

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

February 8, 2024      Pasco, Washington

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District was called to order by Director Conrad, Chairman Pro Tempore, at 9:00 a.m. on February 8, 2024. Those in attendance were:

DIRECTORS

Maurice Balcom  
Richard Conrad  
Charles Lyall  
JJ Danz  
Jared Balcom

OFFICERS AND STAFF

John O'Callaghan, Secretary/Manager  
Kellie Pierson-Geddes, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer  
Eric Dixon, Assistant Manager  
Brian Scott, Chief Engineer  
Terrie Larson, Executive Assistant  
Larry Martin, Attorney

OTHERS

Marc Maynard, United States Bureau of Reclamation  
Amy Rodman, United States Bureau of Reclamation  
Roger Danz, Roger Danz Farming, Inc.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 11, 2024, regular meeting were presented for Board approval. Director Lyall moved to approve the minutes as presented. Director Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

Director J. Balcom assumed the chair.

FINANCE AND BUDGET

Treasurer Pierson-Geddes reviewed the summary of investments, the 2023 year-end financial statements, and the January 2024 month-end financial statements.

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan reviewed the budget for January 31, 2024, and the 2023 year-end financial statement.

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

Investments	
Check Nos. 221195 and 221212	\$373.23
Electronic funds transfer 102246 through 102253	\$2,039,490.72
Monthly Expenditures	
Electronic funds transfer 102235 through 102250	\$351,106.15
Check Nos. 221070 through 221301	\$1,141,072.33
Payroll	
Check Nos. 29456 through 29459 and electronic funds transfers to employee accounts	\$402,905.48

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

Treasurer Pierson-Geddes discussed the 2023 year-end reserve fund for operation and maintenance (O&M). Director Lyall moved to approve the transfer of \$162,667.00 to the reserve for O&M expenses account. Director Conrad seconded the motion and it carried.

#### RESOLUTION S-24-7 WETLANDS REDUCTION

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan presented Resolution S-24-7 approving and adopting each request for assessment reduction due to wetlands and to make such adjustments as are justified. Director Lyall moved to adopt Resolution S-24-7. Director Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

#### RESOLUTION S-24-8 BUDGET FOR CBHP PROJECT RESERVED WORKS

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan presented Resolution S-24-8 approving and adopting the 2024 Budget for Project Reserved Works Activities to be performed by Columbia Basin Hydropower (CBHP). The total budget is \$1,668,000.00 and the SCBID portion is \$526,668.00. Director Danz moved to adopt Resolution S-24-8 as presented. Director M. Balcom seconded the motion and it carried.

#### RESOLUTION S-24-9 BUDGET FOR QUINCY CHUTE AND PEC HEADWORKS POWER PLANTS

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan presented Resolution S-24-9 approving and adopting the 2024 Budget for Quincy Chute and PEC Headworks Power Plants. The total budget is \$20,000.00 and the SCBID portion is \$6,315.00. Director Lyall moved to adopt Resolution S-24-9. Director Conrad seconded the motion and it carried.

CONSENT FOR WATER DELIVERY CHANGES

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan presented and recommended approval of the following Consent for Water Delivery Changes:

Kent MacKay PE41.2C at Sta 80+17 RT to PE41.2C at Sta81+17 RT

Director Danz moved to approve the Consent for Water Delivery Changes as presented. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Assessments - Assessments have been mailed and funds are being invested as they are received. Landowners are completing their Reclamation Reform Act forms.

Audit - The accountability audit is complete and the Washington State Auditor's Office did not identify any issues. Once the CBHP audit is complete, the District audit will be closed.

Foreclosures – The previous Najera property trustee reported that they no longer have a security interest in the property. Attorney Dempsey, Halverson NW, is researching to determine if there are any other third-party payers. If none are found, the foreclosure will move forward once the response period expires.

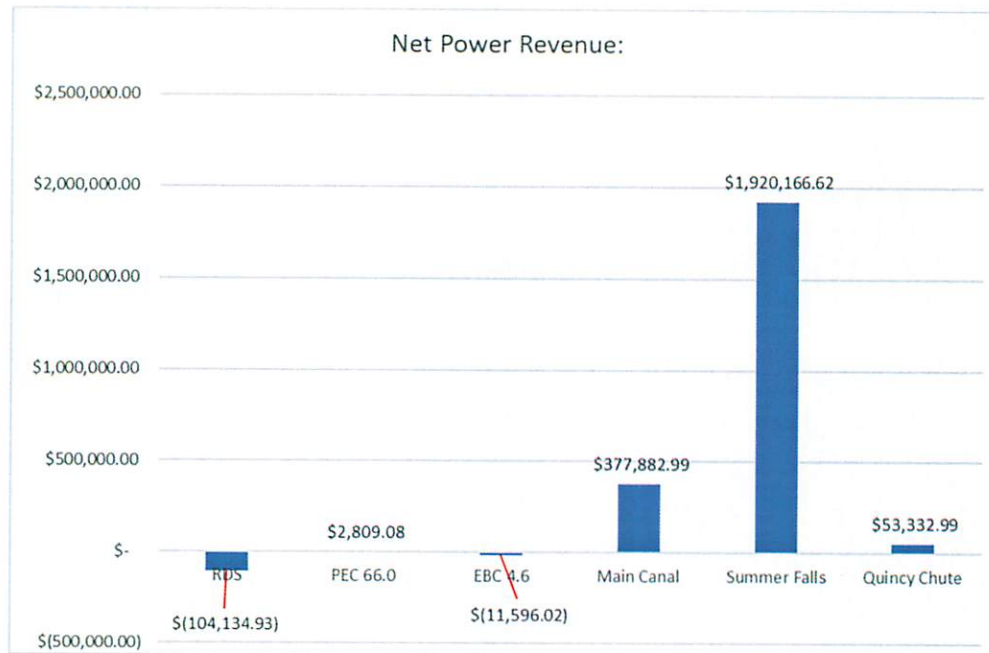
Meetings - Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Pierson-Geddes participated in the Washington State Water Resources Association (WSWRA) legislative calls and board meeting, the Columbia Basin Project (CBP) Reserved Works meeting, and a training session with Springbrook regarding the payroll system.

Financial Statements - The 2023 financial statements are in progress. Budgeting, Accounting, and Reporting System manual changes are being reviewed.

Investments - The District had six United States Treasury Bills (T Bills) mature in January. A portion of the funds were reinvested into two T Bills and the remainder was transferred into the Local Government Investment Pool.

Public Records Request - 1<sup>st</sup> Class Office Solutions requested the District postage machine agreements.

NET POWER REVENUE FOR 2023



ENGINEERING REPORT

Chief Engineer Scott reported the status of the following projects:

General - Engineers are continuing to track ongoing projects, support the field crews, and prepare designs of pipeline projects that are included in the proposed WaterSMART grant application.

Bid Projects – The Block 24 valve replacement contractor mobilized to the site on February 5<sup>th</sup> and started assembling the pipe sections for the replacements. The lower Scootene Pump manifold deconstruction has been completed and the contractor is working on reconstruction.

BPA Grants - Prep work on the EL85 orifice check is nearly complete and the gate should be installed this week. The PE59.4D5 pipeline has been installed, backfilled, and the thrust blocks will be poured. The frame for the Rubicon gate is installed and the gate will be installed as time allows. The remaining two gates are in transit and should arrive at the Port of Oakland on February 17<sup>th</sup>. It will be a challenge to have the installation completed before water start-up. The three meters for Lower Scootene were shipped and should arrive at the Pasco office this week and will be ready to install when needed by the contractor.

PEC Headworks Repairs - The first concrete pour on February 16<sup>th</sup> was delayed until February 23<sup>rd</sup> due to the cold weather. The District is on schedule to have all concrete poured by February 27<sup>th</sup> prior to water start-up on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

PERMITS

Chief Engineer Scott presented the following permits for Board consideration:

<u>BLOCK/FARM UNIT</u>	<u>APPLICANT/LANDOWNER</u>	<u>PERMIT REQUESTED</u>	<u>FEE</u>
251/45	R&M Orchards	Return Flow Inlet	\$50
15/204	Steve Wolf	Service Crossing	\$350
Othello	Wholesale Networks	Fiber Crossing	\$50
1/99	Pro Made Construction	Encroachment	\$50
19/02	Jose Rizo	Yard Water	\$350

Chief Engineer Scott advised that the permits met all District requirements, there were no further operations or maintenance concerns to be considered, and recommended approval by the Board. Director Conrad moved to approve the permits as presented. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Assistant Manager Dixon reported on the status of the following topics:

The Potholes Reservoir elevation is 1043.1 (372,500 acre-feet active storage).

