

November 3, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Pathfinder Irrigation District met at the District's office in Mitchell, NE, on Thursday, November 3, 2022.

Those present were: Jeff Jenkins, Vice President; Monty Reisig, Alan Fenning; and Brady Howell, Directors; Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas. and Rick Miller, Manager. Absent: Randy Hoff 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 reading of the minutes was dispensed with as the minutes had been given to the Directors for prior review. A motion was made by Fenning, second by Reisig, to approve the minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Howell, Jenkins, Reisig, and Fenning voting yes. Absent: Lookabill and Hoff. Motion Carried.

Payroll and bills in the amount of \$247,637.01 were approved on a motion by Reisig, second by Fenning. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning, and Howell voting yes. Absent: Lookabill and Hoff. Motion Carried.

The Financial Statement was approved on a motion by Reisig and second by Howell.

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

The North Platte ownership has 162,000 acre-feet in the irrigation account as of October 31, 2022.

Glatfelter Claims Management has denied all claims sent to them due to the breached Interstate Canal by Lingle, WY, on July 1, 2022.

The Board was informed that the District received a letter from Wendtland & Wendtland representing the owners of real property located at 2988 US Hwy 26, Lingle, WY. The Board was given the opportunity to read the letter.

The North Platte Decree Committee will be meeting today to discuss the accounting of Inland Lakes water while having the early water run in an allocated year.

Tim Meister has asked the District to tile a lateral in front of his property. A motion was made by Reisig, seconded by Fenning, to do this tile project, with Meister paying for the cost of the pipe through his property. Meister will make an initial payment, and the remainder of the cost will be set up in two payments payable to the District. A roll call vote was taken with Fenning, Howell, Jenkins, and Reisig voting yes. Absent: Lookabill and Hoff. Motion Carried.

Mike Hansberger has asked the District to tile lateral 1-5 through his farm where his pivot runs. A motion was made by Fenning, second by Jenkins, to allow the District to move forward on this project at the expense of all the materials being paid by Hansberger. A roll call vote was taken with Howell, Jenkins, Reisig, and Fenning voting yes. Absent: Lookabill and Hoff. Motion Carried.

The Joint Conference of the 2022 NSIA/NWRA will be held in Kearney, NE, on November 20-22. The Manager and Jeff Jenkins will be attending this conference.

Reisig made a motion, seconded by Howell, to trade in the District's 1993 410D backhoe towards purchasing a 2023 John Deere backhoe from Murphy Tractor. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning, and Howell voting yes. Absent: Lookabill and Hoff. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Howell and seconded by Jenkins to allow the Manager to sign the 22/23-year contract for diesel fuel when available. A roll call vote was taken with Reisig, Fenning, Howell, and Jenkins voting yes. Absent: Lookabill and Hoff. Motion Carried.

The Manager's report was given as follows:

**PATHFINDER IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MANAGER'S REPORT  
November 3, 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. The aging of the District's system makes it a continual job to stay on top of all the recommendations made by the Bureau.

Reclamation plans to inspect Cottonwood and Rawhide siphons on November 8. The general inspection was done on October 11. This inspection seems to have gone very well. I will wait to hear from Reclamation on their recommendations for the District to repair. David Merrill, with Reclamation, did the inspections this year. I felt he did a good job explaining what issues he had concerns.

➤ **Funding for Aging Water Infrastructure.**

This topic will focus on funding availability at the NSIA/NWRA Joint conference in Kearney on November 20-22. Gov. Pete Ricketts will present Water Infrastructure Spending.

➤ **Lateral 21.**

The District's excavator has been removing silt from 21 lateral. We over-excavated about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile of the lateral to haul crushed hardpan back into the bottom to help reduce the water we were losing through seep. We are finding that this lateral has silted in a significant amount over the years. We believe this will significantly help us next year with water delivery.

➤ **Schmaltz Bridge.**

The Minatare division has started rebuilding Schmaltz's bridge on the Highline Canal. We have received the precast deck for the bridge and intend to have it set this fall. This bridge will be all concrete construction.

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

The tentative date for the next regular meeting has been set for Tuesday, December 6, 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 9:50 a.m.

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Mick Lookabill, President

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Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.