

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 12, 2024
64697 Cook Avenue
Bend, Oregon 97703

BOARD: Ron Cochran, Martin Warbington, Steve Putnam, Carol Shull, Ed Galazzo
STAFF: Chris Schull, April Harris Spath
ATTORNEY: Mark Reinecke
GUESTS: Bob Varco, Susie Hart, Mary Wallis, David Arnold, Becky Arnold, Greg Mohnen, Marianne Walker

Chairman Cochran called the regular board meeting to order at 09:00 a.m. and appointed April Harris Spath scribe.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

At 9:02 a.m. the Board recessed the regular session and entered executive session per:

- ORS 192.660(2)(e): To conduct deliberations with persons you have designated to negotiate real property transactions.
- ORS 192.660(2)(f): To consider information or records that are exempt from disclosure by law, including written advice from your attorney.
- ORS 192.660(2)(h): To consult with your attorney regarding your legal rights and duties in regard to current litigation or litigation that is more likely than not to be filed.

RECONVENE

Following the executive session, the regular session was reconvened at 11:05 a.m.

APPROVE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2024 BOARD MEETING

Director Putnam made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 2024 board meeting. Director Shull seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

WATER SUPPLY REPORT

Manager Schull reviewed the current water supply report and attached graph, which indicated that Crescent Lake was 11% full at ~9,900 AF. The first stock run of the season begins Monday, November 18th, ending Friday the 22nd.

ELECTION RESULTS

Ronald Cochran was re-elected as director of Division 4 by reason of sole nominating petition. The term of office will be for three years, beginning January 2025, and terminating January 2028. His Oath of Office will be taken at the annual board meeting in January.

OWRC CONFERENCE

The Oregon Water Resource Congress' annual conference will once again be held in Hood River, Oregon. The dates of the conference have been scheduled for December 2nd-5th, and will be attended this year by Manager Schull, Chairman Cochran, Office Manager April Spath, and Field Supervisor Matt Lane.

2024 DELENQUENT ACCOUNTS

The Board was updated on the total amount of assessments outstanding and the number of patrons that were delinquent and not on current payment plans. Since the last board meeting, the number of outstanding accounts decreased from 26 to 4, and the amount outstanding decreased from \$45k to \$11k. The Board directed office staff to hand those four accounts over to Attorney Reinecke so that he can send them a letter, giving them one final opportunity to pay before starting the lien process. There are an additional 3 accounts that still have an outstanding balance from their 2023 assessments. These 3 accounts were previously given to Attorney Reinecke to start the lien filing process.

2025 ANNUAL BUDGET

The Board reviewed a draft of the budget for 2025. The current draft proposes no increase to annual assessments. Chairman Cochran expressed his concerns about legal costs if the piping lawsuit continues, or if we decide to move forward with rezoning the Gerking Market Pit. The Board will review the draft and discuss it further at the December board meeting.

We compared the cost of leasing a skid steer with a mower attachment, with an option to buy, directly from Kubota vs. getting a loan through the bank to purchase it outright. It was determined that the lease would be the best option. The 3-year lease would be the less expensive option, but even the 5-year option would be better than the interest rate that the bank currently offers.

Manager Schull explained that the Tahoe was back in the shop and although it is covered under warranty, it has been at the dealership for several weeks and the cost of a rental truck is getting expensive. He feels that it would be best to trade the Tahoe in for a new vehicle, as this one seems to continue to have major issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Susan Hart asked the Board about the lawsuit they were referring to in the budget. Manager Schull explained that it was the stop-the-pipe lawsuit that was filed back in 2020, and that their appeals had reached the Ninth Circuit and a hearing was scheduled for December 6, 2024.

MOTION TO APPROVE NOVEMBER 2024 VOUCHER LIST

Director Putnam made a motion to approve the November 2024 voucher list. Vice Chair Warbington seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The date of the next board meeting was set for Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. (Executive session at 10:00 and returning to Regular session at 11:00.)

RECESS

The regular session was recessed at 12:20 p.m.

RECONVENE

The regular session was reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

PUBLIC MEETINGS POLICY

To receive full credit for completing the Special District's Insurance Service's Best Practices Program, the District must adopt a public meetings policy and all board members must complete the public meeting training offered on Vector Solutions. The Board completed the training by viewing the required

video together. The Board reviewed the policy developed by the staff based on SDAO recommendations and Vice Chair Warbington made a motion to approve the policy, subject to Attorney Reinecke's review. Director Shull seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

Director Putnam made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting at 1:00 p.m. Director Shull seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.