

# COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

April 1, 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:** Sheila Thackham, Ron Seidl, Boby Dickenson III, Stan King

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Sheila Thackham expressed her objection to the new rate schedule because it will result in an increase to her assessment and the quality of the water is poor. She would like to see the District making efforts to address the water quality problem in Division 5. Mr. Strifert stated improvements were made to the drum screen that should help with weeds getting through this season. He is investigating other improvements to help with the water.

Stan King expressed his objection to the new rate schedule for the same reasons. He felt the rate schedule was unfair since some patrons will be paying less while others will pay more. He pays for his own power and pump and must buy special equipment to screen the water. He would also like to see improvements in the water quality. Mr. Strifert explained that pressurized Local Improvement District (LID) patrons already pay substantially more than those in gravity LID's and also pay for their own filters. He is investigating solutions for the water quality.

Ron Seidl stated he felt the new rate schedule is more fair and equitable and is pleased with the change. He would like to see it posted on the website.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### Minutes of March 11, 2022

Director Ayde motioned to approve the minutes of February 18, 2022. Director Thackham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### Minutes of March 18, 2022

Director Ayde motioned to approve the minutes of February 18, 2022. Director Dickenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## March Vouchers

Voucher 01	Reimburse Revolving Fund	\$ 153,311.72
Voucher 02	UPL, NA Inc.	\$ 43,714.36
	Voucher Total	<u>\$ 197,026.08</u>

The Board reviewed and discussed the March Vouchers. Director Ayde motioned to approve the vouchers as submitted. Director Thackham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **February Financial Statement**

The Board reviewed and discussed the February Financial Statement.

### **Work Orders by Division**

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Department of Natural Resources Update**

Mr. Strifert stated he had received a contract from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). He will forward it to Mr. Sperline for legal review. The representative from DNR estimated the most the District would pay for the appraisal is \$9,000. They will also need a survey. Mr. Strifert will find out if they will accept the survey from JUB.

### **Rubicon Gate Grant**

The Bureau of Reclamation has WaterSmart Grants available for application. The application is due by April 30, 2022. Director Ayde motioned for the District to apply for the grant to fund Rubicon Gates. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Cultural Review**

Mr. Strifert informed the Board he has contacted Central Washington University to start the cultural review for the Rubicon Gate Grant we were selected for last year.

### **Owens Pit Interlocal Agreement**

Mr. Sperline will give a report at the next meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Operations Report**

Mr. Strifert reported the canals have been filled and operations staff are beginning to start pump stations. He is hoping to have everything on by April 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> except for areas with breaks that need repaired. The surplus phones are available for bid on the website. Bids can be submitted by mail or dropped off at the office through April 11, 2022.

### **CID Newsletter**

The Board discussed options for sending out a newsletter and what it should include. Director Thackham motioned for the District to mail out a one-time newsletter to notify patrons of upcoming changes and include notification to patrons to check the newspaper for public notices, provide an option to sign up for email notifications, and for staff to begin upgrading the website and develop a new patron welcome packet. Director Martin seconded the motion. Directors Thackham, Martin, Dickenson & Shawver voted in favor. Director Ayde opposed. Motion carried. Director Dickenson motioned to amend the previous motion to include delaying sending the newsletter until July 10, 2022. Director Thackham seconded the motion. Directors Thackham, Martin, Dickenson and Shawver voted in favor. Director Ayde opposed.

**Joint Board Meeting Review**

Director's Shawver and Martin reviewed the Joint Board Meeting held on March 15, 2022.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President Shawver moved the meeting into Executive session at 11:17 a.m. for 15 minutes, to discuss current litigation. The meeting was moved to open session at 11:32 a.m. No action was taken.

**DIRECTOR DISCUSSION**

President Shawver reminded everyone to review Roberts Rules of Order. There should be no side discussions and only one person should speak at a time. The Board will need to start conducting policy reviews at the next meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Shawver adjourned the meeting at 11:39 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