

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
SOUTH COLUMBIA BASIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT

June 8, 2023 Pasco, Washington

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District was called to order by Director M. Balcom at 9:00 a.m. on June 8, 2023. Those in attendance were:

OFFICERS AND STAFF

Maury Balcom	John O’Callaghan, Secretary/Manager
Richard Conrad	Kellie Pierson-Geddes, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Charles Lyall	Eric Dixon, Assistant Manager
JJ Danz	Brian Scott, Chief Engineer
Jared Balcom	Terrie Chambers, Executive Assistant
	Larry Martin, Attorney Halverson Northwest

OTHERS

Clyde Lay, United States Bureau of Reclamation
Amy Rodman, United States Bureau of Reclamation
Darvin Fales, Columbia Basin Hydropower
Bryan Alford, Alford Farms

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the May 11, 2023 regular meeting were presented for Board approval. Director Danz moved to approve the minutes as presented. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

FINANCE AND BUDGET

Treasurer Pierson-Geddes reviewed the summary of investments and the May month-end financial statements.

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan reviewed the budget for May 31, 2023.

Treasurer Pierson-Geddes presented the following vouchers for Board consideration:

Investments	
Electronic funds transfer 219424	\$994,942.60
Check Nos. 219250 through 219259	\$2,754.18

Monthly Expenditures		
Electronic funds transfer 219419 through 219431		\$276,712.42
Check Nos. 219249 through 219418		\$846,885.40
Payroll		
Check Nos. 29419 through 29421		
and electronic funds transfers to employee accounts		\$446,111.00

Treasurer Pierson-Geddes recommended approval. Director Conrad moved to approve the vouchers as presented. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

RESOLUTION S-23-18

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan presented Resolution S-23-18 Declaration of Sole Source Supplier Teledyne ISCO. Teledyne ISCO holds patents on the technology using a laser for measuring velocity under the surface of the water, providing for non-contact flow measurement. Director Conrad moved to approve the resolution as presented. Director J. Balcom seconded the motion and it carried.

BIDS AND PRICING

The Call for Bids for non-contact flow meters resulted in one response which was for the incorrect equipment. Director Lyall moved to reject the bid received. Director Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

Purchasing and Facilities Supervisor Johnson presented pricing for four (4) ISCO Signature flow meter systems from Whitney Equipment Company for the purchase price of \$67,180.00 excluding Washington State sales tax. Whitney Equipment Company is the Washington state authorized dealer for the ISCO Signature Flow Meter Systems made by Teledyne ISCO. Director Lyall moved to approve the purchase as presented. Director Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

AGREEMENT FOR PERMANENT RELEASE OF WATER ALLOTMENT

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan presented the following Agreement for Permanent Release of Water Allotment:

Cody John Tanska, Parcel #300812520603, 4.05 Acre-Feet

Director Danz moved to approve the Agreement for Permanent Release of Water Allotment as presented. Director Conrad seconded the motion and it carried.

WATER SERVICE CONTRACT CANCELLATIONS & RENEWALS

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan presented the following water service contracts for cancellation and renewal:

- WSC #009 Shumway Family Properties, LLC, 28.75 Acre-Feet
- WSC #175 Bobbi J. Wise, 5 Acre-Feet

Director Danz moved to approve the cancellations and renewals of the water service contracts as presented. Director Conrad seconded the motion and it carried.

USBR CHARGES

The Board reviewed statements from the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Manager O’Callaghan recommended approval of the statements.

Director Conrad moved to authorize payment of the following statements due and payable on June 30, 2023:

2023 Estimated O&M Charges Reserved Works (2 nd installment)	\$1,772,800.12
2022 Construction Charges	\$304,563.23
2022 Construction Charges, Article 28 Interruptible & 10(d) WSC	\$68,426.09
2022 Construction Charges Block 24	\$3,416.58

Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Pierson-Geddes reported on the following projects:

Water Ordering Software – A read-only version of the water order portal is being created. It was requested by a water user in a subdivision in order to send out the water usage to all of the water users in the subdivision.

