

Minutes of the Board Meeting of the
TRUCKEE-CARSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT
 Regular Session Board Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2024

The Board of Directors of the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, in the counties of Churchill and Lyon, State of Nevada, met in regular session at the office of the District, 2666 Harrigan Road, Fallon, Nevada, on **Tuesday, October 1, 2024** at 9:00 a.m.

The following Directors were present constituting a quorum:

Present:	Eric Olsen David Stix Jr. Robert Oakden Lester deBraga Joseph Gomes Wade Workman	President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer Director Director
Absent:	Abrahm Schank	Director
Others Present:	Benjamin Shawcroft Helen-Marie Morrow Cody Biggs Kelly Herwick Mark Solinski Ariel Tomb	General Manager Finance Manager Construction & Maintenance Manager District Water Master Hydroelectric Facilities Manager Assistant Secretary to the Board

Teleconference/Zoom Guests	Representing
Robert Owen	Bureau of Reclamation
Jason Villareal	Bureau of Reclamation
Chad Atkinson	HintonBurdick
Rachel Dahl	The Fallon Post
Leanna Lehman	The Fallon Post

In-Person Guests	Representing
Deanne Workman	Self
Bert Yost	Deanne Workman
Laurie Nicholas	Bureau of Reclamation
Robert Martinez	Bureau of Reclamation
Joe Bryant	Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe
Albert Mulder	Natural Resource Conservation Service
Jacob Ward	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Bethany Chagnon	United States Fish & Wildlife
Lee Barkdull	Self

The following agenda items are not necessarily in the order they were heard or decided but in the order as appearing on the agenda.

1. **Call to Order**

President Olsen called the meeting to order in accordance with NRS 241 at 9:02 a.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Olsen.

3. **Approval of the Agenda**

President Olsen informed the Board that #19 is being postponed to a later meeting to allow for more time to research the issue. #21 is being moved up to accommodate an attendee.

A motion was made by Director Gomes to adopt the agenda with the stated changes, seconded by Secretary Oakden, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

4. **General Public Comment**

No public comment.

5. **Recognition of Edward Lee Barkdull for 29 Years of Service**

Recognition of Edward Lee Barkdull, Truck Driver/Equipment Operator, who is retiring with 29 years and 9 months of service.

General Manager Shawcroft thanked Lee for his many years of service and presented a gift from the District. Construction Manager Biggs added his thanks for all Lee's help. Barkdull thanked the Board and commented that he is looking forward to taking his granddaughter deer hunting.

6. **Miscellaneous Correspondence**

There was no miscellaneous correspondence to review for the month of September.

7. **General Manager and Staff Reports**

• **Ben Shawcroft, General Manager**

Shawcroft reported staff have been hard at work developing a plan for the USDA Funding Project which will be to line the T-Line from the headgate to the highway and add SCADA. Shawcroft and staff have also been finalizing documents for the Lahontan Dam Tower grant.

• **Cody Biggs, Construction & Maintenance Manager**

Biggs reported his crew is cleaning the Upper Soda Lake Drain and working on Trouble Calls. The new mower was scheduled to come in last week but has been delayed by Hurricane Helene. Brad Whitmer, Mechanic I, replaced Lee Barkdull as a Truck Driver. The District has begun advertising to fill the Mechanic I position.

• **Kelly Herwick, District Water Master**

Herwick reported on current conditions; see attached report.

• **Mike Adams, Systems & Technologies Manager**

Adams was not present to report.

- **Mark Solinski, Hydroelectric Facilities Manager**
Solinski reported everything is running well. The new runners for 26' Drop are ready to ship, they should be delivered in early November. He reported the following KW per plant:

New Lahontan: 500
Old Lahontan: 1,550
26' Drop: 500

8. City of Fernley – General Updates

There was no representative present to report.

9. United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) – General Updates

Bethany Chagnon, Deputy Refuge Manager – Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, reported they are preparing for duck season.

10. Bureau of Reclamation – Lahontan Basin Area Office (LBAO) Representative(s) – General Updates

Laurie Nicholas, LBAO Deputy Manager, reported the Truckee Canal Public Safety Project construction contract is not closed yet. As such she has no final costs to report. They are still expecting to receive as-builts as well as a request for equitable adjustment. The Board asked if interest is accruing on the balance; Nicholas will get them an answer later today.

11. Fallon-Paiute Shoshone Tribe (FPST) – General Updates

Joe Bryant, Land & Water Resource Manager, reported the drains on the Reservation are working well and the farmers are getting ready to cut the last crop.

12. Naval Air Station Fallon (NASF) – General Updates

There was no representative present to report.

13. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) – General Updates

Albert Mulder, District Conservationist, reported that there is no further update on the Farm Bill. November 22nd is the cutoff date for concrete ditch applications. The Conservation Stewardship Program is paying beginning farmers, there are plenty of funds available. There are also funds available to cover new seedings, using no-till seeding drills will get additional funds.

14. Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) – General Updates

Jacob Ward, Wildlife Technician, reported they have been fixing roads and dikes. He is irrigating and preparing for duck season. The Youth Hunt was last weekend. There have been about 150 cases of botulism, approximately 26 birds were in the duck hospital. Most were able to be released. There has been an issue reported that some cattle from the Pasture have gotten into Jason Storm's corn fields. Ward added that he supplied the Pasture manager with t-posts to repair the fencing. Biggs commented that he informed the Pasture manager about the issue and it should be fixed soon. Ward informed the Board that Mike Zahradka is no longer with the Department and until a replacement is found for his position, Isaac Metcalf and himself will be the points of contact.

15. **Closed Session: Attorney - Client meeting held pursuant to NRS 241.015(3)(b)(2).**
The Board will meet in a closed session to confer with legal counsel. No action will be taken during this closed session.

President Olsen informed the Board that if they had any questions regarding the Settlement Agreement the Board could go into a closed session for an attorney-client meeting. There were no questions.

#15 was skipped.

16. **Settlement Agreement**
Deliberation and decision regarding the approval of a Settlement Agreement between the District and the City of Fernley resolving the litigation between the parties in the Tenth Judicial District Court Case Nos. 22-10DC-0868 and 23-10DC-0332.

Shawcroft informed the Board that the City of Fernley voted in favor of the Settlement Agreement at their last meeting.

A motion was made by Vice-President Stix to approve the Settlement Agreement, seconded by Secretary Oakden, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

17. **Appeal of O&M Committee Decision for Damage Claim 24-003**
Deliberation and decision pertaining to the appeal of the O&M Committee decision regarding the Damage Claim in the amount of \$10,112.37 submitted by Deanne Workman.

Shawcroft gave an overview of the O&M Committee's decision; the ditch clogged with weeds and backed up, washing out into Ms. Workman's property through a high gopher hole. The District paid Mashall's Septic Care to pump Ms. Workman's septic tank. The Committee also offered to repair her yard along with \$270 to cover her time away from work, as long as that time was unpaid by her employer. Ms. Workman refused that offer.

Ms. Workman submitted a counter-offer of \$3,902.00 to cover her and Bert Yost's labor to dig out the septic lids by hand as requested by Biggs in order for Marshall's Septic to pump the septic tank. She was unaware that Marshall's Septic Care could've located the lids for her.

Vice-President Stix offered \$500 plus the \$270 for a total of \$770. Ms. Workman refused. President Olsen offered \$800 plus the \$270 for a total of \$1,070. Ms. Workman refused that offer as well. Shawcroft informed the Board that they could make a final offer, and informed Ms. Workman that if the final offer is also rejected, the offer to do the dirt work for the yard, which is included in the offer, is refused too; it's a bundled offer.

A motion was made by Secretary Oakden to make a final offer to repair Ms. Workman's yard as well as a cash settlement of \$1,070.00 with no admission of fault or further proceedings on this item, seconded by Director Gomes. The motion was amended by Secretary Oakden to include that the dirt work be

completed within two weeks' time, seconded by Director Gomes, request for comment and the amendment to the motion was unanimously approved. Request for comment and the amended motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Workman accepted the Board's final offer.

18. **Approval of Safety Program and Hazard Communication Program**
Review and approval of an updated Safety Program and Hazard Communication Program for use by District employees.

Shawcroft informed the Board that a recent accident prompted an OSHA review and OSHA representatives were not satisfied with the District's current safety policy. The policy has been updated and a Hazard Communication Program added as well.

A motion was made by Director Gomes to approve both programs as presented, seconded by Treasurer deBraga, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

19. **Reimbursement of District General Assessed on Parcels Outside of District Boundaries in Fiscal Years 2021/2022 and 2024/2025**
Deliberation and decision regarding the reimbursement of District General assessed on parcels outside of District boundaries in Fiscal Years 2021/2022 and 2024/2025. This item was reviewed by the Finance Committee on September 30th.

This item was postponed.

20. **Review of Water Supply Conditions and Determination of the End Date for the 2024 Irrigation Season**
Deliberation and decision by the Board of Directors relating to water supply conditions affecting the end date for the 2024 irrigation season including any special circumstances required to be considered with the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe.

Shawcroft addressed the Board and stated he foresaw no issues closing the season at the normal time in mid-November. Herwick suggested November 11th as the last day to place water orders for both divisions. Shawcroft asked Joe Bryant, FPST, if the Tribe would have any issues with that date. Bryant answered no. Shawcroft also asked the representatives from the Bureau if they had any issues with this date. They did not.

A motion was made by Director Gomes to set the last day to place a water order as November 11th for both divisions, seconded by Secretary Oakden, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

21. **Approval of Year Ended June 30, 2023 Reviewed Financial Statements and Acceptance of an Engagement Letter from HintonBurdick for the Year Ended June 30, 2023**
Deliberation and decision relating to acceptance of the Engagement Letter as well as the Year Ended June 30, 2023 reviewed financial statements provided by HintonBurdick CPAs & Advisors.

Chad Atkinson, HintonBurdick, addressed the Board and walked them through some of the highlights of the Reviewed Financial Statements.

A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve #21 as presented, seconded by Director Gomes, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

22. Consent Agenda

- Approval of Director's compensation for the month of September as provided for by NRS 539.080.
- Approval of Board Meeting minutes of September 3, 2024.

A motion was made by Secretary Oakden to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Director Gomes, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

23. Committee Reports

- **Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Committee**
Vice-President Stix reported that Damage Claim 24-003 was the only item reviewed by the Committee at the August meeting.
- **Carson Lake Pasture (CLP) Advisory Committee Recommendations**
There was no meeting for the month of September 2024. Treasurer deBraga reported that the number of cattle deaths in the Pasture is up to 11. Dr. Cooper, DVM, took some samples; he suspects anaplasmosis. deBraga commented that a Committee meeting needs to be scheduled to set end of season dates for the Pasture.
- **Employee Relations Committee**
There was no meeting for the month of September 2024.
- **Finance Committee**
Treasurer deBraga (Finance Committee Chairman) reported that the Finance Committee met on September 30, 2024.

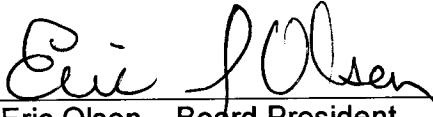
A motion was made by Treasurer deBraga to approve the Treasurer's report and Finance Committee recommendation to approve check numbers 44504 through 44553 as well as automatic, online and phone payments, seconded by Director Workman, request for comment and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Policy Committee**
There was no meeting for the month of September 2024.

24. Additional Public Comment No additional public comment.

25. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m. subject to the call of the Board President.



Eric Olsen – Board President

11-5-24

Date



Robert Oakden - Secretary

11-5-24

Date