

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

April 4, 2024                      Pasco, Washington

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District was called to order by Director J. Balcom at 9:00 a.m. on April 4, 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

Clyde Lay, United States Bureau of Reclamation  
Amy Rodman, United States Bureau of Reclamation  
Roger Danz  
Paul Miller  
Bryan Lynch

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 14, 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.

FINANCE AND BUDGET

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Pierson-Geddes reviewed the summary of investments and the March 2024 month-end financial statements.

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan reviewed the budget for March 31, 2024.

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

Investments	
Electronic funds transfer 102270 through 102285	\$8,043,540.45
Check Nos. 221541 and 221812	\$67,598.42

Monthly Expenditures

Electronic funds transfer 102275 through 102287	\$348,326.68
Check Nos. 221513 through 221832	\$1,977,052.59

Payroll

Check Nos. 29465 through 29469  
and electronic funds transfers to employee accounts \$539,754.61

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

RESERVED WORKS FIRST HALF INSTALLMENT

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan reviewed the Reserved Works 2024 estimated operations and maintenance (O&M) charges of \$1,676,653.82, which is the first installment of \$1,871,228.11 minus the 2023 surplus of \$194,574.29. Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan has reviewed the charges and has identified some errors. USBR will provide a corrected billing before the due date if possible. If a corrected billing is not received before the due date, the adjustments will apply to the second installment billing. Director Conrad moved to approve payment of the amount that is due on due date. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

WATER SERVICE CONTRACTS

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan presented and recommended approval of the following water service contract cancellations and renewals:

WSC #801-357	Boulder Canyon Land Company, LLC.	49.76 Acre-Feet
WSC #802-092	Kyle J. & Loretta Taylor	319.20 Acre-Feet

Director Conrad moved to approve the Water Service Contract Cancellations and Renewals as presented. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan presented and recommended the adoption of Resolution S-24-11 Surplus Equipment. There was discussion among the board. Director Lyall moved to approve Resolution S-24-11 contingent on removing the 2006 Cat 315CL excavator from the surplus list. Director Conrad seconded the motion and it carried.

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan presented and recommended the adoption of Resolution S-24-12 Wetland Reduction. Director Conrad moved to approve the Resolution S-24-12 Wetland Reduction as presented. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Pierson-Geddes attended the Big Bend Annual Meeting, WSWRA board meeting, Columbia Basin Hydropower board meeting, a diversion rate meeting with USBR and an insurance meeting with Marsh McLennan Agency.

The 2023 financial statements are progressing and will be completed once the journal entries from Columbia Basin Hydropower are received. The 2023 accounts payable invoices will be closed once the common services billing from East Columbia Basin Irrigation District is received.

Funds are being invested as received. March funds were invested into United States Treasury Bills and Notes and the Local Government Investment Pool.

The District continues to customize Assura software. Springbrook updates have shorted the payroll process to one day. Network security has been stable and without viruses in the last 90 days. There was one malicious virus, two false positives and one suspicious virus detected and blocked on the second level of security. District computers were not infected. The Pasco office and field offices have Fortigate firewall version 6.4.14 running.

## ENGINEERING REPORT

Chief Engineer Scott reported the status of the following projects:

Engineers have started the as-built drawings for the completed winter projects and reviewing and designing project plans for next winter.

Block 24 Unit 2 delivery was leaking. A concrete pipe was replaced due to separation. There was also a leak at the Block 24 Unit 8 delivery which was caused by a rusted section of pipe in the water user's thrust block. It is being repaired by the water user and did not affect the operation of the system.

A leak that developed in the mainline of the WB14.2A is being patched and will be replaced after the water season.

District engineers are researching a solution for cavitation occurring at the butterfly valve for the lower Scooteneey pump manifold bypass. Armoring at the outlet of the discharge from the bypass line was not sufficient and a significant amount of the shore was eroded. Rock was ripped from the outcropping by the plant to protect the bank.

Rubicon gates installed with Bonneville Power Association (BPA) grant funding are operating as intended for water delivery. Rubicon is completing the final commissioning of the gates. Water savings will be tabulated as the season progresses and provided to BPA for verification and reimbursement.

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>
17/62	Roundy Farms East LLC	Bridge Crossing (Re-permit)	\$0
251/54	Mark Hedman	Crossing Permit	\$100

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 Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

OPERATIONS REPORT

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

The elevation of the Potholes Reservoir was 1043.5 (382,700 acre-feet active storage) and feed was 2500 cubic feet per second (CFS) as of April 1, 2024. Potholes East Canal at O’Sullivan Dam was 1350 CFS. Potholes Canal discharge at Scootney Outlet was 760 CFS. Wahluke Branch Canal diversion was 615 CFS.