Meetings – Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Pierson-Geddes attended the May Washington State Water Resource Association board meeting which was held at the SCBID Pasco Office and a webinar hosted by the Municipal Research and Services Center regarding legislative changes to the Public Information Bills.

Financial Statements – The 2022 Financial Statements were uploaded to the Washington State Auditor’s Office website on May 30th, 2023. Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Pierson-Geddes has been working on the lease note.

Investments – Two United States (U.S.) Treasury Bills matured in May. Incoming funds were invested in a U.S. Treasury Note.

Upgrades – Assura upgrades are progressing. The Springbrook payroll module is in the testing phase.

Foreclosures – Letters have been sent to the delinquent assessment accounts. Payments have been received on three of the 14 accounts. District policy states that a parcel will be foreclosed upon when it is either six years delinquent or 3 years delinquent and the amount due is greater than \$1,500.00.

2022 – 2023 POWER REVENUE & EXPENSES



ENGINEERING REPORT

Chief Engineer Scott reported on the following topics:

Engineer Smith has been working on a design plan for the DPE224 which would route that water back to the east. Running the water back up the DPE224A and then pumping it back into the Potholes East Canal. DPE224 would require 50,000cy of excavation and a lift of nearly 40ft for the pumps.

Engineers have been working on design and contract drafting for projects planned for the fall. District Hydrologist Kildall and Chief Engineer Scott have been finalizing the Bonneville Power Association grant application for Rubicon Gates, flow meters, and a short pipe section for the 2024 Fiscal year.

Chief Engineer Scott met with Rubicon Water to discuss piping and automation options in Burbank. Grant opportunities to fund the project are being reviewed. Engineer Poe and Chief Engineer Scott met with USBR to discuss the PE38.9B6 project Engineer Poe is working on the design for the pump plant relocation and the pipe design for the proposed discharge.

While running at a high flow, the PE38.9 Rubicon gate was having erratic changes in the instantaneous flows and the second siphon inlet was very high and at risk of going over. Chief Engineer Scott is working with Rubicon Water to resolve this issue.

The plans for walkways to access new flow meters have been finalized. The District welder has completed the first of five walkways. Next, it will be moved to Wahluke for painting and installation. Landowner Ed Headley granted permission to the District to attach a flow meter to his bridge at the PE63 mile check.

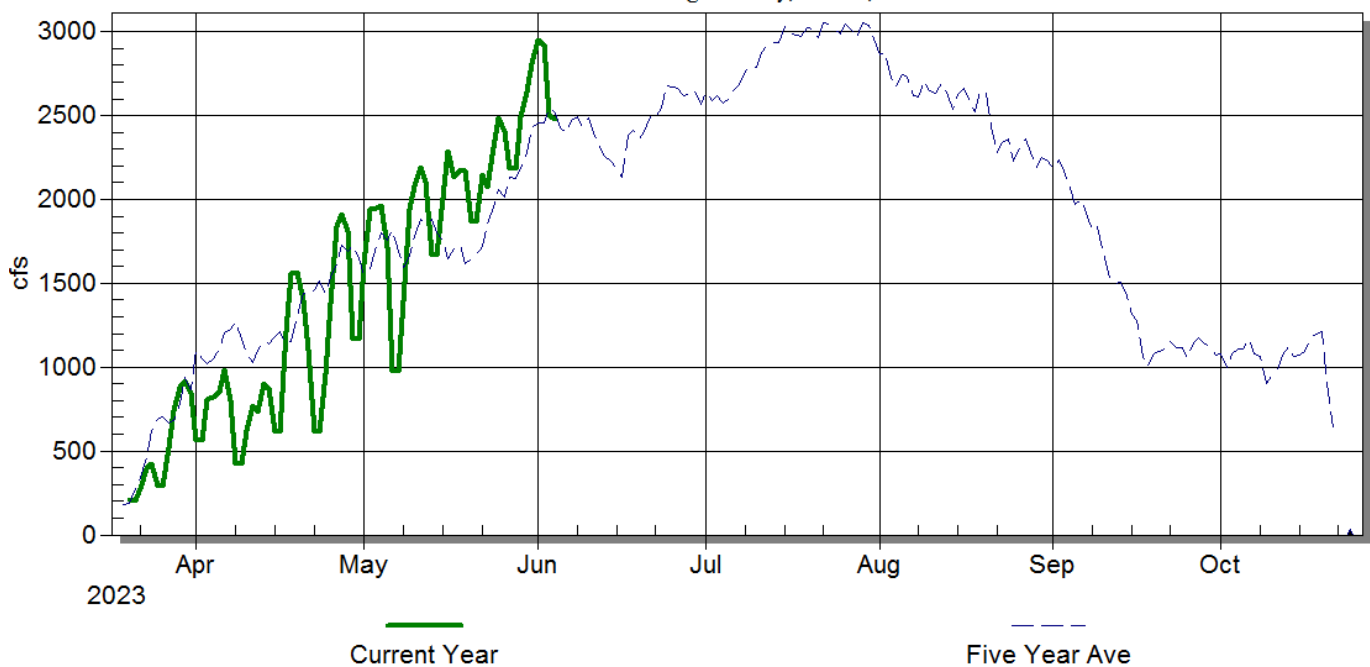
OPERATIONS REPORT

Assistant Manager Dixon reported on the following topics: The elevation of the Potholes Reservoir is 1044.2 feet (400,700 acre-feet active storage) and the discharge is 300 cubic feet per second (CFS) as of June 4, 2023. Potholes Canal Discharge at O’Sullivan Dam was 3200 CFS. Potholes Canal Discharge at Scootney Outlet was 1800 CFS. Wahluke Branch Canal Diversion was 1430 CFS.

There have been 2,045 acres sprayed to date. There have been 311 acres and 227 miles mowed.

2023 POTHOLES CANAL FARM DELIVERIES

Plot for week ending Monday, June 5, 2023



Eltopia – Crews are working on ditch cleaning, chemical treatments and road maintenance. The grader-mounted roller demonstration did not prove to be overly effective. The PPL1.6 weed screen belting lost tension. The weir had to be removed for access to the adjustment screws to tighten the belt. It is operational at this time. Repairs to the PE61 lateral are being completed. Roots had blocked the pipe and the jet cleaner got stuck on a transition. The pipeline had to be dug up and cut to get the jet cleaner hose out. Concrete portions of the pipeline are being replaced.

Mesa – The dump truck involved in the collision on Booker Road is being repaired. Crews are cleaning ditches, maintaining the roads, and completing chemical treatments.

Wahluke – The WB5.4 pipeline leak at Hendricks and Sagehill Road does not appear to be getting worse. Repairs will be planned for this winter. Crews have been cleaning ditches and completing chemical treatments. RH2 Engineering has resumed work on an analysis of backup/redundant pumping options for the Radar Pumping Plant. This was started after the lightning strike but was set aside until now.

Mattawa – Crews are maintaining roads, cleaning ditches, and completing chemical treatments as necessary. The D9 dozer rental in the M Road pit will rip and stockpile rip-rap material.

Miscellaneous – Documents have been prepared to request quotes for cultural/historical services to support title transfer efforts. Requests will be sent out the week of June 12th. A SCADA “All Partners” meeting was held in Pasco on May 16th. East Columbia Basin Irrigation District, Quincy Columbia Basin Irrigation District, SCBID, and Columbia Basin Hydropower were in attendance. Key concepts were discussed. All members of the group are generally in agreement. Casne Engineering Inc. will continue to collect information and begin preparing options for a path forward. The terrestrial spray contract was completed the week of May 22nd. Potholes East Canal, Wahluke Branch Canal, East Low 85 Canal, and East Branch Canal right-of-ways were sprayed. A meeting with the Farmers Conservation Alliance to continue discussions on the creation of a watershed plan for funding by the Natural Resources Conservation Service under PL566 is being scheduled.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan reviewed and discussed various meetings attended during the month. A meeting between Danielle Edelman of the Washington State Department of Ecology and the District was held to discuss the National Pollutants Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES). A follow-up trip to Washington, DC is tentatively being planned for the last week of September.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan reviewed the June and July calendars.

USBR REPORT

Ephrata Field Office Deputy Manager Lay anticipates that the title transfer documentation will be routed to Reclamation Commissioner Camille Touton in July. Determining a value for the watermaster houses is proving to be a challenge.

