

COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
November 4, 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

Gary Weatherly, JUB Engineers
Jeff Sperline, Sperline Raekes Law
Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager
Lila Freshment, Recorder

Absent
Marilyn Dickenson, Director

Guests: Sheila Thackham
Stan King

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Thackham requested the public comment be extended from the allowed ten minutes. Director Martin motioned to approve the agenda with the extension of public comment. Director Thackham seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sheila Thackham addressed the Board regarding her concern about water getting into her system and freezing during the winter. Several days after the water was turned off, water started flowing back into her system due to the waterman gate being open. She was advised that valves should be closed at the end of the season. She does not want to close the valve in case water gets in from the waterman gate and freezes the valve. In the past, it was left open and drained out into her field. The Board agreed to leave the flush valve open and separate the two systems. Mr. Strifert will work on developing a generic procedure for shutting the water off for both pressurized and gravity systems.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of October 14, 2022

Director Martin motioned to approve the minutes of October 14, 2022. Director Ayde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes of October 20, 2022

Director Thackham motioned to approve the minutes of October 20, 2022. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

October Vouchers

Voucher 01	Reimburse Revolving Fund	\$215,642.58
Voucher 02	Speck Buick GMC Tri-Cities	\$ 36,140.79
Voucher 03	SePRO -CIM Contract	\$128,125.49
	Voucher Total	<hr/> \$379,908.86

The Board reviewed and discussed the October Vouchers. Director Thackham motioned to approve the vouchers as submitted. Director Ayde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

September Financial Statement

The Board reviewed and discussed the September Financial Statement.

Work Orders by Division

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

OLD BUSINESS

Department of Natural Resources Update

The discussion was moved to Executive session.

Shop Burglary & Building Update

Mr. Strifert reported Gary Weatherly, J.U.B Engineers investigated the plans for the building site. The original plan for placement of the new building was changed so that it would not impede on the Corp of Engineers right-of-way. The site plan for the new shop will be sent to the County for approval. Once approved it can be put out for bids. Mr. Strifert also discussed installing a no-climb, no cut fence. Mr. Strifert will look into pricing and report back at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Operations Report

Mr. Strifert reported that the new Toyota Tacoma ditchrider trucks are averaging around 17 miles per gallon, which is far better than the full-size trucks that were averaging 13 miles per gallon. The Lowboy maintenance has been completed on it except for the decking. The Board discussed possibly adding a diesel fuel tank at the shop in case of a shortage.

Tree Contract

Mr. Strifert requested Board approve a yearly unit price tree contract. He would like to put it out to bid for an annual contract. Director Thackham motioned to allow the creation of a tree contract once Mr. Sperline has researched the statute to determine if an amount must be included in the contract and put it out for bid. Director Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vehicle GPS

Mr. Strifert reported that he would like to add a GPS on all District trucks, trailers, and some of the equipment. He will check with US Cellular on the cost and will report back to the Board.

WSWRA Conference

The annual WSWRA conference is scheduled for November 30, through December 2, 2022. President Shawver, Director Martin, Director Ayde, and Mr. Strifert will attend.

Yakima Joint Board Tour Review

President Shawver, Director Martin, and Director Ayde reported on the Yakima Joint Board Tour.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Shawver moved the meeting into Executive Session at 11:46 a.m., for 30 minutes to discuss current and potential litigation. It was extended for an additional 30 minutes at 12:16 p.m., an additional 10 minutes at 12:36 p.m., and another 5 minutes at 12:46 p.m. The meeting was moved to open session at 12:52 p.m. No action was taken.

DIRECTOR DISCUSSION

President Shawver stated that Board of Directors' pay was due to be increased but was extended until July 2023. The District boundaries have not been redrawn since the 1990's. Legislation reported that irrigation districts are an exception. The District may want to look at adjusting Director Division boundaries since it's been a while and the District has grown.

ADJOURNMENT

President Shawver adjourned the meeting at 12.55 p.m.

Vincent Shawver, President

Neil Martin, Vice President

Sherri Thackham, Director

Dallas Ayde, Director

Marilyn Dickenson, Director

ATTEST:

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager