

October 4, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Pathfinder Irrigation District met in their office in Mitchell, NE on Tuesday, October 4, 2022.

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

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. with reference being made to the "Open Meetings Act" as posted in the Board Room.

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, Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning, Hoff and Lookabill voting yes. Motion Carried.

Payroll and bills in the amount of \$358,422.87 were approved on a motion by Hoff second by Jenkins. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill and Howell voting yes. Motion Carried.

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

The 2023 budget was discussed. A motion was made by Lookabill second by Reisig to approve Option 1 of the budget as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill, Howell, Jenkins and Reisig voting yes. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Hoff second by Reisig to set the 2023 O & M assessment at \$32.00 per acre. A roll call vote was taken with Hoff, Lookabill, Howell, Jenkins, Reisig and Fenning voting yes. Motion Carried.

Matt Wells from the Bureau of Reclamation met with the Board and discussed the current water conditions. As of October 3, 2022 the Ownership account stood at 147,265 Acre-feet. The Inland Lakes account stands at 1,043 acre-feet. Total storage stands at 35% of average.

The 2022 NSIA/NWRA Joint Conference will be held in Kearney on November 20-22. Any one on the Board who wants to -----attend needs to let the Manager know before November 4, so reservations can be made.

The Manager's probation period has been lifted.

Staffing needs were discussed and at the present time we are needing 2 truck drivers on the Minatare Division.

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 4, 2022**

➤ **Fall and Winter Work Projects.**

We have many maintenance needs that need to be done this year on the canal and with the dams at Lake Minatare and Lake Alice. Most of them are minor in nature, but they need to be taken care of, so they are off of Reclamation's lists of repairs that need to be off the books. We plan to continue the rehab work at the Spring Canyon Flume this Fall.

Reclamation plans to do the AFR, or general canal inspection, on October 11. Reclamation also plans on inspecting Rawhide siphon, Morrill siphon, and Mitchell siphon on November 8. I will not be able to be present during the inspections of the siphons because Reclamation requires confined space training to be involved in their inspections.

We have mentioned before that since the tunnel collapse in Wyoming, the current and future inspections are being done with great detail. The lists of repairs needed and the standards Reclamation uses for these inspections are increasing our workload tremendously. They are also putting a lot of burden on our budget as well.

➤ **Water Season**

The water season went well, given the shortage of water. The District's employees did a great job facing their different challenges. The conservative efforts of the users and the employees made it possible to carry over a couple of weeks of water for next year.

➤ **Spectrum Internet**

Spectrum has installed fiber optics into the office. This should supply all our future needs regarding the automation of our canal systems.

➤ **Schmaltz Bridge**

The precast deck for Schmaltz Bridge on the High Line Canal has been poured and is waiting for us to pour the Headwalls this fall. It will be delivered as soon as we let Husker Steel know we are ready for it.

➤ **Aging Infrastructure Funds**

I am continuing to work with JEO consulting group. They are the engineering company working on a plan for the outlet works of Lake Minatare Dam. We will also work with Rubicon to combine automation on the Low Line Canal in that same application process.

➤ **Tile Projects for 2022-2023**

Pipe prices continue to be very high. With the workload put on the District by all of Reclamations recommendations, we will not be focusing on pipelines this winter unless the landowner wants to absorb the cost of any pipeline projects.

➤ **Lateral 21 Main**

I have the excavator over digging the upper portion of 21 main. We are going to over-dig the lateral and line it with a hardpan. We struggled this summer to get enough water through it. I feel that we are losing a substantial amount of water from seep in this section.

The tentative date for the next regular meeting has been set for Thursday, November 3, 2022, 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 come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. on a motion by Reisig second by Lookabill. A roll call vote was taken with Lookabill, Howell, Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning and Hoff voting yes. Motion carried.

Mick Lookabill, President

Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.