

January 6, 2022

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

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

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 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 Hoff second by Jenkins to approve the minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Howell, Jenkins, Fenning and Hoff voting yes. Absent: Reisig and Lookabill.  
Motion Carried.

The payroll and bills in the amount of \$203,234.28 was approved on a motion by Jenkins second by Howell. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff and Howell voting yes. Absent: Reisig and Lookabill. Motion carried.

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

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

The water report as of January 4, 2022 was as follows: Pathfinder ownership was at 233,600 AF. Pathfinder Irrigation Account stood at 218,179 AF. The inland lakes was 15,962 AF and Guernsey Ownership was 6,401 AF.

It was stated that the Guernsey Power Intake Gate rehabilitation project is currently on schedule for a February 21<sup>st</sup> completion date. It looks like all the rehabilitation work has been completed and they just have to put it all back together.

The 2022 salary adjustments were discussed. A motion was made by Jenkins second by Fenning to allow a 5% adjustment for the full time employees and a 3% adjustment for the seasonal employees. New hires will remain the same as

the 2021 wages. A roll call vote was taken with Hoff, Howell, Jenkins and Fenning voting yes. Absent: Reisig and Lookabill. Motion Carried.

Bids for the replacement of two pickups had been returned. A motion was made by Jenkins second by Hoff to award the bid to Team Chevrolet in the amount of \$33,759.00. A roll call vote was taken with Howell, Jenkins, Fenning and Hoff voting yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Howell second by Fenning to remove Dennis Strauch from the Pinnacle Bank accounts and to add Rick Miller to replace Dennis Strauch as Manager. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff and Howell voting yes. Motion Carried.

Ballots were cast for the election of Directors for the North Platte Valley Irrigators Association. A motion was made by Hoff second Fenning to cast all votes in Division # 1 for Alan Fenning and in Division # 2 for Steve Jobman. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff and Howell voting yes. Motion Carried.

Selection of Clerks and Judges for the upcoming elections in Lateral Divisions two and three of the Pathfinder Irrigation District to be held on February 1, 2022 were as follows: Clerk and Judges were chosen as follows: Lateral Division # 2, Vern Groskopf, Clerk and Roger Christensen and Dean Keener as Judges and in Lateral Division # 3, Al Garza as Clerk and Melvin and Delores Hubbard as Judges.

The hiring of personnel was discussed. A decision will be made at a later date.

Dennis Strauch's retirement open house will be held on January 8, 2022 at the Gering Civic Center honoring his forty-four years of service.

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  
January 6, 2022**

➤ Fall and Winter Work Projects.

We have a considerable amount of identified maintenance that needs to be done this year on the canal and with the dams at Lake Minatare and Lake Alice. Mostly minor items, but we need to get them off the books. With the pipeline projects the last few years maintenance has at times taken a back seat. We plan to complete the rehab work at the Spring Canyon Flume.

Reclamation is extremely critical when doing the new inspections. We are still going over reviews from their inspections they done this fall.

The district's two excavators continue to slope and reshape the main canal.

### ➤ Funding For Aging Water Infrastructure Efforts.

NSIA continues to press Senator Bostleman and Senator Stinner for an appropriation to start addressing aging water infrastructure in Nebraska. Until the Legislature convenes in January we will just have to wait and see if anything gets introduced.

### ➤ Transition in Management

Transition has gone well. Dennis will continue to be available so I can continue to learn some of the mapping and legal side of what goes on within the District.

### ➤ 5-Year Update to District Water Conservation Plan.

We have sent the Water Conservation Plan to the Bureau of Reclamation. We identified conservation activities we will continue to strive after to make the district available for grant monies as well as benefit the District's conservation efforts.

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

Back 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 is requiring 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.

### ➤ Moving of the High Line Canal.

Wynne Land & Cattle, L.L.C. signed the agreement for moving the High Line Canal on December 28th. Mr. Wynn said Paul Reed Construction would be doing the work to move the canal. We went out and staked the end points so Paul Reed's surveyors could set their points to start excavating. We will continue to monitor the progress of the moving of the canal to make sure it does not interfere with our normal preparations for water season.

### ➤ Mountain Peaks Controls

We have contacted Mountain Peaks about the issues we have with our automated system, and they are to get back with us in mid-January.

### ➤ Spray Chemical

We have received part of our spray chemical for this next season. We received all the surfactant and over half of the 41% Glyphosate. We still need to receive the 2-4-D.

The tentative date for the next regular Board meeting has been set for Thursday, February 3, 2022, at the District office in Mitchell, NE located at 140624 10<sup>th</sup> Street and will convene at 9:00 a.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

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Randy Hoff, President

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Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.