

COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
September 23, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

President Shawver called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present at the meeting were:

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

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

Guests: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of September 2, 2022

Director Thackham motioned to approve the minutes of September 2, 2022. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Department of Natural Resources Update

The discussion was moved to Executive session.

Policy Review

The Board reviewed Policy 4.5 - Encroachment Removal and 3.6 - Water Distribution Policy. Staff will implement the changes that were made by the Board and present the revised policies at the next meeting for review and approval.

Board Room Chairs

The Board discussed the purchase of new chairs for the board room. Director Thackham motioned to replace all the boardroom chairs due to the age and failure of some, at the price of \$401 per chair. Director Dickenson seconded the motion. Director Martin opposed. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Operations Report

Mr. Strifert discussed the article in the Tri-City Herald about the dead carp in the canal. He explained to the Board that the District operated within our permit guidelines. Every year after we do a large treatment it can cause a bad algae bloom. The algae is treated with copper which takes the oxygen out of the water and causes the fish to die. It is not harmful to agriculture, humans, or other animals. Mr. Strifert reported that we received the approved Benton County Owens Pit Interlocal agreement back this week signed by the Benton County Commissioners. The Columbia Park Spillway is not working and will need to be repaired after water season. The District is currently using the weed board spillway, which may cause the water levels to fluctuate from low to high.

State Auditor's Office (SAO) Audit

Mr. Strifert reported on the upcoming financial and accountability audit. Ms. Freshment briefed the Board that the audit will begin on October 10th. President Shawver will attend the entrance conference. The exit conference will be scheduled after completion of the audit.

Proposed LID #41 Highland

Mr. Strifert briefed the Board about his recommendation for the proposed Highland Local Improvement District (LID) #41. The developer is building twenty-four homes on the south side of 27th Avenue east of Washington Street. Mr. Strifert spoke to the developer who is very interested in putting in a pressurized LID. Mr. Strifert asked for approval from the Board to investigate the size and cost of the pump required. The developer will pay for everything, and C.I.D will inspect the work and take over the maintenance of the LID when it is completed. The Board agreed.

Sole Source – SePRO

Mr. Strifert recommended the District enter into a sole-source agreement with SePRO for aquatic chemicals. They are the sole source for some of the products we use, and they are the only supplier that offers a “canal guarantee.” If the District follows the application program, SePRO will send Nautique for free if the products do not effectively contain weed growth. In the last year, the District received \$51,000 in free product. Director Thackham motioned to approve resolution 2022-3, for the sole source agreement with SePro for the aquatic weed program for the 2022/2023 season. Director Dickenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Annual Review of the Board

President Shawver opened the discussion of the annual review of the Board. President Shawver addressed that since Covid is declared over and restrictions have been lifted, it is a good time to reconfigure the boardroom to accommodate more space for the public. The Board agreed to have Mr. Strifert get some price bids for the configuration of the board room.

Joint Board Meeting Review

President Shawver and Director Martin presented a review of the Joint Board Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Shawver moved the meeting into Executive Session at 12:01 p.m. for 20 minutes to discuss potential and current litigation. The meeting was moved to open session at 12:21 p.m. No action was taken.

DIRECTOR DISCUSSION

President Shawver reported that the Yakima Basin Joint Board Tour is next Thursday, September 29, 2022. The directors attending will be Shawver, Martin, and Ayde.

ADJOURNMENT

President Shawver adjourned the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Vincent Shawver, President

Neil Martin, Vice President

Sherri Thackham, Director

Dallas Ayde, Director

Marilyn Dickenson, Director

ATTEST:

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager