

February 3, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Pathfinder Irrigation District met in their office in Mitchell, NE on Thursday, February 3, 2022.

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

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

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

The payroll and bills in the amount of \$276,634.81 were approved on a motion by Jenkins second by Reisig. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill and Howell voting yes. Motion Carried.

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

Matt Wells of the Bureau of Reclamation met with the Board to give an update on the water figures. As of Jan. 31, 2022 the Pathfinder Ownership stands at 144,015 -acre feet, Glendo is 17,523- acre feet. The Upper Platte is @103% of normal and the Lower Platte is 74% of normal.

Dennis Strauch met with the Board and was presented a plaque for his 44 years of service to the District.

A motion was made by Reisig second by Hoff to purchase two new Dodge Pickups from Chadron Motor Company for \$34,094.00 per unit as Team Chevrolet was unable to honor their bid in January. A roll call vote was taken with Fenning, Hoff, Howell, Jenkins and Reisig voting yes. Lookabill voting no. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Jenkins second by Reisig to contribute \$2,000.00 to the Family Farm Alliance. A roll call vote was taken with Hoff, Lookabill, Howell, Jenkins, Reisig and Fenning voting yes. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Lookabill second by Hoff to go into Executive Session at 9:50 a.m. A roll call vote was taken with Lookabill, Howell, Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning and Hoff voting yes. Motion Carried. The purpose for the session was to discuss personnel.

A motion was made by Lookabill second by Reisig to come out of Executive Session at 10:15 a.m. No decisions were made at this time. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill and Howell voting yes. Motion Carried.

The Reclamation's Environmental Compliance Audit was discussed. The Manager is working on this audit.

The DOT Hazardous Material Safety Permit was discussed. The District is working on all the requirements to be in compliance with the needs of this permit.

The new DOT requirements for an employee to receive a CDL license or to obtain a hazardous endorsement were discussed along with the necessary classes to obtain a CDL license after February 7, 2022.

LB1074 will be introduced on Febr. 1, 2022. This bill if passed will have a significant amount of money in it for infrastructure issues should they occur. A letter of support has been sent to our Representatives.

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  
February 3, 2022**

➤ **Fall and Winter Work Projects.**

The District's two excavators continue to work on sloping the canal. Some of the District's employees are hauling hardpan on the main canal north of Chalk Butte School. The other Districts continue to work on the maintenance of the system.

➤ **Reclamation Environmental Audit Inspection of Federal Properties.**

In August, the Bureau inspected the Mitchell, Morrill, and Minatare properties for compliance with EPA requirements for spill protection of oil and petroleum products. After the inspection, the Bureau requires the district to develop a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure plan for the district's facilities (SPCC). We will continue to work on the requirements for developing a plan over the winter months.

### ➤ Spray Chemical

We have received part of our spray chemical for this next season. We received all the surfactants and all the 41% Glyphosate. We still need to obtain the 2-4-D. Tony from Van Diest Supply Company stopped by on 2/1/2022 and we discussed the 2-4-D situation. He believes we should still be able to obtain it because of its aquatic label.

### ➤ State Legislation LB1074

LB1074 is a piece of legislation that would have a positive impact on surface water irrigation. This bill will create a Surface Water Irrigation Infrastructure Fund. It would be a one-time transfer for \$50 million from the Cash Reserves Fund. Provides for grants up to \$5 million with a 10% match for the repair or construction of any headgate, flume, diversion structure, check valve, or other physical structure used for irrigation projects. We wrote a letter to support this legislation.

The tentative date for the next regular Board meeting has been set for Thursday, March 3, 2022, at the District office located at 140624 10<sup>th</sup> 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 11:15 a.m. on a motion by Jenkins second by Reisig. A roll call vote was taken with Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill, Howell, Jenkins, and Reisig voting yes. Motion Carried.

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Randy Hoff, President

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Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.