

**Minutes
North Unit Irrigation District
Regular Board Meeting
July 14, 2026**

Chair Kirsch called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 8:32 am, in regular session at the Jefferson County Annex, 66 SE D Street, Madras, OR 97741. Remote participation available via Teleconference: 1-408-638-0968 Meeting ID: 373-976-1157 Participant ID: # or <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3739761157>

Board Members Present

Mike Kirsch, Chairman
Ryan Boyle, Vice Chairman
Evan Thomas, Director arrived at 8:37 am
James Macy, Director

Staff Members Present

Joshua Bailey, District Manager
Erek Fuchs, Assistant District Manager
Leslie Maynard, Finance Manager
Collin Cowsill, Special Projects Manager
Michelle Camphouse, Water Records Clerk

Others Present

Virtual: Michael Miller, Gary Harris, Crystal Levitt, Alisa Dunlap, Talon Waggoner
Others Present: Jesse Smith, Gail Dubisar, Stan Sullivan

Approval of Agenda

Vice Chair Boyle/Director Macy moved/seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 3-0. Directors Thomas and Feigner absent.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

None.

Approval of Minutes

Draft minutes from June 9, 2026, regular board meeting were presented. **Director Macy/Vice Chair Boyle moved/seconded to approve the June 9, 2026, regular board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0. Directors Thomas and Feigner absent.**

Approval of Bills

Finance Manager Maynard presented the May 2026 bills. **Director Macy/Vice Chair Boyle moved/seconded to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained from voting. Director Feigner absent.**

Financial Reports

Finance Manager Maynard presented the May 2026 Budget Comparison, DBBC Report, Reserve Funds, and Bank Statement. **Director Thomas/Vice Chair Boyle moved/seconded to approve the financials as presented. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Director Feigner absent.**

Office Report

Finance Manager Maynard presented the June 2026 Office Manager's Report.

Change Order #1 Bend Fish Screen Project

To stabilize the west channel wall during construction, #8 Rebar dowels must be installed and grouted. 24" fish return pipe cannot be constructed with PVC fittings and must be changed to HDPE allowing provision of shop fabricated fittings meeting pipe layout requirements and ODFW requirements. Venting required for Sluice/Fish Return pipe entrance. **Directors Thomas/Vice Chair Boyle moved/seconded to approve Bend Fish Screen Change Order #1. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Director Feigner absent.**

(LCRB) Contractor Proposals for Fish Bypass Connection

At 8:50 am the NUID regular board recessed and convened as the Local Contract Review Board to review 3 bid proposals for the Bend Fish Screen Bypass Connection. The bids are for the construction of a connection to COID's current bypass to the river. The project must be completed by April of 2027. After review, it was recommended to award the bid to K&E Excavation. Directors Thomas/Macy moved/seconded to award the Fish Bypass Connection bid to K&E Excavation. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Director Feigner absent. The NUID Local Contract Review Board adjourned and reconvened as the NUID Regular Board at 8:55 am.

Special Projects Manager's Report

SPM Cowsill delivered the Special Projects Manager's report during the meeting. Wickiup dam tender to receive GIS certification at COCC and be designated as in-house GIS specialist, reducing GIS contractor costs. Emery requesting \$97k reimbursement pending USBR approval. Haystack bypass hydro feasibility study underway by NLine Energy and Energy Trust of Oregon. 58-11 Flume "Notice to Proceed" received from USBR. Wickiup Automation Project application submitted. WaterSMART Applied Sciences grant opportunity submitted.

O&M Report

District Manager Bailey presented the O&M report at the meeting. Crew members replaced/removed bad motors and one inoperable pump from the Crooked River Pumping Plant, installed fencing and gates on the main canal near Feather Drive, spraying and mowing of easements, water deliveries, and fleet maintenance. Craig Wiseman to make lateral move to maintenance department toward end of irrigation season.

Assistant Manager's Report

Assistant District Manager Fuchs presented the Assistant Manager's report at the meeting.

- Resolution 2026-09 USBR Daily Water Board Automation Grant. Will automate the District's daily water records which is currently a handwritten spreadsheet. **Vice Chair Boyle/Director Macy moved/seconded to approve Resolution 2026-09 USBR Daily Water Board Automation Grant. Motion passed 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Director Feigner absent.**
- LBC USBR Feasibility Study Update – adjustments in scope and budget required to receive approval for funds from BOR for feasibility study.

District Manager's Report

District Manager Bailey presented the following Manager's Report at the meeting

- Update on Floating Solar BOR Grant – Grant has expired. No further work will be completed. Most District out of pocket expenses have been reimbursed prior to the grant expiration date.
- Staff Update – Ride 51 moving to ride 37 later this year. Advertising for ride 51 upcoming vacancy.
- OWRD Scoping process for potential rulemaking – Has the potential of affecting water rights by redefining bulges (ponds), waste of water, increasing violations and penalties, and redefining watermaster regulations. Attended scoping meeting; More information will be provided when available.
- DBBC Storage Report Audit – Attended meeting to discuss accounting concerns. Additional conversations will be held at the end of the season to address these concerns.
- Review of delinquent accounts.

Water Supply

District Manager Bailey presented the Water Supply Report. Review of current supply & demand, precipitation, snowpack, and storage vs. same date in 2025. Meeting with USF&W on July 15, to discuss the date for HCP frog water release. Option exists to call upon 5,000 acre-feet of stored water in Crane Prairie. No action until after USF&W meeting.

End of Season Shutoff Date

District Manager Bailey suggested the date of October 9, 2026, due to upcoming canal maintenance and construction projects. **Director Thomas/Vice Chair Boyle moved/seconded to approve end of season shut off date of October 9, 2026. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Director Feigner absent.**

Public Comment

Gail Dubisar lives on property bordering our canal. The liner did not entirely cover the canal due to a county owned bridge. Seepage is still occurring, resulting in standing water on their property and around their shop foundation. She questioned if the

ongoing issue can be resolved. DM Bailey replied the District has done all they can as the seepage is occurring under Feather Drive and requires a bridge to be replaced by Jefferson County.

Gail Dubisar disagreed that seepage is occurring under Feather Drive and asked if the District could either line their drainage ditch or dig a trench to allow the water to bypass their ditch. DM Bailey advised that where digging would need to occur is outside of the District's easement.

Gail also brought up the concern of wildlife falling into canal and not being able to get out due to liner. DM Bailey advised the District is looking into wildlife fencing.

Jess Smith asked if winter release requirements will affect what can be stored in Wickiup during the winter. DM Bailey explained that the HCP requires specific water flows in the Deschutes during winter months, reducing the amount that can be stored. That is why there is a push to pipe canals to conserve water and lessen seepage losses.

Other Business and Announcements

Alisa Dunlap and Talon Waggoner from Pacific Power advised meeting attendees that Pacific Power has replaced and added equipment to reduce power outages in our area and the number of people affected by the outages.

Next Board Meeting

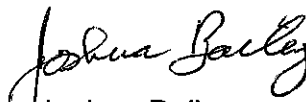
The next meeting date is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 8:30 am at the Jefferson County Annex, 66 SE D Street, Madras, OR 97741.

Board adjourned at 10:22 am.

Signed,



Mike Kirsch
Chairman



Joshua Bailey
District Manager