. 17th and 18th 2024. Those wishing to attend need to let the Manager know.

A motion was made by Jenkins second by Fenning to approve the purchase of a 2023 Dodge pickup from Chadon Motors in the amount of \$38,511.00. A roll call vote was taken with Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill, Howell and Jenkins voting yes. Absent: Reisig. Motion carried.

A kickoff meeting for the Lake Minatare Outlet works repair has been tentatively set for December 13, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

No one appeared during the time set aside for public comment.

The Manager's report was given as follows:

**PATHFINDER IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MANAGER'S REPORT
December 5, 2023**

➤ **NSIA Joint Convention in Kearney.**

I attended the 2023 NSIA joint convention in Kearney. I was able to visit with Micheal Placke. I met one of Micheal's contractors and discussed the Lake Minatare outlet works with them. We will set up a kickoff meeting for the week of December 11.

➤ **Crank Legal Group.**

Shawn Scoggin, the attorney representing us through our insurance company, forwarded a letter to me requesting more information about the canal breach. I inserted a copy of this letter in your board packets. I am working on putting together the information they have requested.

➤ **Annual Audit.**

Countryman Associates, P.C. has started our annual audit that ended on September 30, 2023. The District's office staff is collecting the information requested for the District's audit.

➤ **Interstate Canal Shaping.**

The District's excavator is working on the main canal in our Fort Laramie District to reshape and slope the

➤ **Magnacide H. Early Order.**

I have ordered the District's Magnacide for the year 2024. I was able to take advantage of the early order program and get it at a reduced price. We have always tried to order early to take advantage of the reduced pricing. The District carried over a significant amount of Mag-H from last year. Last year, the pondweed and algae were not as bad as they usually were in years past.

The tentative date for the next regular meeting is January 4, 2024, at the district office located at 140624 10th Street, Mitchell, NE, and will convene at 9:00 a.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Mick Lookabill, President

Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.