



• 1985 Country Club Road, Hood River, OR 97031 Phone (541)-387-5261 www.fidhr.org •

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY AUGUST 20, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at the district office and via zoom for the purpose of conducting its regular monthly business. Directors in attendance included: Bill Munk, Dani Annala, Don Chandler, Erick von Lubken, and Pete Siragusa. Also in attendance were District Manager, Alexis Vaivoda; Watershed Project Manager, Megan Saunders; and Office Manager, Cassy Stintzi.

Chairman Pete Siragusa called the regular meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Pete Siragusa welcomed the single patron in attendance, Bernie Yoo. Pete opened the floor for business. Bernie stated that he would like to thank Farmers Irrigation District and the Board of Directors for reviewing his letters that he provided to the district.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

The minutes of the July 16, 2025 board meeting were presented and discussed. It was moved by Don Chandler, and Erick von Lubken seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed with all those present in favor.

The updated O&M bills for the month of August were presented and discussed. It was moved by Bill Munk and seconded by Don Chandler to approve the bills in the amount of \$56,669.61. The motion passed with all those present in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Alexis shared that she received six letters from Bernie Yoo. Alexis thanked Bernie for providing such thorough review and comments on the shared Private System Policy (Policy #002). Alexis also thanked FID Board Member Dani Annala, for all the hard work she put into the revision and taking Bernie Yoo's comments into consideration. Alexis explained that Policy #002, Point of Delivery and Private Delivery System is very important, but she would like more time to discuss and review at a later date. The district has been very busy with meetings, budget development, and end of season shutdown approaching. Don Chandler made a motion, and Erick von Lubken seconded, to table the discussion and review of Policy #002 to a later date.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION:

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT:

- a. **A/R Report** – Alexis reported that the District has received \$2,281,471.10 representing 94% of the 2025 assessments charged, versus 97% last year. The EOM balance, including reserves as of August 11, 2025 were \$1,928,787.00 (see attached).

- b. **Hydro Production** – July's production was projected at 700,000 kWh. Actual production was 777,254 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for July was projected at \$57,596.00. Actual revenue was \$64,857.25. Actual trending kWh for the year is 66.92% of predicted production for the year.

IRRIGATION & HYDRO STATUS REPORT:

- a. **Hydro Status:** Plant 2 operated consistently for the entire month of July. This resulted in higher than estimated production. Plant 3 continues to remain offline which is typical for this time of year. The electrical inspections for both plants were completed. Two things that were noted were the need for a fire detection systems in both plants and to remove or contain flammables in Plant 3.
- b. **Reservoir Status:** The lower reservoir is hovering around -21'. We are essentially passing water through the lower reservoir from the upper. The upper reservoir is at -6.3'. Based on Megan's calculations there are 344 acre-feet left in the upper reservoir for irrigation supply this year. If we stay at current irrigation demand we may be approaching the need for required conservation measures.
- c. **System Maintenance:**
Early this month there was a leak on the Farmers Canal due to a rodent hole. Since the leak was close to the top of the canal it was easy for the crew to fix with bentonite. The leak caused some slight erosion of the driveway below the canal. The crew was quickly able to fix, with gravel that was left over from last year's canal leak.

The Bilson pump at Plant 3 is still requiring a lot of attention. The crew will be working on a plan to make the pump system more reliable for the 2026 irrigation season.

PROJECTS:

Gate Creek- We had a wetland scientist on site at Gate Creek to update the wetland delineation. Once we have this information we can begin conversations with DSL and Army Corps regarding the joint permit.

WATER RIGHTS: Megan shared that there have been thirteen patrons who have signed off water rights since November 2024. There were various reasons for the sign offs including non-use, rate increase, or accessibility to irrigation water.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Alexis recently attended the SDAO Risk Training and SDAO Board and Management Staff Training. The SDAO Risk Training was based mainly on cyber risk and was informative. The SDAO Board and Management Staff Training was helpful and covered a wide range of topics.

An Information Session at the Rockford Grange Hall is scheduled for August 21, 2025 from 5:00pm-6:00pm. Alexis shared she is prepared and excited to get this information out to the patrons.

LEGAL: None

OTHER BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:33 p.m.

Signed: _____ Pete Siragusa

Attest: _____ Bill Munk