

COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

February 06, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

President Shawver called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Present at the meeting were:

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

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager
Lila Freshment, Recorder
Jeff Sperline, Attorney

Guests:

Ann Meeker

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Director Dickenson amended the motion to approve the agenda to include the transfer of funds to cover the cost of the vouchers. Director Martin seconded the amended motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Meeker noted that a meeting had previously been scheduled with the District's attorney to address certain concerns, but it was canceled and has not yet been rescheduled. Mr. Sperline stated that his assistant will follow up to coordinate a new meeting date.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of January 16, 2026

Director Martin motioned to approve the minutes January 16, 2025. Director Dickenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

January Vouchers

Voucher 01	Reimburse Revolving Fund	\$244,723.30
Voucher 02	2025 -2026 CIM Contract	\$ 66,645.72
	Total All Vouchers	\$311,369.02

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

Director Dickenson moved to approve the transfer of \$100,000 from the Surplus Fund to the O&M Fund to meet current expenditures. Director Ayde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

December Financial Statement

The Board reviewed and discussed the December Financial Statement.

OLD BUSINESS

Work Orders by Division

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

Drought Resiliency Grant

Mr. Strifert reported that he will complete the final report and take the necessary steps to ensure the grant is properly closed out.

Shop Improvements

The electrical work has been completed. A contractor has been selected for the camera installation, which is currently scheduled for February 25. The timeline is contingent upon the arrival of materials; if the necessary components are received earlier than anticipated, installation may occur sooner.

IWS Headgate Cleaner/Ecology Grant

Item moved to executive session.

NEW BUSINESS

Operations Report

Mr. Strifert reported that silt removal from the canal has been completed except for the settling basin. Crews are making steady progress on removing the problem weirs and replacing them with valves. The Lateral 1 Phase 3 liner project has been fully completed. Several additional problem trees have also been addressed, and the new tree removal operations continue to work out very well.

Mr. Strifert completed the inspection of the Cascade Natural Gas crossing. They are now in the process of reshaping the canal.

The wall on the backside of the canal for the Department of Transportation (DOT) Van Giesen Road widening project has been poured. A meeting is scheduled later today to review the canal shaping.

DOT has hired Columbia Pumping to complete approximately 415 feet of shotcrete lining in the canal next Wednesday as part of the project.

There is an approximately 205-foot section of unlined canal between the end of this project and the section the District lined last year. Mr. Strifert would like to use the \$25,000 budgeted this year for polyurea lining (which will not be used) to line this remaining section, provided the work can be completed in time for water start.

Resolution 2026-1 – Payment of Invoices

The Board reviewed Resolution 2026-1. The resolution will enable staff to pay invoices on a weekly basis to ensure timely payment and avoid potential late fees and/or interest charges resulting from postal and check-processing delays. This approach will also reduce the need to rely on ACH transactions.

Director Dickenson moved to approve Resolution 2026-1. Director Ayde seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Resolution 2026-2 – IWS Sole Source

The Board reviewed Resolution 2026-2. Mr. Strifert reported that this purchase is for the headgate cleaner at the Dam. After evaluating available options, Mr. Strifert determined that no other manufacturer offers a comparable screen with the necessary mesh size and design features. The recommended unit is a sole-source product due to its unique specifications, proven performance with our existing equipment, and its ability to effectively remove the types of weeds present in our system.

Director Dickenson moved to approve Resolution 2026-2. Director Ayde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Credit Card User Approval

Mr. Strifert requested approval to add a new user to the District credit card. Mr. Strifert recommended that Ms. Leetch be issued a District credit card to support day-to-day operations.

Director Dickenson moved to approve authorizing Morghan Leetch as a new user on the District's credit card. Director Ayde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Union Contract

Item moved into executive session.

Handbook Change – Sick Leave

New employees have traditionally been frontloaded with 48 hours of sick leave, and if they did not complete probation, the District could recover the used portion from their final pay. This is no longer permitted. The proposed change is to align probationary sick leave with state requirements, allowing new employees to accrue one(1) hour of sick leave for every forty (40) hours worked. Once they complete the probationary period, they will begin accruing eight (8) hours per month.

In addition, a change was proposed to adjust the District's 457K match for new employees. CID currently matches up to 5%; the recommendation is to reduce the match to 3% for employees hired from February 2026 forward.

Director Dickenson moved to approve the handbook revision establishing that temporary employees and employees on probation will accrue sick leave at a rate of one(1) hour for every forty (40) hours worked, in accordance with state law. Director Martin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Director Dickenson moved to approve a handbook change modifying the District's deferred compensation match, reducing the current 5% employer match to 3% for new hires beginning February 2026. Director Ayde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

KID Water Carriage Billing

Item moved into executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Shawver moved the meeting into Executive session at 10:33 a.m., for 60 minutes, to discuss the performance of a public employee and legal risks of current or proposed action. The meeting was extended at 11:33 a.m. for 15 minutes. The meeting was moved to open session at 11:48 a.m.

Director Dickenson motioned that we authorize payment of \$46,050.00 to IWS, Director Ayde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR DISCUSSION

The Board briefly discussed the funds deposited into the surplus account from the recent building sale and noted that a decision had been made to leave the money in that account rather than apply it elsewhere.

ADJOURNMENT

President Shawver adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Vincent Shawver, President

Neil Martin, Director

Sherri Thackham, Director

Dallas Ayde, Vice President

Marilyn Dickenson, Director

ATTEST:

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager