

**Minutes
North Unit Irrigation District
Special Board Meeting
March 24, 2026**

Chair Kirsch called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 9:00 am, in Special Session at the North Unit Irrigation District Conference Room, 2024 NW Beech Street, Madras, OR 97741.

Remote participation available via Microsoft Teams:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/25418709237357?p=SyTxDkqjQPDhLAhtvC>

Meeting ID: 254 187 092 373 57 Passcode: Ab229ni2

Board Members Present

Mike Kirsch, Chair

Ryan Boyle, Vice Chair

Evan Thomas, Director

Ryan Feigner, Director

James Macy, Director

Staff Members Present

Joshua Bailey, Secretary, 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

Marla Rae Vibbert, NUID Patron; Gary Calhoun, retiring NUID Operations Manager

Via Teams: Alejandro Figueroa, OPB; Marilyn Clark, Madras Pioneer

Approval of Agenda

Directors Thomas/Feigner moved/seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained from voting.

Public Comments on Agenda Items (5 mins)

None

2026 Irrigation Start-Up Date

Watermaster Lang presented the tentative on-farm delivery date of April 13th. Earlier on-farm delivery is complicated by wind that has prevented burning weeds and clearing canals. The new liner needs to be slowly primed in the first year to prevent loss of aggregate over the liner. There is minimal live-flow to use for priming this year; the District may have to pull from storage earlier than expected. If live-flow is nonexistent, there may be challenges associated with HCP flow requirements. District is also short two ditchriders due to work comp and Paid Leave Oregon. **Director Thomas/Vice Chair Boyle moved/seconded to set the 2026 irrigation**

start-up date with priming starting April 6 and deliveries beginning April 13, 2026. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained.

2026 Allotment

Watermaster Lang presented storage amounts, HCP flow requirements, and no live flow in the Crooked River. WM Lang recommended a beginning allotment of 1.30 af/acre for Deschutes River water rights and .65 af/acre for Crooked River water rights. **After much discussion, Director Thomas/Vice Chair Boyle moved/seconded to approve a beginning allotment of 1.30 af/acre for Deschutes water rights and .65 af/acre for Crooked River water rights. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Kirsch abstained.**

Public Comment (5 minutes)

None

Board adjourned at 9:35 am.

Signed,



Mike Kirsch
Chair



Erek Fuchs
Assistant District Manager