

December 6, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Pathfinder Irrigation District met in their office in Mitchell, NE on Thursday, December 6, 2022.

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

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

The reading of the minutes was dispensed with as the minutes had been given to the Directors for prior review. A motion was made by 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: Reisig. Motion Carried.

Payroll and bills in the amount of \$206,233.83 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.

The financial statement was approved on a motion by Hoff second by Jenkins. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill and Howell voting yes. Absent: Reisig. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Hoff second by Fenning to authorize the President to sign the Tim Meister agreement. A roll call vote was taken with Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill, Howell and Jenkins voting yes. Absent: Reisig. Motion Carried.

Matt Wells of the Bureau of Reclamation met with the Board. He reported that the Inland Lakes Storage at the end of November was 16,489 acre-feet. That the Pathfinder ownership account was 59% of normal and the North Platte account was at 39% of normal as of November 30, 2022.

Robin Nerud had visited with the Manager regarding a change in delivery of his water. Mr. Nerud also agreed to give up three delivery points that are not used anymore. A motion was made by Fenning second by Jenkins to allow the changes. An agreement will be drawn up stating the terms regarding this action. A roll call vote was taken with Lookabill, Howell, Jenkins, Fenning, and Hoff voting yes. Absent: Reisig. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Hoff second by Jenkins to allow Bill Debus request to move his delivery point. Mr. Debus also agreed to give u a delivery point that is

not used anymore. An agreement will be drawn up allowing him to do so. A roll call vote was taken with Howell, Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff and Lookabill voting yes. Absent: Reisig. Motion Carried.

CDL license for new hires were discussed. The Manager will draw up some guidelines to be presented at the next Board meeting.

A motion was made by Hoff second by Jenkins to allow the Manager to sign the Century Link permits on the Morrill division. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill and Howell voting yes. Absent: Reisig. Motion Carried.

Projects that may qualify for Nebraska's "Surface Water Infrastructure LB1012 e" and" Water Smart Grants "through Reclamation was discussed. The projects talked about was a) Outlet works on Lake Minatare Dam, b) 71 siphon, c) Low Line below Northport.

The Board was informed about the Four States Irrigation Council Conference to be held on January 11-12, 2023. Those wishing to attend are to let the Manager know so that reservations can be made.

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 6, 2022**

➤ **NSIA Joint Convention in Kearney.**

Jeff Jenkins and I attended the 2022 NSIA joint convention in Kearney. There was some excellent information that came out of the conference. I had the opportunity to visit with Jesse Bradley about the "Surface Water infrastructure" monies. This visit allowed me to explain to him some of the needs of the District. I also visited with Michael Placke of JEO Consulting Group about the planning for the Lake Minatare outlet works. Michael informed me that he had a contractor look at it to give us a ballpark idea of the cost of redoing the gates and outlet aprons. Michael also offered his firm's help in other areas we may need for other significant structures within our District.

➤ **Mitchell Shop Heaters.**

Skyler's Heating and Cooling has installed the new heat in the Mitchell shop. The job was well done, and the heaters appear to be doing a nice job heating the shop consistently.

➤ **Fuel Contracts for 2023.**

We contracted fuel for 2023. We will get our gasoline from Panhandle Coop and diesel fuel from Dooley.

➤ **Access Water Software.**

The District's water software is starting to get outdated. The individual who designed this program has passed away, so finding support for our software has been challenging. I will start looking for alternative programs that will replace our current program before this software becomes an issue we can't resolve.

➤ **Advance Technology**

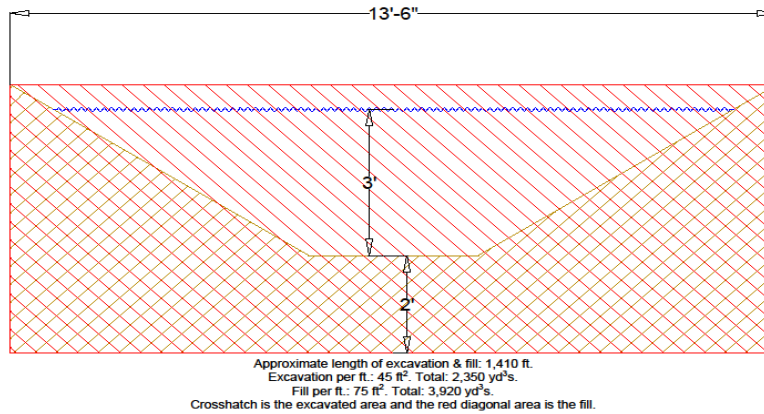
Kevin with Advance Technology has installed our new server and backup server. Everything appears to be running very well. The new server has plenty of hard drives to start scanning many of our old files into a pdf format. The hard drives will make our files accessible from our computers and save them in case of a fire or damage.

➤ **Main Canal Shaping.**

The Morrill division is hauling clay on areas of the main canal where the canal's shape needs to be narrowed.

➤ **Lateral 21 Seepage; District's Approach to Sealing with Clay.**

We are attempting to seal Lateral 21, where we believe we are losing a significant amount of water through seepage. Our approach is to excavate the lateral 2 feet below the existing flow line and outward beyond the wetted perimeter of the ditch. We will then haul in clay and compact it in the excavation to a level above the high-water line. Once the material has been placed and compacted, we will excavate a new ditch. Below is a drawing of the excavation and fill. Over excavation of the lateral has been completed, and the clay liner will be placed and compacted this winter when other work cannot be done.



➤ **Schmaltz Bridge on Minatare Division.**

The Minatare crew continues to work on the headwalls of the Schmaltz bridge. They have the south headwalls poured and will start on the north walls when the weather permits. The Morrill crew has been sending a couple of crew members down to help them due to Minatare's small crew.

The tentative date for the next regular meeting has been set for Thursday, January 5, 2023 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 11:00 o'clock a.m.

Mick Lookabill, President

Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.