Eltopia – Work continues on the foundation and other concrete work for the new weed screen at the PE64 Pumping Plant. Crews are completing prep work and cleaning on the PE59.4D extension and other routine maintenance.

Mesa - Work continues on the PE42C liner project downstream of Sheffield Road, wet conditions continue to slow progress. Weed screen fabrication has been completed and frames are being painted. Crews are completing other routine maintenance.

Wahluke – The couplers for the PE27A surge tank replacement have not arrived. The pipeline has not been demolished yet and it likely will not be completed this winter. Crews are performing routine maintenance, cleaning ditches, and working on roads. Concrete panels are being prepped for replacement on several laterals. The Cat 329 long stick has been repaired and is back in operation.

Mattawa - Crews are performing routine maintenance on laterals, structures, and roadways.

Miscellaneous – District personnel participated in trench safety and confined space training. Select staff will be attending the United States Bureau of Reclamation Canal Operator Training and the Irrigation Management Workshop next week in Denver. The municipal and industrial contract for the City of Pasco appears to be progressing. The City is planning an update meeting on the new irrigation pump station with the District, engineers, and developers in the coming weeks. The District is pursuing an auction opportunity on a 2002 John Deere 6420 with boom flail and approximately 1500 hours.

RECESS

Director Conrad called for a 15-minute recess at 11:00 A.M. The meeting reconvened at 11:15 A.M.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan reported on events since the January board meeting which included various meetings he attended and upcoming events.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan reviewed the February and March calendars.

USBR REPORT

Ephrata Field Office Manager Marc Maynard updated the Board on various current events.

TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan requested authorization to send Fleet Supervisor Robert King to the J.M. Wood Auction Co. in Birmingham, Alabama in March to inspect several pieces of equipment for purchase. Director Lyall moved to approve the travel request. Director Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

2024 ASSOCIATION DUES

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan discussed the annual association dues paid by the District and recommended payment of the following:

Washington State Water Resources Association	\$35,500
Family Farm Alliance	\$5,250
National Endangered Species Act Reform Coalition	\$2,500
National Water Resources Association Irrigation Caucus	\$400
Northwest Irrigation Operators	\$100

Director Danz moved to authorize the payment of 2024 annual association dues with an increase of 5% to the Family Farm Alliance, which is included in the amount listed. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

### WB5.4 ROAD CROSSING REPLACEMENT CONTRACT

Chief Engineer Scott presented the bid received for the WB5.4 road crossing replacement contract. One bid was received. Director Danz moved to approve the bid from C&E Trenching for \$43,929.20 including Washington State sales tax. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

### DISTRICTS SCADA AGREEMENT

The board was provided a draft copy of the CBP Districts SCADA Agreement. There was discussion among the board.

### WATERSMART GRANT

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan requested authorization to apply for the United States Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART 2024 Water and Energy Efficiency Grant. The grant would potentially fund 14 pipelines, over 10 miles of canal including new diversion boxes and meter gates. Director Balcom moved to authorize application to the grant. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

### WASHINGTON, DC LEGISLATIVE MEETINGS

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan, Director J. Balcom and Assistant Manager Dixon will travel to Washington, DC the week of March 18, 2024 to attend meetings with political officials. Topics of discussion were reviewed with the board.

### 2024 E-2 HERBICIDE QUOTES

Assistant Manager Dixon provided the board with the 2024 herbicide quotes and requested authorization to purchase. Director J. Balcom moved to approve the purchase as presented. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

### DIVERSION RATE UPDATE

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan discussed the diversion rate with the board, noting that the Districts have yet to receive requested financial data from Reclamation regarding the status of the diversion rate account, and commenting on Reclamation's continued efforts in developing an alternative methodology for rate setting, which the Districts have not agreed to.

### CBP WATER RIGHTS

There were no matters to discuss.

### COLUMBIA BASIN HYDROPOWER

There were no matters to discuss.

TITLE TRANSFER

There were no matters to discuss.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public in attendance.

OTHER BUSINESS


There was no other business to discuss.


NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, March 14th, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Director J. Balcom adjourned the meeting at 12:15 P.M.

  
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John O'Callaghan, Secretary/Manager

  
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Director Maury Balcom, President