

September 8, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Pathfinder Irrigation District met in their office in Mitchell, Nebraska on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

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

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 meetings were dispensed with as the minutes had been given to the Board 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 Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning, Hoff and Lookabill voting yes. Motion Carried.

Payroll and bills in the amount of \$238,801.67 were approved on a motion by Reisig second by Jenkins. A roll call vote was taken with Reisig, Fenning, Hoff, Lookabill and Jenkins voting yes. Motion Carried.

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

Water operations wrap-up for 2022 were discussed. It appears that we will end the season carryover with approximately 48,000 acre- feet left in our account for next year, which will give us a good two weeks' worth of water going into the 2023 season. The estimated storage in Lake Minatare is 12,000 acre-feet and Lake Alice is 500 acre-feet.

A motion was made by Hoff second by Reisig to make the final payment on the Guernsey gate repair. A roll call vote was taken with Hoff, Lookabill, Jenkins, Reisig and Fenning voting yes. Motion Carried.

The Board reviewed the 2023 proposed budget. A final budget will be presented to the Board at our October meeting.

The end of the season dinner was discussed and it was decided to once again to have the dinner. It will be held on September 29, 2022 at the Gering Civic Center.

Matt Greenway and Corey Dickmeyer with the FNIC insurance Co. met with the Board through a zoom meeting to present their insurance renewal.

A motion was made by Jenkins second by Reisig to continue our Health Insurance coverage with Aetna and to remain with the FNIC Company for the property, auto liability, crime and Worker's Compensation insurance as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Lookabill, Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning and Hoff voting yes. Motion Carried.

The off-season Mitchell office hours were discussed. It was decided to change the office hours to 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday thru Thursday and the office will be closed on Fridays during the off season.

The position of Director to fill the vacancy, in Lateral District # 1 due to the resignation of Harry Howell, had been advertised. Brady Howell was the only eligible person to apply for the position.

A motion was made by Lookabill second by Jenkins to appoint Brady Howell to fill the existing term of Director in Lateral District # 1, of the Pathfinder Irrigation District. A roll call vote was taken with Jenkins, Reisig, Fenning, Hoff and Lookabill voting yes. 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**

September 8, 2022

➤ **2022 Water Season is Nearing the End for this Year.**

As the 2022 water season nears an end, the District's users and employees have done a good job managing our limited water supply. Lake Minatare will end much lower than average, so we will need to consider that next year when we are beginning the water season.

➤ **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.

Reclamation plans to inspect Cottonwood and Rawhide siphons and the Spring Canyon Flume on the Main Canal. They were going to do it last year but did not get it done.

The bridge deck has been ordered for the High Line that was burnt last spring. We will fill the High Line Canal in so the canal can be crossed while the new bridge is being constructed.

➤ **Glatfelter Insurance Company.**

Glatfelter Insurance Company is requesting information on how we intend to prevent future fires from getting out of control. I am in the process of writing up a burning plan to show the insurance company that we are making efforts to prevent these undesired claims on our insurance.

➤ **Automation System.**

Mountain Peaks continues to work on our automation system. We are waiting for parts to get our number 10 site up and working. This winter, I will be looking for someone else to take care of our automation needs.

I had the opportunity to go to the Frenchman Cambridge Irrigation District to observe the Rubicon automation system. This system appears to work very well. They have techs throughout the country to work on their system. Unfortunately, they are not interested in working on systems that Rubicon does not make. I will pursue their system for our future automation needs and when applying for grants.

The tentative date for the next regular Board meeting has been set for October 4, 2022, at the district's 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 11:00 a.m.

Mick Lookabill, President

Margaret Harriger, Sec.-Treas.

