

# COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

April 15, 2022

## CALL TO ORDER

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

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

Jeff Sperline, Sperline Raekes Law  
Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager  
Lila Freshment, Recorder

**Guests:** None

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Martin motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. Director Ayde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## CONSENT AGENDA

### Minutes of April 15, 2022

Director Ayde motioned to approve the minutes of April 15, 2022. Director Thackham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## OLD BUSINESS

### Department of Natural Resources Update

Mr. Strifert stated he had received a contract from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and forwarded it to Mr. Sperline for legal review. Mr. Sperline reviewed the Contract explained that the estimated cost the district would pay for the appraisal is \$9,000, however, if the sale goes through there will be additional expenses to segregate the property that are not included in the \$9,000 appraisal. The District will bear those costs. Director Thackham asked if the \$9,000 included the cost for a survey. Mr. Strifert explained that if the actual cost of the appraisal turns out to be less than the estimate then those funds could help pay for a survey. He has asked DNR if they will accept the survey previously done by J.U.B. and is waiting on their response. Mr. Sperline will discuss the contract with the representative from DNR to clarify areas of concern. The remainder of the discussion was moved to Executive session.

### Surplus Cell Phone Bid Results

Mr. Strifert reviewed bids received by the District for surplus phones. All surplus items were posted on the website and an ad was placed in the Tri-City Herald to notify the public. Three bids were received. Total receipts from the auction were \$377.00.

### Drought Resiliency Grant

Mr. Strifert reported he has submitted the application for this grant.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Operations Report**

Mr. Strifert reported operations staff worked around the clock during and after the windstorm to keep screens clean at the Divide, Escalator and Laterals. He reported the canals have been filled but staff had to shut down about ten pump stations due to wet weather causing pumps to be over pressure from low water use. He is hoping to have everything on by the middle of next week, except for areas shut down for repair. The Columbia Park Spillway level sensor is not working. It will be fixed as soon as the new sensor comes in. Mr. Strifert provided the Board with a copy of the revised 10-year Capital Improvement Plan.

### **Resolution 2022-1/ Mid- Canal Automation Grant**

Mr. Strifert reviewed Resolution 2022-1 for grant funding for the Rubicon Gates. Director Thackham motioned to approve Resolution 2022-1. Director Ayde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **End of Lateral #1 Construction**

Mr. Strifert proposed removing the existing broken concrete liner and reshape, widen and shotcrete a portion of Lateral #1 from the sand waste to the end. He explained the canal is undersized and one change in the weather or usage can result in overflow and flooding. If approved the project will be completed in the off-season and should take about 5-6 weeks at the most. Mr. Strifert will prepare a cost estimate to present to the board.

### **Policy and Procedure Review**

The Board reviewed Policies 1.1, 2.3, 3.1, and 4.6.

Board of Director's Policy 1.1 was revised as follows:

Section 2.– Add “follow State and Federal laws, By-laws & Policies and Procedures, and Roberts Rules of Order.” Section 4:I – Ensure meetings are held to no more than 3 hours, unless the board moves to extend the meeting time. Section 6:F – Amend to “View available material on the role of an elected official.”

Policy 2.3 – Electronic Tracking Technology Policy was revised as follows:

Page 3, paragraph 2 – Remove the “of” after “District”.

Policy 3.1- Public Records Disclosure was revised as follows:

Paragraph 1, after “(RCW Chapter 42.56)” add: “, as amended. References in this policy to Washington State and Federal code provisions are not to be substituted for the formal and complete text of those provisions.” Discussion tabled until the Board Meeting of May 20, 2022.

Policy 4.6- Turnout Ownership and Cost Burden: No changes were made.

Director Ayde exited the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

Policy 5.3 - District Credit Cards:

The Board discussed increasing the credit limit per card to \$25,000. Discussion tabled until the Board Meeting of May 20, 2022.

Director Thackham motioned to approve Policy 2.3, 4.6 & 1.1 with the discussed changes. Director Dickenson seconded the motion. Directors Thackham and Dickenson voted to approve. Director Martin

voted no. Motion carried. Director Thackham voted to extend the use of Policy 3.1 until May 20, 2022. Director Dickenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President Shawver moved the meeting into Executive session at 11:23 a.m. for 15 minutes, to discuss current litigation and the DNR property purchase. The meeting was moved to open session at 11:38 a.m. No action was taken.

**DIRECTOR DISCUSSION**

The Board discussed voting procedures. President Shawver stated he will only vote in the case of a tie. The Joint Board Meeting will be held Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Shawver adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

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Vincent Shawver, President

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Neil Martin, Vice President

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Sherri Thackham, Director

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Dallas Ayde, Director

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Marilyn Dickenson, Director

ATTEST:

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Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager