

**Minutes
North Unit Irrigation District
Regular Board Meeting
June 9, 2026**

Chair Kirsch called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 8:31 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, Chair
Evan Thomas, Director
Ryan Feigner, Director
James Macy, Director

Staff Members Present

Joshua Bailey, District Manager
Erek Fuchs, Assistant District Manager
Dennis Krueger, Operations Manager
Lonnie Lang, Watermaster
Leslie Maynard, Finance Manager
Collin Cowsill, Special Projects Manager
Michelle Camphouse, Water Records Clerk

Others Present

Virtual: Michael Miller
Virtual: Kevin Crew, Black Rock Consulting
NUID Patron: David Kaiser
Others Present: Kate Fitzpatrick & Dan Morse, Deschutes River Conservancy

Approval of Agenda

Directors Feigner/Thomas moved/seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained from voting. Vice Chair Boyle absent.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

None.

Approval of Minutes

Draft minutes from May 12, 2026, regular board meeting were presented. **Directors Thomas/Macy moved/seconded to approve the May 12, 2026, regular board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Vice Chair Boyle absent.**

Approval of Bills

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

Financial Reports

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

Office Report

Finance Manager Maynard presented the May 2026 Office Manager Report.

Resolution 2026-08 Preferred Pathway

NUID recently applied to transfer the character of use for a portion of its Wickiup Reservoir storage right equal to the volume of conserved water made available to NUID from other conserving districts. NUID has further applied for a new secondary use right allowing for the use of stored water for flow augmentation and irrigation purposes. Resolution 2026-08 allows DM Bailey to enter into an agreement with OWRD regarding implementation of the above-referenced Pathway memo on behalf of the District. In the event of additional revisions, DM Bailey is authorized to accept such revisions upon consultation with the District's legal counsel. **Directors Thomas/Macy moved/seconded to approve Resolution 2026-08. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Vice Chair Boyle absent.**

Preferred Pathway Implementation Agreement

The agreement aims to implement the December 18, 2024, Pathway for Irrigation Modernization Project in the Upper Deschutes Basin. Once conserved water projects are completed, NUID will seek approval to change the use of Wickup water. The district will also apply for a secondary use permit or right for flow augmentation, specifying a maximum quantity and period of use that cannot be exceeded. Additionally, any flow augmentation permit or right implies that NUID agrees to use water for flow augmentation according to the specified quantities and times as directed by OWRD. **Directors Thomas/Macy moved/seconded to approve the Preferred Pathway Implementation Agreement. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Vice Chair Boyle absent.**

COID-NUID Conserved Water Agreement (G and G2)

Once this project is fully constructed and implemented, COID will diminish its water rights certificate to make water conserved by the G/G2 Project available to NUID for irrigation use. 3.4 cfs of water will be made available to NUID and will be processed according to the Preferred Pathway Implementation Agreement as directed by OWRD. **Directors Thomas/Feigner moved/seconded to approve the Preferred Pathway Implementation Agreement. Motion carried 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Vice Chair Boyle absent.**

Special Projects Manager's Report

SPM Cowsill delivered the special projects manager's report during the meeting. The Wickiup Flow Measurement Automation Grant requires a 25% cost share. The match obligation rose from \$22k to \$42k because of an increase in estimate. Since federal funds are not guaranteed, the district might have to use reserve funds prior to receiving the USBR award notice to meet the State grant match requirements and timeline.

Resolution 2026-06 BOR/OWRD Grant Application

The District is seeking funding for the Wickiup Automation and Realtime Measurement Project. The District has developed a grant proposal to USBR for phases I and II of the project. The USBR funding request includes funding to pay the increased contribution obligation under the OWRD award. **Directors Feigner/Macy moved/seconded to approve the submission of the USBR grant proposal and give DM Bailey legal authority to enter into an agreement for financial assistance. Motion passed 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Vice Chair Boyle absent.**

O&M Report

Operations Manager Krueger presented the O&M report at the meeting.

Lateral 43 Segment's 3 & 4 Bid Package

Partial funding is currently available for the project. Bids have been prepared for Segment 3 and Segment 4. Pending LCRB approval, the contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder, depending on the timing and availability of funds, which are not fully secured yet. The next funding cycle is expected after October 15, 2026. No board approval is needed to move forward with the bidding process.

Assistant Manager's Report

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

- Resolution 2026-07 Adopting Public Contracting Rules and Procedures - The Oregon Attorney General's Model Public Contracting Rules, Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 137, Divisions 46, 47, 48 and 49 ("Model Rules"), and the Oregon Department of Energy Administrative Rules Chapter 330-135-0010 thru 0055, shall be the public contracting rules for the District, as such Model Rules now exist or are later modified. **Directors Thomas/Feigner moved/seconded to approve Resolution 2026-07 Adopting Public Contracting Rules and Procedures. Motion passed 3-0. Chair Kirsch abstained. Vice Chair Boyle absent.**
- BOR Cloud Seeding Grant - with a 50% match, the grant is dedicated to a study report of the possibility of cloud seeding in our region. This project is not expected to progress forward at the federal level unless NUID secures additional match funding.
- Staffing Update – Long-time employee, Ken Ames, retired at the end of May. James Scott has returned from leave and has begun training for Ride 41 ditchriding duties.

District Manager's Report

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

- OWRD Grant Agreement Amendment
 - Modifies OWRD Grant WPG-0047-24 by increasing the amount of funding 10% (\$197,192.40). No board action required.
- NRCS Funding Update for Segment 4, Lateral 43
- OWRD Public Scoping and Potential Rulemaking
- Bend Fish Screen Project Budget Update

Water Supply

Watermaster Lang presented the Water Supply Report. Review of current supply & demand, precipitation, snowpack, and storage vs. same date in 2025. No allotment changes.

Public Comment

None.

Other Business and Announcements

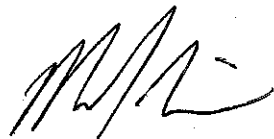
Kate Fitzpatrick & Dan Morse provided an update from the Deschutes River Conservancy along with a reminder that they are available to help with non-federal funding opportunities.

Next Board Meeting

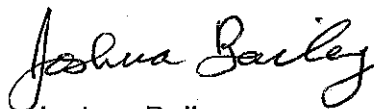
The next meeting date is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14th, 2026, at 8:30 am at the Jefferson County Annex, 66 SE D Street, Madras, OR 97741.

Board adjourned at 10:44 am.

Signed,



Mike Kirsch
Chair



Joshua Bailey
District Manager