



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

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, February 18, 2026 at the district office and via Zoom for the purpose of conducting its regular monthly business. Those in attendance were Directors Dani Annala, Don Chandler, Bernard Yoo, Pete Siragusa and Erick von Lubken; District Manager Alexis Vaivoda; Watershed Project Manager Megan Saunders; and Office Manager Erika Guth.

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

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

MONTHLY BUSINESS: The minutes of the January 21, 2026 board meeting were presented and discussed. It was moved by Erick Von Lubken and seconded by Don Chandler to approve the minutes. The motion passed with all in favor.

The updated O&M bills for the month of February were presented and discussed. It was moved by Erick von Lubken and seconded by Dani Annala to approve the updated bills in the amount of \$78,519.27. The motion passed with all in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION:

a. **A/R Report** – Alexis reported that the District has received \$1,477,164.67 to date which represents 61% the 2026 assessments charged, versus 62% at the same time last year. The EOM balance, including reserves, as of February 12, 2026 was \$2,013,547.11.

b. **Hydro Production** – January's production was projected at 2,700,000 kWh. Actual production was 2,904,055 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for January was projected at \$131,976. Actual revenue was \$140,462. Actual trending kWh for the year is 107.6% of total production.

There was an initial discrepancy in PacifiCorp's January production report, but the corrected figures were available at the time of the meeting. Additionally, this is the first month reflecting the updated purchase power agreement, which is a decrease in revenue per kWh.

IRRIGATION & HYDRO STATUS REPORT:

Hydro status: January was favorable in terms of hydro production, as the plants exceeded projections. Crestline was contracted to remove sediment from the intake flume that had accumulation since the flood. The plants are now operating near capacity.

Reservoir & Irrigation Status: The Upper Reservoir is approximately 2' below spill and has remained fairly steady since the December 2025 high flow event.

Megan presented a graph demonstrating that we are in a severe snow drought. Mount Hood's snowpack is presently at 32% of the median. Megan is coordinating with the other irrigation districts and Basin partners regarding unified water conservation messaging. Spring weather will be a factor in how the districts proceed. She expects to bring a draft policy, similar to the 2015 drought plan, to the next meeting.

System Maintenance:

- a. The flume above the headgate was cleared out by Crestline, as previously mentioned.
- b. A leak was detected on Highline at the diversion point and Elias is working to patch it.
- c. The crew is beginning spring preparations and readying for spray water delivery. They are working on PRV maintenance and charging up lines.

PROJECTS:

Bilson Pump Variable Frequency Drive (VFD): The crew found a suitable VFD for the Bilson pump system.

The Parkertown Diversion: A new box and valve were installed at the Parkertown diversion. The weir design is still being finalized and will be installed soon. A meeting with the six Parkertown users is scheduled later this month to inform them about these improvements.

Farmers Canal Piping Project: The District submitted the official funding request letter to NRCS for the Farmers Canal Piping Project. Niklas from WPN updated the piping cost estimated for the Watershed Plan. Communication has continued with OWRD to retain matching funds. Implementation is projected for fall 2027 (October-December).

Deep Cut Flowmeter: Following the replacement of the PLC at Deep Cut a few months ago, the flowmeter stopped functioning. Jeff located a spare flowmeter in inventory, and Zach tested it and approved it for use. This flowmeter will be installed the next time the Farmers Canal is empty.

Lower Reservoir Vegetation: Alexis plans to coordinate with a crew recommended by the HRWG to address vegetation management at the Lower Kingsley dam.

WATER RIGHTS: Megan presented a proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD) off of Frankton Road. The Board discussed potential service options. Don Chandler moved to deny service to the proposed PUD. Erick von Lubken seconded the motion. The motion failed with Pete Siragusa, Bernard Yoo, and Dani Annala voting against it. Pete Siragusa suggested tabling the matter until a development application was submitted. No further formal action was taken.

MISCELLANEOUS:

On-Call Policy Revision: Alexis presented two revisions and clarifications to the On-Call Policy. It was moved by Erick von Lubken and seconded by Don Chandler to adopt and publish the revised policy. The motion passed unanimously.

Spray Water from Pump Station: Alexis initiated discussion regarding spray water delivery to the lower district via the pump station and suggested initiating the pumps on April 15th for irrigation season. The Board generally agreed.

2025 Audit Preparation: The 2025 audit field work is scheduled with Accuity for March 10th.

Lost Check: A stop payment was placed on a check issued to Onsite due to a reported mailbox theft. The balance was reissued in this month’s AP. We are continuing to closely monitor our bank accounts and cleared checks as a daily routine.

Spring Budget Meeting: The Budget Committee will meet at the District office on April 22nd at 3:00pm.

Tri-fold Draft: A draft “Welcome to FID” brochure has been prepared for distribution to new patrons upon account setup. Board members were asked to review the content and provide feedback outside of the meeting.

Dillon Road Drainage: Jeff and Alexis met with landowners onsite, and the issue is internal to the neighbors and does not involve FID.

LEGAL: Alexis presented a draft Resolution for Recreational Immunity (Resolution 05-26) provided by SDAO. Board members were asked to review the draft. Any requested changes will be reviewed by an attorney before formal adoption.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board entered executive session at 1:21 p.m. to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions (OSR 192.660(1)(e)). The Board ended the session at 1:28 p.m. and reopened the public meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

Signed: _____ Pete Siragusa

Attest: _____ Bernard Yoo

**FARMERS IRRIGATION DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday February 18, 2026**

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 1:21 p.m. Chairman Pete Siragusa entered executive session to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions (OSR 192.660(1)(e)).

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Chairman Pete Siragusa moved out of Executive Session and back into the regular meeting at 1:28 p.m

Signed: _____
Pete Siragusa, Chairman

Attest: _____
Bernard Yoo, Secretary