Dee Irrigation District Minutes

July 22, 2026

The Board of Directors of the Dee Irrigation District met on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at the office of Farmers Irrigation District and via Zoom for the purpose of conducting its regular quarterly business. Those in attendance were Directors Erick von Lubken, Derek DeBorde and Steve Hunt; District Manager Alexis Vaivoda; Watershed Project Manager Megan Saunders; and Office Manager Erika Guth.

Erick von Lubken called the meeting to order at 10:59 a.m.

MONTHLY BUSINESS: The minutes of the April 23, 2026 board meeting were presented. It was moved by Derek DeBorde and seconded by Steve Hunt to approve the minutes as presented. Erick von Lubken, Derek DeBorde, and Steve Hunt voted in favor. The motion passed.

Accounts payable for May 2026 ($169.00), June 2026 ($21,431.33), and July 2026 ($16,226.52) (see attached) were presented. It was moved by Steve Hunt and seconded by Derek DeBorde to approve the payables. Erick von Lubken, Derek DeBorde, and Steve Hunt voted in favor. The motion passed.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

FINANCIAL REPORT: The financial statements for April, May, and June 2026 were presented and signed by the board. The balance, including reserves, as of July 22, 2026 was $375,852.65

Erika reported that DID has received $131,805.02 in payments as of July 22, 2026, representing just under 100% of the total 2026 assessments. Two accounts remain outstanding with a combined balance of $953.76, including prior-year assessments and accrued interest.

The DID LGIP account is now active, currently earning approximately $1,000 per month with a 4% interest rate.

Alexis presented the proposed 2026-2027 budget to the board. The budget includes a 3% assessment increase, while the $10 per water right acre special assessment remains unchanged. Alexis recommended against paying off the DEQ loan early, which is set to retire in 2040, in order to maximize interest earnings through the LGIP account. The proposed budget also accounts for a 10% increase in insurance costs and an 8% increase in utility bills.

The board discussed the purpose and future allocation of the special assessment. Following discussion, the board agreed to isolate the special assessment revenue collected from the 2026 season and deposit those funds into the LGIP account in November 2026 to add to the contingency reserve.

MAINTENANCE / PROJECTS: Alexis reported that a pipeline leak was discovered in May 2026 following a roadside bank failure on Lost Lake Road. Crestline Construction cleared the pipeline right-of-way starting at Deer Creek and worked their way upstream to the main leak. Farmers Irrigation District assisted with the pipeline repairs. Total project costs were approximately $21,000. Remaining materials from the repair are expected to reduce costs for future maintenance projects. Looking ahead, DID will prioritize continued clearing of vegetation along the pipeline and repairing leaks. Alexis noted that continued maintenance efforts should make pipeline maintenance significantly more manageable by 2030.

IRRIGATION STATUS: Megan reported that DID has delivered 46% of its seasonal duty. Growers continue to receive operational updates through a group text thread, but Dee hasn't communicated with residential users since the pre-season letter. The district is continuing to monitor usage closely. The board agreed to continue operating without restrictions at this time but will consider notifying patrons by mid-August if usage trends indicate that conservation measures may become necessary.

LEGAL: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None**.**

OTHER BUSINESS: Alexis initiated a conversation regarding recorded easements for DID. Many of the district's easement rights originated with the Oregon Lumber Company in the early 1900s or are in the public right-of-way. The board discussed some of the newer easements from the piping and pump station project(s).

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Erick von Lubken at 11:45 a.m.

President : _____