

July 8, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Pathfinder Irrigation District met in their office in Mitchell, Nebraska on Thursday, July 8, 2021.

Those present were: Jeff Jenkins, Monty Reisig, Alan Fenning, Directors, Randy Hoff, President, Dennis Strauch, Manager, Rick Miller, Assistant Manager, and Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas. Absent were: Harry Howell 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 Reisig second by Hoff to approve the minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning and Hoff voting yes. Absent: Howell and Lookabill. Motion carried.

Payroll and bills in the amount of \$360,410.32 were approved on a motion by Jenkins second by Reisig. A roll call vote was taken with Reisig, Fenning, Hoff, and Jenkins voting yes. Absent: Howell and Lookabill. Motion Carried.

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

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

Current water supply conditions were discussed. The system has been operating very efficient so far and it looks good that we can make it to early September with water.

Staffing issues were discussed. We are still short a full- time position on the Minatare Division, and have had to replace a rider on the Mitchell Division.

The Board will be going up to view the work that was done on the Guernsey Spillway Gate Rehabilitation during the silt run as the lake will be pulled down and the gate's will be exposed for viewing.

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
July 8, 2021**

➤ **Pipeline Project Progress.**

Bernhardt pump from the Low Line Canal. The electrical hookup from Chimney Rock has been installed and Dienes Irrigation should be setting the pump soon. Mr. Bernhardt leased his water this year so he won't be using the pump for this year.

➤ **2021 Legislative Session – LR117 Interim Study.**

The Nebraska State Irrigation Association and the Nebraska Water Resources Association are working together to push for another interim study for 2021. Due to COVID-19 the study sanctioned last year never was accomplished. We have submitted information concerning our District and the potential major costs we could be faced with in the future with aging infrastructure replacement needs. Senator Bosstelman introduced LR117 Interim Study to look at aging surface water infrastructure in Nebraska. As the result we received a survey from his office requesting information concerning our District and our system rehabilitation needs. The survey is very brief and does not provide for a full picture of our system. I attached a 5 page narrative with pictures showing our future rehabilitation needs.

➤ **New Front Office Computers**

We have replaced the two computers in the front office this month. They were 6 years old and we were starting to have hard drive issues with them. The computers were in the budget and the costs stayed within budget numbers.

➤ **Silt Run.**

The silt run for this year is scheduled to start on July 11th. Drawdown of Guernsey Reservoir will begin sometime on July 5th. At this time, we are scheduled for a 14 day silt run. We talked about visiting the Guernsey North Spillway Gate during the silt run, to inspect the rehabilitation work done recently on the gate. During the silt run would be a good time to see the gate.

➤ **Nebraska State Irrigation Association (NSIA) Summer Board of Directors Meeting.**

Pathfinder, Gering-Ft. Laramie and Farmers Irrigation Districts are hosting the NSIA Summer Board of Directors meeting here in the Valley. The afternoon of July 13th we are providing a tour of the tunnel collapse area on the Ft. Laramie Canal. Many of the directors have heard but not seen the scope of the damages and affected area to understand how devastating the collapse was and how difficult it was to put the tunnel back into service on a limited capacity.

On the evening of the 13th we will host a catered meal for the board at the Scouts Rest shelter at Lake Minatare, which will be catered by the Meat Shoppe. The cost will be split between the 3 districts.

The Directors meeting will be held on the morning of July 14th at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center.

The tentative date for the next regular board meeting has be set for Wednesday, August 4, 2021, at the district office in Mitchell, NE located at 140624 10th Street and will convene at 9:00 a.m.

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

Randy Hoff, President

Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.