REGULAR/PUBLIC MEETING
Of The
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Of
DESCHUTES VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
July 13, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Deschutes Valley Water District was called to order by Chairman Kathy Marston (KM) at 7:00 P.M. Other commissioners present were Dana Oppenlander (DO) and Tom Jaca (TJ). Public present was Scott Surgeon and Gary Harris.

KM asked for public comment.

Gary Harris would like to see a history book put together from the start of Opal Springs. Discussion followed.

Scott Surgeon informed us that the meetings have not been updated on the website.

DO moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept as presented. Seconded by TJ. Motion carried.

Joel Gehrett (JG) presented the Resolution on Investments 2026-07-13. TJ moved to adopt the Resolution on Investments 2026-07-13. Seconded by DO. Motion carried.

JG asked the Board about appointing a new Board Member. We had two people apply, Scott Surgeon and Mike Snider. TJ and KM suggested a meet and greet at the next board meeting. JG will send over the applications to the Board for review. KM would like to post the open Board position again.

JG informed the Board that the City of Madras has hired a new city administrator. Jeff Hurd has sent out an RFP for a feasibility study of the City's water system. JG mentioned there is potential for more water rights and future growth. JG announces that the water rights from the Spring were transferred to the wells, saving the District money in mitigation credits. JG is looking into water conservation to help with the high demand for water during the summer.

JG has two candidates that are being considered to fill the Hydro Operator position. DO asked if Mike Barry was helping with the interviews? JG informed DO that all three hydro employees are involved.

Executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations was called to order at 7:35 P.M.

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:50 P.M.

DO moved to approve the 3-year union contract that was presented with the following wage increase: 3.25% in year 1, 3% in year 2 and 3. The wage increases extends to the non-union employees. Seconded by TJ. Motion carried.

DO moved to accept the financial statements, pay the Hydro and General Fund bills as presented and approve next month's payroll obligations. Seconded by TJ. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

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Secretary, Dana Oppenlander