

November 7, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Pathfinder Irrigation District met in their office in Mitchell, NE on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

Those present were: Jeff Jenkins, Vice-President, Brady Howell, Alan Fenning, and Randy Hoff, Directors, Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas. and Rick Miller, Manager. Absent were: 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 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 Howell to approve the minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Howell, Jenkins, Fenning, and Hoff voting yes. Absent: Lookabill and Reisig. Motion Carried.

Payroll and bills in the amount of \$456,115.80 were approved on a motion by Hoff second by Jenkins. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Fenning, Hoff and Howell voting yes. Absent: Lookabill and Reisig. Motion carried.

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

Matt Wells, of the Bureau of Reclamation met with the Board on routine business. He reported that as of November 3, 2023, the Pathfinder ownership stood at 609,225 acre-feet. The Inland lakes was 17,025 acre-feet.

The delivery to Double J Sheep Creek LLC through Pete Unrein's cement ditch was discussed. The Manager will check into the most feasible way for this delivery through a tile line.

The NSIA/NWRA Joint Conference will be held on November 19-21 in Kearney. At this time Rick Miller and Mick Lookabill will be attending.

Michael Placke with the JEO Consulting Group would like to schedule a kickoff meeting on Lake Minatare outlet works. The Manager will get a meeting scheduled and any of the Board who would like to attend are welcome.

The Manager informed the Board that the Fuel contracts are coming up.

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
November 7, 2023**

➤ **Fall and Winter Work Projects.**

The District's employees have started working on their fall projects. They are working on routine repairs such as headgates, weirs, and crossings. They are also working on the recommendations the Bureau of Reclamation has put on our main canal.

The Morrill District has replaced the big drop that washed out last summer on lateral 1, and they have also replaced some of the floors in the main canal checks that were on the records from the Bureau.

The District's excavators are sloping the main canal and digging laterals.

➤ **AFR by the Bureau of Reclamation.**

On October 25 the Bureau of Reclamation and I did the annual facility review. We looked at the completed recommendations on the Interstate Canal. Once we were done looking at the completed recommendations, we started down the Highline canal.

On November 16 the Bureau will bring in a team to inspect the first four siphons on the Lowline Canal.

➤ **Sheep Creek Spill**

Last year, the Bureau of Reclamation made a recommendation 2023-2-c; this recommendation said to establish positive drainage on the downstream side of Big Sheep's Creek underdrain. On October 24 the District's excavator started this process to complete this recommendation. Mr. Andersen was concerned about the District's right of way to be digging this drain area. Mr. Andersen's lawyer questioned if we had the legal right to be digging this drain. Steve Smith took care of the issue from there. We were able to complete the recommendation.

➤ **Staff Openings**

The Mitchell Division has a Truck Driver position opening. We had filled this spot, but the individual we had filled it with didn't work out. All other year-round employee positions are filled at this time.

The tentative date for the next regular meeting has been set for December 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 conduct the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Mick Lookabill, President

Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.