

October 3, 2018

The Board of Directors of the Pathfinder Irrigation District met in their office on Wednesday, October 3, 2018.

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

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

Payroll and bills in the amount of \$205,644.86 were approved on a motion by Lookabill second by Hoff. A roll call vote was taken with Kister, Reisig, Hoff, Lookabill and Howell voting yes. Absent: Fenning. Motion Carried.

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

A motion was made by Hoff second by Kister to approve the Lateral 10 (Craig Branch Lateral) pipeline project and the Lateral 22AA pipeline project. A roll call vote was taken with Hoff, Lookabill, Howell, Kister and Reisig voting yes. Absent Fenning. Motion carried.

Major Repairs to Lateral 24 B-D concrete ditch and the repair to the Lake Alice Outlet drop-chute were discussed. Repair will be done as time allows.

Matt Wells of the Bureau of Reclamation met with the Board on routine business. He reported that as of October 1, 2018, the irrigation account stood at 437,913 acre ft.

The Board of Directors reviewed the 2019 budget as put together by the Manager. A motion was made by Lookabill second by Reisig to approve the budget in the amount of \$3,381,121.00. A roll call vote was taken with Lookabill, Howell, Kister, Reisig and Hoff voting yes. Absent Fenning. Motion Carried

A motion was made by Reisig second by Hoff to have the 2019 O & M remain the same as it has been since 2014. The amount of \$29.00 per acre with a special assessment of \$1.00 per acre which will be assessed until the districts' share of the repairs to the North Spillway gate at Guernsey Dam has been paid. A roll call vote was taken with Howell, Kister, Reisig, Hoff, and Lookabill voting yes. Absent: Fenning. Motion Carried.

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  
October 3, 2018**

➤ **WaterSmart Grant Project.**

Development of the final reports required under the grant are underway and should be provided well in advance of the deadline. We filed and received payment for the balance of funds set up in our account in the amount of \$5,641.00. Final costs and cost share will be determined based on the final reports.

➤ **Senate Bill S.2563; Water Supply Infrastructure and Drought Resiliency Act of 2018.**

Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District (CNPPID) provided some language to address their concerns in the bill. The problem with the language is it was specific to Lake McConaughy. I sent in language on behalf of the North Platte Valley Irrigators Association that was more general in nature that would require they look at water supply conditions both upstream and downstream of the facility being considered for changing flood operations (in this case Glendo). I have not heard anything back from the Senate Committee.

➤ **CNPPID/Republican River NRD's application for a trans-basin transfer water right from the Platte River to the Republican River.**

Last month we sent in comments expressing our concerns with the trans-basin diversion permit application. We have not heard when the hearing will be scheduled for the permit. North Platte NRD filed as an objector and will participate in the hearing process. As a commenter we will not be party to the hearing, but our comments will be made part of the record.

➤ **Becker Bridge Issue.**

I sent a letter to the Becker family informing them that the District will not be replacing the old wooden bridge for their access, but would be providing them access across the Lookabill bridge located immediately downstream and along Lateral 34G.

➤ **Stuart Maintenance Issues Raised at the September Meeting.**

We have started to investigate the maintenance issues raised by the Stuart's at the September meeting. We have conducted a GPS survey of the Low Line Canal and Lateral 88 turnout. We are trying to determine if one new check in the Low Line will be able to raise the water levels needed to make early and late season deliveries or if a second check will be required. We are also looking at whether we can lower Lateral 88 headgate or if the new checks will address this issue. We will also make sure the check south of the highway is okay to use or if we need to do some repairs.

Stuart's also asked if the insurance company adjuster for the Low Line Canal break had been contacted about bringing the silt that deposited on the lower end of the Korell property up into the washout. I have contacted the adjuster and he will talk to Stuarts and Korell to discuss what local contractors might be able to do the work using a scraper. Once the silt is moved into the washout, the District can start hauling dirt to fill the remainder of the affected area, which will most likely occur when construction work can no longer be done due to the weather (November or after).

➤ **Orin Bolzer Access Issue.**

Since the discussion at the September Board Meeting, I have not heard anymore from either Bolzer or Platte River Properties concerning the issue of access.

➤ **Progressive Ag Kids Safety Day.**

This year the Kids Safety Day was held on September 27<sup>th</sup> at the Mitchell Event Center. Morrill 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders and Mitchell 4<sup>th</sup> graders were invited. The event is organized by the United Chamber Ag Committee. Pathfinder is a sponsor and I do a class on canal safety utilizing a water display the District built about 4 years ago. About 125 students attended.

The tentative date for the next meeting has been set for Tuesday, November 6, 2018, 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 11:40 a.m.

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Monty Reisig, President

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Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.