COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

June 20, 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

Guests:

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of June 6, 20205

Director Thackham motioned to approve the minutes of June 6, 2025. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Water Stargrass - ILA Benton Conservation District

Mr. Strifert was in contact with Benton Conservation District about obtaining final approval. Mr. Strifert and Mr. Sperline have since submitted revisions to the document. It is anticipated that the updated version will be ready for both parties to sign by the next meeting.

Sale of 10 E. Kennewick Ave

A notice will be published in the newspaper on Wednesday of next week and will remain open until July 15. The advertisement will be a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for realtor services. Selection will be made at the board meeting following the close of the advertisement period.

Aqua Systems 2000 Filtration

Mr. Strifert is awaiting a response from company representatives to schedule a time to meet to discuss and take measurements.

Water Right Procedure

The procedure was reviewed, and format revisions were made. Director Thackham moved to approve Procedure 3.5B – Water Right Issuance, as amended. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kennewick Trails and Pathways Plan

There was no new information to report at this time.

CID / Badger Mountain Irrigation District Right-of-Way

No progress has been made at this time. The matter will be addressed during a site meeting scheduled for next week.

CID Annual Right of Way Permits

Mr. Strifert has approved four new right-of-way permits, and notifications are being sent to the applicants.

Three additional right-of-way applications have been received and are under review. Seven letters have been issued requesting the removal of unauthorized materials, such as dirt or wood, from the right-of-way. Five cases have been identified that will require separate handling due to unique circumstances.

YBJB Tour

The Board discussed final tour arrangements.

Director Thackham motioned to reschedule the June 27th meeting to June 30th. Director Martin seconded the motion, The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Operations Report

Mr. Strifert reported the following:

The canal is currently experiencing low flows, with some sections drying intermittently during the day. The District is actively promoting a voluntary watering schedule, to help improve the situation. To enhance public outreach, the District plans to collaborate with local news outlets and launch a Facebook page.

Staff are preparing to present a detailed inventory and cost analysis for installing variable frequency drives (VFDs) on all pump stations at the upcoming August 1st board meeting. Additionally, the first draft of the District's budget will be submitted for review at that time. LID 15 Highland Vineyards Phase 2 are now operational.

Policy 3.6 Revision

It was noted that some users are flood irrigating with broken risers, causing unintended flooding, and others are using irrigation water to create ponds. The current policy clarifies that irrigation water is not intended for livestock watering. Mr. Strifert proposed revising the policy to address these issues. It was suggested that this policy be added to the annual newsletter to inform the public of the updated policy.

Director Thackham motioned to approve Policy 3.6 water distribution, Director Martin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Yakima Basin Joint Board Meeting Review

The meeting agenda and key discussion points were reviewed and acknowledged.

Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project Meeting Review

The summary and key outcomes of the recent water enhancement meeting were reviewed and discussed.

Drought Resiliency Grant

The District is currently preparing an application for the Ecology Drought Resiliency Grant. Mr. Strifert noted that some costs related to the Rubicon gates may be covered. Given the District's existing commitment to the project, pursuing this funding opportunity was deemed appropriate.

DIRECTOR DISCUSSION

Director Martin inquired about the status of communication with the Emrgy Inc. The District is still awaiting a response regarding scheduling a site visit with Mr. Strifert to review previously identified locations for the installation of hydropower equipment.

ADJOURNMENT

President Shawver adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Vincent Shawver, President

Sherri Thackham, Director

Marilyn Dickenson, Director

ATTEST:

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager

Neil Martin, Director

Dallas Ayde, Vice President