

COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
May 2, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

President Shawver called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Present at the meeting were:

Vincent Shawver, President
Dallas Ayde, Vice-President
Neil Martin, Director
Sherri Thackham, Director
Marilyn Dickenson, Director

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager
Lila Freshment, Recorder
Jeff Sperline, Attorney

Guests:

Luke Dahl.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Thackham motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Luke Dahl is located within the District boundaries but does not currently have water rights. Mr. Dahl has been in ongoing communication with the District to explore potential pathways for obtaining access. In response to such inquiries, the District is actively developing a formal policy and procedure to address these requests on a consistent and case-by-case basis.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of April 18, 2025

Director Martin motioned to approve the minutes of April 18, 2025. Director Thackham seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

April Vouchers

Voucher 01	Reimburse Revolving Fund	<u>\$243,452.67</u>
	Total All Vouchers	\$243,452.67

The Board reviewed and discussed the April Vouchers. Director Ayde moved to approve the vouchers as submitted. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

April Financial Statement

The Board reviewed and discussed the April Financial Statement.

OLD BUSINESS

Work Orders by Division

The Board reviewed and discussed the work orders in their respective divisions.

West Richland Ground Water

No new information to report.

Water Stargrass

Mr. Strifert has been coordinating with the Benton Conservation District on a grant through Ecology and the Conservation District Board. Preliminary indications are positive, with anticipated funding to cover the purchase of a tether boat for the harvester and an additional \$30,000 toward the operating costs. Mr. Strifert will keep the Board informed on the progress. The Conservation District will reimburse The District for the boat purchase, while The District will be responsible for its maintenance and winterization.

Sale of 10 E. Kennewick Ave

Mr. Strifert reported that an appraiser was selected. The advertisement will be placed after the appraisal has been finalized.

Rubicon Gates

Mr. Strifert has identified three locations for installation of the additional gates, including the corner of Washington and 27th, and two points along Lateral 2. There may be potential for one more gate, but the performance of these installations will be assessed before any further decisions are made.

AquaSystems 2000 Filtration

Mr. Strifert discussed the potential addition of three more AquaSystem screens in the canal. While the specifics do not need to be finalized at this time, the intent was to begin exploring the possibilities and open the conversation for further consideration.

NEW BUSINESS

Operations Report

Mr. Strifert provided an update on the field crew's efforts to catch up on work orders, noting that both Mr. Amend and Mr. Strifert have been assisting in the field to support progress. Additionally, Mr. Strifert shared the potential opportunity to apply for a grant through the Department of Ecology, contingent upon aligning our project needs with the grant's eligibility criteria. If selected, the project could be completed within this year. Mr. Strifert will keep the Board updated on the progress.

Water Right Procedure

It was agreed to keep the water rights procedure on the agenda, even if progress is minimal, to ensure continued attention and discussion. The Board reviewed the draft procedure for relinquishment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Shawver moved the meeting into Executive session at 10:47 a.m., for 30 minutes, to discuss legal risks of current or proposed action and the performance of a public employee. The meeting was extended at 11:17 a.m. for 5 minutes to 11:22 a.m. The meeting was extended again at 11:22 a.m. for 5 minutes to 11:27 a.m. The meeting was moved to Open session at 11:27 a.m.

No action was taken.

DIRECTOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Strifert will be in Klamath, Oregon, from May 13-14 for an invite-only event related to the Tri-State Boise meeting he and Joe attended. Director Ayde asked about the Stargrass trash rake cleaner, Mr. Strifert advised that he is working on finding funding for the trash rake. Additionally, the grant for rebuilding the Wanawish Dam received additional funding and is progressing quickly.

ADJOURNMENT

President Shawver adjourned the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

Vincent Shawver, President

Neil Martin, Director

Sherri Thackham, Director

Dallas Ayde, Vice President

Marilyn Dickenson, Director

ATTEST:

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager