

COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

August 7, 2026

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:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of July 24, 2026

Director Thackham motioned to approve the minutes of July 24, 2026. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

July Vouchers

Voucher 01	Reimburse Revolving Fund	\$248,582.93
Voucher 02	Enduris	\$181,868.00
	Total All Vouchers	<u>\$430,450.93</u>

The Board reviewed and discussed July Vouchers. Director Thackham moved to approve the vouchers as submitted. Director Dickenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Director Thackham motioned to approve the transfer of \$68,055.69 from the Capital Improvement Fund to the Operation and Maintenance Fund for reimbursement of the *Three Rubicon Gates* project expenses. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

June Financial Statement

The Board reviewed and discussed the June Financial Statement.

OLD BUSINESS

Work Orders by Division

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

IWS Headgate Cleaner/Ecology Grant

No new information to report.

Conservation Plan

No new information to report.

Oak Street Bridge

No new information to report.

Union Contract

Mr. Strifert presented the completed Union Contract for the Board to sign.

Budget 2026/27 – Set Assessment Rates

Mr. Strifert reviewed the draft 2026/27 Budget with the Board. Director Thackham made a motion to approve the 2026/27 budget as discussed. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Operations Report

Mr. Strifert reported that the District has conducted several canal treatments to control aquatic weeds. The District was contacted by the City of Kennewick Code Enforcement regarding a section of canal where homeless encampments had been established. District crews removed trees in that area, as well as in other locations. Because the District's woodchipper is currently out of service, the District rented a woodchipper to complete the work.

Republic Services was contacted to remove hazardous debris from the area and from beneath the bridge. Mr. Strifert stated he will contact the City of Kennewick to discuss possible measures to discourage future encampments under the bridge.

Mr. Strifert shared pictures of the field crew harvesting aquatic weeds in front of the headgates, using the Conservation District's harvester and the District's tether boat.

LID #64 Panorama Vista Stormwater Retention

Mr. Strifert updated the Board on the stormwater retention pond in the Panorama Vista subdivision in West Richland. The parcel is owned by 13 patrons within LID #64 and is not subject to property taxes. It is assessed by the District for irrigation, as well as by several other special purpose districts. Benton County is sending the billing to only one of the 13 property owners. The assessments have remained unpaid for the past three years and the parcel is now pending possible tax foreclosure. Mr. Strifert contacted the City of West Richland regarding the matter, as the stormwater retention pond was required as part of the

subdivision development. They City is investigating the issue and will provide and update when additional information is available.

Vacation Payout Program

A draft update of the *Vacation Payout Program*, increasing the maximum payout from forty hours to eighty hours, was reviewed. Ms. Freshment will incorporate the suggested edits and present it at the next meeting for approval.

Yakima Basin Joint Board Tour Review

The item was table to the next meeting.

West Richland ROW/Benton County

Moved to Executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Shawver moved the meeting into executive session at 11:27 a.m. for 15 minutes, to discuss legal risks of current or proposed action. The meeting was extended at 11:42 a.m. for 10 minutes. The meeting was moved back into open session at 11:52 a.m.

No action was taken.

DIRECTOR DISCUSSION

No discussion

ADJOURNMENT

President Shawver adjourned the meeting at 11:56 a.m.



Vincent Shawver, President



Neil Martin, Director



Sherri Thackham, Director



Dallas Ayde, Vice President



Marilyn Dickenson, Director

ATTEST:


Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager