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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026**  
(Amended by Board vote on June 17, 2026)

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at the district office and via Zoom for the purpose of conducting its regular monthly business. Those in attendance were Directors Pete Siragusa, Don Chandler, Bernard Yoo, Erick von Lubken, and Dani Annala; District Manager Alexis Vaivoda; Watershed Project Manager Megan Saunders; and Office Manager Erika Guth.

Chairman Pete Siragusa called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** Pete Siragusa welcomed six audience members and Glen Kerns from Accuity, LLC via Zoom. The floor was open for comments; however, no business was presented.

**2025 AUDIT PRESENTATION:** The 2025 audit presentation by Glen Kerns from Accuity, LLC was moved up on the agenda. Glen Kerns provided an unmodified opinion for the District’s 2025 financial audit. He reported that the District is fully compliant under Oregon minimum standards and the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

**MONTHLY BUSINESS:** The minutes of the April 15, 2026 Board meeting were presented and discussed. It was moved by Bernard Yoo and seconded by Don Chandler to approve the minutes as presented. Pete Siragusa, Bernard Yoo, and Don Chandler voted in favor. Erick von Lubken and Dani Annala abstained, as they were absent for the April meeting. The motion passed.

The O&M bills for the month of May were presented and discussed. It was moved by Erick von Lubken and seconded by Dani Annala to approve the bills in the amount of \$398,061.14. Pete Siragusa, Bernard Yoo, Erick von Lubken, Dani Annala, and Don Chandler voted in favor. The motion passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A letter written by Board member Bernard Yoo was presented to the Board. Bernard Yoo’s letter requested ~~a corrected an additional~~ amendment to the “Water Rights” section of the March 2026 meeting minutes. He moved to include the statement, “water service will not be provided to 37 residential lots,” and to remove mention of ORS 545.101. Erick von Lubken seconded the motion. Pete Siragusa, Bernard Yoo, Dani Annala, and Erick von Lubken voted in favor. Don Chandler abstained, as he was absent for the March meeting. The motion passed.

Bernard Yoo also noted that a handout regarding the proposed Frankton Road Planned Unit Development should have been referenced in the February and March 2026 meeting minutes.

Megan clarified the aforementioned ORS 545.101 and what it pertained to within the Frankton Road discussions.

The Board discussed the procedure for approving amended minutes and streamlining the process moving forward.

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION:  
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT:**

- a. **A/R Report** – Alexis reported that the District has received \$2,246,428 to date, representing 92% of the 2026 assessments charged, versus 90% last year. The EOM balance, including reserves, as of May 14, 2026 was \$1,942,682.
- b. **Hydro Production** – April production was projected at 2,800,000 kWh. Actual production was 2,726,110 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for April was projected at \$136,864. Actual revenue was \$132,929. Year-to-date production is trending at 100.10% of projections.
- c. **Budget Committee Meeting Update** – The Budget Committee met on April 22 to discuss the special assessment scheduled to sunset following the 2026 irrigation season. The Committee recommended incorporating the \$40/acre special assessment into the current per-acre fee structure for future seasons.

**IRRIGATION & HYDRO STATUS REPORT:**

**Hydro status:** April operations at the hydropower plants remained steady, with all facilities operating without disruption throughout the month. Lower-than-average stream flows resulted in approximately 75,000 kWh less than projected production.

The T1 line was repaired, and the District is awaiting further communication from PAC about a long-term solution.

**Reservoir & Irrigation Status:** The Upper and Lower Kingsley reservoirs are currently full. The OWRD dam safety engineer inspected the Upper and Lower Green Point Dams this week. OWRD will provide a report with their findings. The next inspection will be scheduled for 2029.

**Drought Plan:** Megan presented the updated draft drought plan, which will continue to be adapted as the season progresses. She reiterated that early-season communication regarding drought conditions will help prevent late-season issues. Erick von Lubken requested that Megan reference 2015 water level data as a reference point for past drought conditions. Alexis noted that the District continues to update the website with information and is exploring additional communication methods. The District will also be speaking with a Columbia Gorge News reporter and will be featured in a radio show that is hosted by the Hood River Watershed Group.

**System Maintenance:**

- a. Hood River County completed logging operations on Lowline near South Pine Creek.
- b. The Bilson Pump Variable Frequency Drive was installed last month and is operational.
- c. The crew has been performing maintenance on several PRVs and addressing leaks. Dee Irrigation District currently has a major leak that is being repaired.

**PROJECTS:**

**Cabin Creek:** The Forest Service approved the Cabin Creek fish screen project, and FID will begin work later this summer during the in-water work window. This project will be done in-house.

**Farmers Canal:** FID continues to work with NRCS Oregon to approve funding requests to pipe the canal. Niklas Christiansen from WPN is updating the cost estimates, as the previous estimate utilized costing data from 2023.

**WATER RIGHTS:** None

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

**Health insurance renewal:** FID proceeded with SDIS insurance renewal for 2026-2027. Dental premiums reflect a 5.8% increase, while medical premiums reflect a 2.01% decrease.

**ODFW Fish Passage & Fish Screen Task Force:** Alexis spent a half day with the ODFW Fish Passage & Fish Screen Task Force touring the headworks and Davenport screen.

**OWRD dam inspection:** As previously mentioned, the Upper and Lower Greenpoint Dams were inspected this week.

**Lien process update:** Alexis updated the Board on the process of recording liens on multi-year past due accounts that have made no contact with FID. To ensure that mail is reaching these account holders, FID will be sending certified letters to account holders that have been uncommunicative with the District prior to recording liens at the county.

**Jeff Cook’s retirement:** Jeff’s official date of retirement is set for June 30, 2026.

**LEGAL:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

A patron addressed the Board via Zoom regarding their specific account. Alexis agreed to provide a summary of the account for clarity.

Don Chandler requested clarification regarding voting rules for remote attendance or absence in relation to Oregon Public Meeting Law. The Board will revisit this topic next month after reviewing current state statute/rules.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:19 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Pete Siragusa

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Bernard Yoo