

## Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

10:00 am (Mountain Time)

Conference Call Number: 541-896-1824

(Due to virus, meeting was held via phone with no participants attending in person)

### Members Present:

- Grant Kitamura, Board President (via phone)
- Greg Smith, Officer to the Board (via phone)
- Corey Maag (via phone)
- Jason Pearson (via phone)
- Kay Riley (via phone)
- Randi Svaty (via phone)

### Staff:

- John L. Braese (via phone)
- Julie Hicks (via phone)

### Regular Board Meeting Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am with special guests present:

- Mike Walker (via phone)
- Commissioner Larry Wilson (via phone)
- Pat Caldwell, Malheur Enterprise (via phone)
- Les Zaitz, Malheur Enterprise (via phone)

### Discussion and Action: Review and approval of March 17, 2020 meeting minutes.

Board Member Corey Maag made a motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2020. The motion was seconded by Board Member Jason Pierson. By unanimous vote, the minutes were approved.

### Discussion and Action: Update

Board President Grant Kitamura handed the meeting over to Officer to the Board Greg Smith for updates on the project.

Smith started the briefing stating a rework of milestones with the Oregon Department of Transportation was being completed. This rework will allow for final design and engineering to occur while negotiations with the proposed operator are taking place. Once approved by the Oregon Transportation Commission, the new milestones will be forwarded to the board. This change in the milestones is taking place due to recommendations from the Tioga Group.

Smith continued with an announcement of a possible change in the entrance to the facility. After a discussion with ODOT personnel, a change to Arcadia Boulevard for entry is being considered. Commissioner Larry Wilson added discussions with the landowners had occurred. Discussion from the board questioned the source of money to extend Arcadia to the highway.

After receiving prior approval from the board via ballot, an amount of \$125,000 has been forwarded to Union Pacific for switch design.

Smith continued with a board discussion on building design and the hiring of a construction project manager. Mike Walker stated the position should be advertised with a RFP.

Smith said negotiations continue with the proposed operator. A document requesting information from the shippers has been completed by EcoNorthwest and Smith requested a conference call with some of the shippers to provide a final look at the document before forwarding the completed form to the proposed operator.

Smith briefed the board on a discussion with Representative Greg Walden regarding the BUILD grant. Smith also stated a stimulus package is probable in the upcoming months.

Smith said a local non-agricultural company had made contact expressing interest in the facility. This company would not use the reload building, but has stated interest in adjacent property. Due to confidentiality, the name of the company was not stated.

Smith said weekly written updates would continue and discussions continue with ODOT regarding 5 percent retainage currently placed on reimbursements.

### **Public Discussion:**

Walker questioned if a stockpile of fill dirt could be acquired prior to the start of construction? In response, Smith explained the issues of working under a state contract.

Les Zaitz questioned amount of fill needed, status of operator and clarification on milestones. Pat Caldwell requested clarification of where the fill dirt will be acquired.

### **Adjournment:**

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 am.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Greg Smith, Officer to the Board