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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026**

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, April 15, 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, and Bernard Yoo (remotely); District Manager Alexis Vaivoda; Watershed Project Manager Megan Saunders; and Office Manager Erika Guth. Directors Erick von Lubken and Dani Annala were absent.

Chairman Pete Siragusa called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Pete Siragusa welcomed one audience member in person and two via Zoom. The floor was open for comments; however, no business was presented.

MONTHLY BUSINESS: The minutes of the March 18, 2026 board meeting were presented and discussed. Bernard Yoo requested the addition of details regarding the discussion/allocation of water rights for the proposed Frankton Road Subdivision. It was moved by Bernard Yoo and seconded by Don Chandler to approve the minutes with these additions. Pete Siragusa, Bernard Yoo, and Don Chandler voted in favor. Erick von Lubken and Dani Annala were absent. The motion passed.

The O&M bills for the month of April were presented and discussed. It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Bernard Yoo to approve the bills in the amount of \$47,687.21. Pete Siragusa, Bernard Yoo, and Don Chandler voted in favor. Erick von Lubken and Dani Annala were absent. The motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: Alexis shared a letter sent by a patron along with their irrigation payment. This letter expressed concerns about the rate increase and uncertainty regarding water supply this summer.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION:

a. **A/R Report** – Alexis reported that the District has received \$1,858,220 to date, representing 77% of the 2026 assessments charged, versus 74% last year. The EOM balance, including reserves, as of April 9, 2026 was \$1,676,237.

b. **Hydro Production** – March production was projected at 2,900,000 kWh. Actual production was 2,746,849 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for March was projected at \$141,792. Actual revenue was \$134,023. Year-to-date production is trending at 101.0% of projections.

IRRIGATION & HYDRO STATUS REPORT:

Hydro status: March flows were steady; however, hydro revenue was reduced due to a week-long canal shutdown. A flood event in early March caused significant rock accumulation in the tunnel, requiring shutdown and removal efforts.

Zach is currently on paternity leave. Prior to his leave, he prepared the hydro system for continued operation and attended to upcoming tasks. The T1 line, which communicates data to PacificCorp, continues to experience issues. Both PacificCorp and Lumen have conducted site visits at Plant 2 to troubleshoot. Ultimately, the T1 equipment is outdated and will likely require replacement.

Reservoir & Irrigation Status: Upper Kingsley reservoir is currently at 1.5 feet below spill, while Lower Kingsley reservoir is full. The goal is to maintain full and steady levels as long as possible.

Drought Plan: Megan presented minor revisions to the draft drought plan, primarily addressing rotation implementation and management of junior water rights. Additional details and logistical decisions are needed before a formal drought plan is adopted. However, early communication regarding drought conditions and response will be essential heading into the season.

System Maintenance:

- a. Hood River County is conducting logging operations on Lowline near South Pine Creek, with an estimated completion date of April 24th.
- b. The Deep Cut flowmeter sensor was replaced with a spare sensor and cable.
- c. Hays Drive has been paved and cleaned up following the December 2025 flood and the floating emergency overflow pipe incident.
- d. The Bilson Pump Variable Frequency Drive was installed on April 14th.

PROJECTS:

T1 Line: The hydro plant communication line between PacificCorp, Lumen, and FID requires updating.

Gate Creek: FID is working on a joint permit application with the Division of State Lands and Army Corp of Engineers. Implementation of this project is anticipated in 2027.

Cabin Creek: FID is coordinated with the Forest Service regarding in-water work for this project and will hopefully be implemented during summer 2026.

Vegetation Management at Dee Irrigation District: DID contracted AFS Forestry for vegetation management and FID may consider this option for vegetation management on the lower dam.

OWRD Funding Extension: FID received a five-month extension from Oregon Water Resources Department for matching funds related to the Farmers Canal project. PL-566 funding through the Natural Resources Conservation Service must be secured by August 24, 2026. Alexis will account for hydro revenue impacts during the 2027 piping project.

WATER RIGHTS: None

MISCELLANEOUS:

Lien process update: Accounts with prior-year delinquencies were sent notices in March 2026, encouraging payment and/or communication to avoid liens. Some accounts have entered into payment plans. Accounts that are multiple years past due that remain unpaid and unresponsive by May 15th will have liens recorded with the Hood River County Clerk in accordance with district policy and ORS 545.494.

Capping for non-payment: Twelve notices were sent to multi-year delinquent accounts notifying them that service will be capped prior to irrigation season. Eight services were capped. Similar to the pre-lien letters, these notices are intended to encourage communication with FID and create a plan to get back on track.

Audit workshop: Alexis and Erika attended an audit workshop hosted by Accuity in early April.

2025 Audit: The draft 2025 audit has been received. A representative from Accuity will present their findings at the May 2026 board meeting.

Health insurance renewal: The SDIS insurance renewal quotes reflect minimal premium changes from last year.

LEGAL: None

OTHER BUSINESS: Pete Siragusa acknowledged Alexis' two-year anniversary with FID on April 1.

The Board completed a virtual Public Meetings Law course after the April 2026 board meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Signed: _____ Pete Siragusa

Attest: _____ Bernard Yoo