

COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
July 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

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager
Lila Freshment, Recorder

Guests: Emily Morris, Founder/CEO EMRGY and Sam Braverman/EMRGY

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

EMRGY PRESENTATION

Emily Morris, Founder/CEO of EMRGY gave a presentation on hydropower development, installation, and operation of hydrokinetic turbine arrays that can be installed in water infrastructure to generate electrical power. EMRGY proposes to investigate the potential development(s) of energy systems to generate renewable electrical power for Columbia Irrigation District (CID).

Director Martin motioned to approve the feasibility study with EMRGY. Director Dickenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of July 1, 2022

Director Thackham motioned to approve the minutes of July 1, 2022. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Department of Natural Resources Update

Mr. Strifert reported that he still has not heard back from DNR. Mr. Strifert will reach out next week for a status update.

Owens Pit Interlocal Agreement

Mr. Strifert reported that the Interlocal Agreement is pending review and approval from the County Commissioner. He is hoping to hear back before the next Board meeting.

Policy Review

The Board reviewed Policy 3.0 – Records Management.

The following changes were made:

A.1: Change sentence to read “To ensure that the District records are managed coherently and in accordance with open meeting law, public records law, and all other applicable statutes.”

The Board reviewed Policy 3.2 – Capital Assets and no changes were made to the policy. Director Thackham motioned to approve Policy 3.2 Capital Assets with no changes. Director Ayde seconded. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed Policy 3.3 – Capital Improvements.

The following changes were made:

B.2: Change the first word in the sentence “Enacting” to Enact.

B.3: Change the first word in the sentence “Maintaining” to Maintain.

C. Capital Improvements: Add “, etc.” after “heavy equipment.”

The changes to Policies 3.0 Records Management and 3.3 Capital Improvements will be reviewed for approval at the next meeting. The Board will continue to review the other pending policies at a future board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Operations Report

Mr. Strifert reported that the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) responded to the cultural review for the End of Canal Automation Grant. The cultural review criteria have been expanded. The cultural survey needs to be done on all three canals (laterals and main). With this change, the cost has increased from \$5,600 to \$11,600. It is required for the completion of the grant process.

Mr. Strifert reported the aquatic weed treatment that we applied two weeks ago has eradicated weeds in the canal.

Resolution 2022-2/Mid-Canal Automation Phase 2

Mr. Strifert presented Resolution 2022-2 – Mid-Canal Automation Phase 2, for approval. A resolution is required to complete the grant application process. Director Thackham motioned to approve Resolution 2022-2, Mid-Canal Automation Phase 2. Director Dickenson seconded. Motion carried.

Union Contract

Discussion ensued regarding the Union Contract for the Operating Engineers which expires this year. The Board authorized Mr. Strifert, District Manager to offer the Union a 13% cost-of-living increase over the next four years and an annual clothing allowance of \$800 per year. Mr. Strifert reviewed changes to the Union job classifications and steps. He will present the proposal to the Union and report back at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Shawver moved the meeting into Executive session at 11:34 a.m., for 20 minutes, to discuss employee performance. The meeting was moved to open session at 12:01 p.m.

Office Staff Wages

Director Thackham motioned to increase office staff wages by 4% with an additional 1% for Sierra Rivera. Director Martin seconded. Motion carried. The increase is effective January 1, 2023.

Director Thackham motioned to increase District Manager, Curt Strifert's annual salary to \$98,140. Director Martin seconded. Motion carried. The increase is effective January 1, 2023.

DIRECTOR DISCUSSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vincent Shawver, President

Neil Martin, Vice President

Sherri Thackham, Director

Dallas Ayde, Director

Marilyn Dickenson, Director

ATTEST:

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager