

**MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WOOD RIVER VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT #45
April 8th, 2025**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Director Clark called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., April 8th, 2025, at the meeting place, Clearwater Landscaping, Kingsbury Lane, Bellevue, ID.
2. **ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Director Clark, Director Berman, and Director Casey were present.
3. **READING AND CORRECTION OF MINUTES FOR:** Director Clark attested to the meeting minutes for February 11th, 2025 was correct. On a motion made by Director Casey, seconded by Director Clark, accepting these meeting minutes was unanimously approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

5. OLD BUSINESS:

a. BOR WaterSMART Grant :

1. A meeting of all parties connected to the Low Head Dam Project was held on April 2nd at the Baseline Road meeting hall. Representatives from JUB, TID, BOC, D45, and Amanda Bauman of Project Bigwood were present. They took time to review all the comments on the Draft Design Plans provided by D45, TID, and Jim Gregory of Trout Unlimited.
2. Director Clark informed the board that it has been determined that more funding is needed. Due to price changes (inflation), and changes to the preliminary design provided by Biota (more complex), the estimated construction cost have increased.

We have two grants:	Grant One – Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART	\$629,000
	Grant Two – IDWR Aging Infrastructure	\$309,000
	Total	\$938,000
	Spent	\$120,000
Available Funds	\$818,000	

They anticipate an additional bill anticipated from JUB Engineers of \$30,000 to \$40,000 to finish the revisions to the Design Plans before the plans can be issued for bid.

There could be also approximately \$100,000 to \$150,000 to JUB for their scope of work through the construction phase including bid management, construction management, and site inspection work.

It is anticipated that the BOC will need another \$300,000 to \$400,000 to cover the construction cost to completion of the total refurbishment project of the Low Head Dam.

Director Clark is pushing to continue all necessary work to have construction happening this fall. And he also anticipates the need to meet with JUB to look into more funding options, as well as discussing funding opportunities with other interested non-profits including Trout Unlimited, the Wood River Land Trust, and Project Bigwood. We believe that all future grant applications with the Bureau of Reclamation have been placed on indefinite hold due to the Administration.

b. Water master Access Permission letter from Land Owners:

No Draft prepared at this time to review. Water master will continue to work on this letter.

6. REPORTS:

a. Claire Casey, BOC Representative:

1. The BOC meeting held on April 8th included a report from Amanda Bauman regarding the Project Bigwood and the tagging, tracking, and monitoring of fish entering the canal system. They hope to determine when during the irrigation season they tend to migrate into the canal system and what type of fish screening system will help prevent the migration into the canal system, and the time of year to use the most effective deterrent to keep more fish in the Big Wood River.
2. Amanda Bauman also updated the BOC on the status of the By Pass Canal. She had the most recent flow readings of the stretch that was proposed by the irrigators for canal lining. The flow meter readings from last summer indicated to Amanda that the By Pass Canal was gaining reaches (spring water feeding into the canal). As a result, she would recommend not lining the canal at the first location. The parties wanting to line the canal should do further flow meter assessments on other parts of the By Pass Canal.
3. Samantha Stahlnecker presented updated plat maps of Keith Myers property and updated Irrigation District Agreement with notary information added to go along with the 'Diversion 45 Right of Way Agreement for Bellevue Lots 1-6, Block 96 agreement signed by TID & D45 in March so these documents could be recorded with the city of Bellevue.

b. John Wright, Water Master:

1. Mr. Wright wanted to review all the water flow data collected by the Pivotrak devices. He was under the assumption that Pivotrak was always keeping a permanent record of the flows. But, he discovered that the information was not accessible, so he is researching how we can get this information. If Pivotrak is not retaining this water flow metering for referencing then he will need to determine if we can stay with Pivotrak, or move to another company.
2. Mr. Wright will be monitoring the refilling of Lateral 75 Subdivision's pond. For construction purposes the pond was emptied. Since this action has never really occurred John Wright is unsure how the refilling (lots of water diverted) will affect the other users downstream at the beginning of the irrigation season. He will be monitoring this very closely.
3. Mr. Wright will be opening the main head gates for water to flow into the system beginning April 1st. A strong flow will be released beginning April 15th with strong usage generally beginning May 1st.
4. From all methods of collecting data to determine the amount of water for irrigation usage, Snow Pack, Moisture content of the snow, to dryness of the ground John Wright is hearing it will be a low water year.

c. Shirley Spinelli, Treasurer:

1. Replacement checks for Director Casey
2. Check for John Wright, Water Master Winter hours worked
3. Secretary and Treasurer Paychecks for February & March
4. Check for ICRMP Insurance 2nd half of year payment.
5. Workman comp sent us notice of a credit on our account
6. The Idaho Treasurer accounts are receiving good interest reports

d. Bette Gower, Secretary:

1. Asked the directors if they wanted to continue receiving the Rubicon News Letter if not she will cancel the news letter.

7. NEW BUSINESS AND OTHER ITEMS THE BOARD DEEMS PERTINENT:

a. Cove Springs North Subdivision Canal Realignment Proposal:

1. Cove Springs North Subdivision is under new partnership; Preston Ziegler now is a partner with Blackburn Farming Ranch for the development of the Coves Springs North Subdivision.

2. TID will meet with Samantha Stahlnecker and Preston Ziegler on Friday April 11th.
3. They will plan to present their new plan to WRVID#45 at our May 6th meeting.
4. John Wright clarified that, 'the water district does not have to move any of their ditches just because a landowner wants to change land features on their land and request that a ditch be moved.

b. Keith Myers Bellevue Lots 1-6 Agreement

1. Samantha Stahlnecker presented updated plat maps of Keith Myers property and updated Irrigation District Agreement with notary information added to go along with the 'Diversion 45 Right of Way Agreement for Bellevue Lots 1-6, Block 96 agreement signed by TID & D45 in March so these documents could be recorded with the city of Bellevue. Director Clark will arrange time & place with Director Gardner to execute the notary Agreement.

c. Low Head Dam Updated Cost Estimates:

1. Director Clark distributed new cost estimate dated February 11th, 2025 for the Low Head Dam Project. JUB's new estimate is \$983,000, which is an increase of \$354,000 above our original BOR WaterSMART Grant we have been awarded.

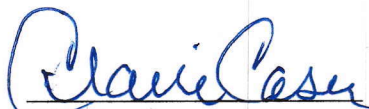
8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

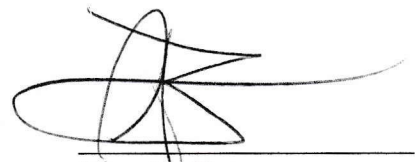
9. SETTING DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Next meeting will be May 13th, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

11. ADJOURNMENT: Director Casey made the motion to adjourn and Director Clark seconded. Director Clark adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.


Director Clark (Chairman)


Director Casey


Director Berman