RECESS

Director M. Balcom called for a 10-minute recess at 10:35 A.M. The meeting reconvened at 10:45 A.M.

TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Assistant Manager Dixon requested travel authorization for Hydrologist Kildall to attend the Riverware User Group Meetings in Boulder, Colorado on August 29 & 30, 2023. The District uses Riverware for modeling software. Director Conrad moved to approve the travel authorization as presented. Director Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

PE38.9B6 PUMPING PLANT RELOCATION PROPOSAL

Director Danz presented a proposal to enclose the PE38.9B6 lateral which runs through his property. Converting the canal to a pipeline would be beneficial to the District by eliminating approximately 3,000 feet of open waterway. The project can be accomplished by either moving the PE38.9B6 pumping plant to the 38.9B6 lateral and piping the discharge or by piping the push ditch and leaving the pumping plant at its current location. USBR review and permitting will be required to pursue the option of moving the pumping plant which will take an unknown amount of time. Director Danz would purchase the required pipe with the understanding that the existing pipe from the PE38.9B6A pipeline that is no longer needed would be utilized in the project. This is beneficial to the District because open waterways collect debris and require additional maintenance.

Director Lyall moved to continue working with Director Danz on this project and pursue the development of a cost-share agreement to be approved at a later meeting. Director Conrad seconded the motion and it carried.

NPDES PERMIT UPDATE

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan updated the board on the current status of the NPDES permit. The District and other stakeholders have participated in reviewing the permit and providing feedback to the Department of Ecology. As a result, portions of the permit have been revised.

WATER RIGHTS UPDATE

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan updated the board on the current status of the Columbia Basin Water Rights. The water supply is adequate and there is demand for it, however, the District is limited by the number of acres allowed to be irrigated. Since making changes to existing water laws is difficult, it has been advised that the best solution is to introduce new water law that is specific to the Columbia Basin Project.

EAST PASCO BASIN GROUNDWATER (508-14) UPDATE

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan updated the board on the current status of the East Pasco Basin Groundwater (508-14).

WESTERN RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION INFORMATION SYSTEM

Columbia Basin Hydropower Secretary/Manager Fales presented an Assignment of Rights for

the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS). WREGIS is a subset of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. WREGIS monitors and tracks power generation. Director Conrad asked for more detail explaining why the Assignment of Rights was necessary. Director Conrad moved to approve signing the Assignment of Rights for the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System contingent on the detailed explanation. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

COLUMBIA BASIN HYDROPOWER

CBHP Secretary/Manager Fales met with Avista and a power generation investor regarding the North Dam/Banks Lake pump-generating plant.

TITLE TRANSFER

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan updated the Board on the progress of the title transfer process. There were no public comments regarding the title transfer process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no matters to discuss in executive session.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Family Farm Alliance (FFA) is planning a tour of a portion of the Columbia Basin Project during the week of September 11th, 2023. Director Lyall, who is an FFA director, requested permission to use a District vehicle during the tour and assistance in planning the event. The event will bring more attention to the Columbia Basin Project which is advantageous to the District. Director Lyall moved to approve the use of a District vehicle during the tour and assistance planning the event. Director Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

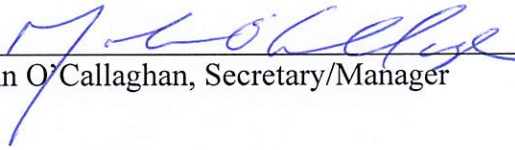
Director Lyall also requested that the Board consider sponsoring the recent Ag Forestry graduates for the event.

NEXT MEETING

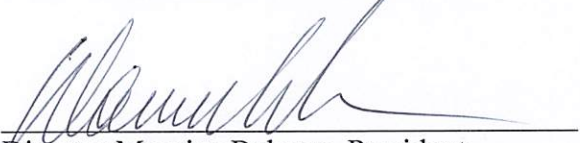
The next regular meeting will be on July 13, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Director M. Balcom adjourned the meeting at 12:10 P.M.



John O'Callaghan, Secretary/Manager



Director Maurice Balcom, President