Priming and water start up at all watermaster yards took place.

In prism work on the PE59.4D was completed and the lateral was filled with water on March 25. Additional cleanup work remains. Material will be hauled this week to begin filling the washout damage in Block 16 Unit 126.

Franklin County is repairing the damage at Cherry Lane resulting from the Potholes East Canal washout. Repairs were made to leaking joints of the Eltopia Branch Canal siphon where it crosses under the railroad tracks and Esquatzel Coulee near Eltopia. Installation of the weir at the PPL1.6 and removal of the blind panels is anticipated later this week. A minor issue at the BP2 Pumping Plant during startup was repaired. Installation of the PE41.2C liner has been completed for the season. Some additional fill material will be needed next winter. Franklin County closed Merion Road due to a soft spot caused by a leak from the PE35.8 road joints which was repaired from inside.

The lower Scootney pumping plant manifold project was completed and operating well. Modification is needed for the new bypass to address turbulence issues. The Block 24 valve replacements were completed. Several minor leaks associated with this work were repaired. A leak in a portion of the Block 24 mainline not associated with the valve replacement work was repaired with a repair collar fabricated by the District.

USBR has sent a draft municipal and industrial contract to City of Pasco for review. The permit for cultural/historical work for the title transfer has been prepared by the contractor and is being reviewed before submission to USBR.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

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

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan reviewed the April and May calendars.

### USBR REPORT

Ephrata Field Office Deputy Manager Clyde Lay reported on the repairs association with seepage that occurred in the main canal near Pinto Dam.

### RECESS

Director J. Balcom called for a 10-minute recess at 10:50 A.M. The meeting reconvened at 11:00 A.M.

### DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES LAND LEASES

Water users Bryan Lynch and Paul Miller discussed their irrigation needs for land that is leased from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. This land does not have a project water right and the Department of Natural Resources is unwilling to execute a new lease without confirmation of water rights for the ground being farmed and irrigated. USBR Irrigation Liaison Amy Rodman will work with the water users to potentially supply water to the lands with a temporary short-term contract.

### 2024 ANNUAL CANAL SAFETY CAMPAIGN

The District participates in an annual water safety awareness program. The Board received a proposal from Fox 11 KFFX-TV in the amount of \$4,980.00 to run 830 TV spots between April and August 2024. Director Danz moved to approve the proposal from Fox 11 KFFX-TV as presented. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

### TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan requested authorization for staff to travel to Burley, Idaho on June 25-26, 2024 for the Tri-State Meeting. Director Danz moved to approve the travel request. Director Lyall seconded the motion and it carried.

### DAMAGE CLAIM

The District received a damage claim from Mike Wieseler, Rocking MT Farms, in the amount of \$783.73. Mr. Wieseler states that while the District was digging around a turnout pipe, electrical wires were broken by the backhoe operator. The Board received a copy of the claim and photos

were reviewed. Director Lyall moved to approve payment of the claim. Director Conrad seconded the motion and it carried.

### LEGISLATIVE MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON, DC

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan updated the board on the legislative meetings in Washington, DC. He and Director J. Balcom discussed updating the SCADA system, continuing development of the Columbia Basin Project and the outstanding representation from Water Strategies.

### DIVERSION RATE UPDATE

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan updated the board on the diversion rate meetings.

### CBP WATER RIGHTS

There were no matters to discuss.

### COLUMBIA BASIN HYDROPOWER

Columbia Basin Hydropower provided an overview of estimated revenue and expenses for fiscal years 2024 through 2045 as requested. Further work is needed to better identify capital costs by year for planning purposes. Allocating a portion of future revenue funds to a reserve for the long-term capital improvements was discussed by the Board.

### TITLE TRANSFER

Assistant Manager Dixon updated the board on the progress of the title transfer process.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Director J. Balcom called for a 30-minute executive session at 12:10 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 12:40 p.m.

### OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to discuss.


### NEXT MEETING

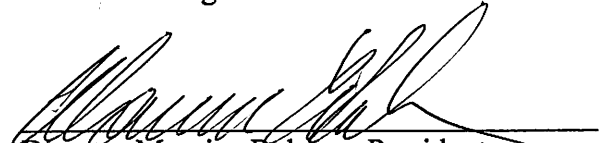
The next regular meeting will be Thursday, May 9th, 2024.

April 2024

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Director J. Balcom adjourned the meeting at 12:40 P.M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John O'Callaghan, Secretary/Manager

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director Maurice Balcom, President