

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

July 13, 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 July 13, 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

Marc Maynard, United States Bureau of Reclamation
Christina Wyatt, Big Bend Electrical Cooperative

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June 8, 2023 regular meeting were presented for Board approval. Director Conrad moved to approve the minutes as presented. Director Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

FINANCE AND BUDGET

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

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan reviewed the budget for June 30, 2023.

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

Investments		
Electronic funds transfer 102122, 102127, 102135		\$1,833,521.80
Monthly Expenditures		
Electronic funds transfer 102120 through 102134		\$192,408.81
Check Nos. 219432 through 219650		\$2,938,502.60



Payroll

Check Nos. 29422 through 29426
and electronic funds transfers to employee accounts \$724,116.49

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

WATER SERVICE CONTRACTS

Secretary/Manager O’Callaghan presented the following Water Service Contract Cancellations and Renewals:

- Waste, Seepage & Return Flow WSC #196-1 Briseida Garcia, 12.25 Acre-Feet
- Waste, Seepage & Return Flow WSC #215-1 Basin View Prop. LLC, 52.25 Acre-Feet
- Waste, Seepage & Return Flow WSC #215-2 Morgan J. Heiman, 3 Acre-Feet
- Waste, Seepage & Return Flow WSC #238 Roundy Farms West LLC, 792 Acre-Feet
- Waste, Seepage & Return Flow WSC #294 Alfred & Diane Ochoa, 275 Acre-Feet
- Waste, Seepage & Return Flow WSC #299 Crus J. & Silvia Olivio 2.5 Acre-Feet

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

TREASURER’S REPORT

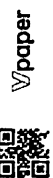
Water Ordering Software - Storm, the District water ordering portal, continues to be updated to increase usability as needed. The issue regarding orders timing out is being addressed.

Meetings - Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Pierson-Geddes attended meetings with Washington State Legislative Representatives Sandlin and Schmick, the National Water Resource Association dinner meeting, viewed the Snake River Dam Removal hearing, and participated in the Columbia Basin Hydropower board meeting via Zoom.

Financial Statements - The Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued the new rule for GASB 96, which requires subscription-based arrangements (SBITA) to be reported on the face of the financial statements and enhances the relevance and reliability of a government’s SBITA. Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Pierson-Geddes has participated in webinars and viewed videos on GASB 96. The 2022 Annual Report was provided to the board.

Investments - Five United States Treasury Bills and Notes and one Certificate of Deposit (CD) matured in June. The funds were invested into a Gesa Community Credit Union CD at 4.4% and U.S. Treasury Bills at 5%.

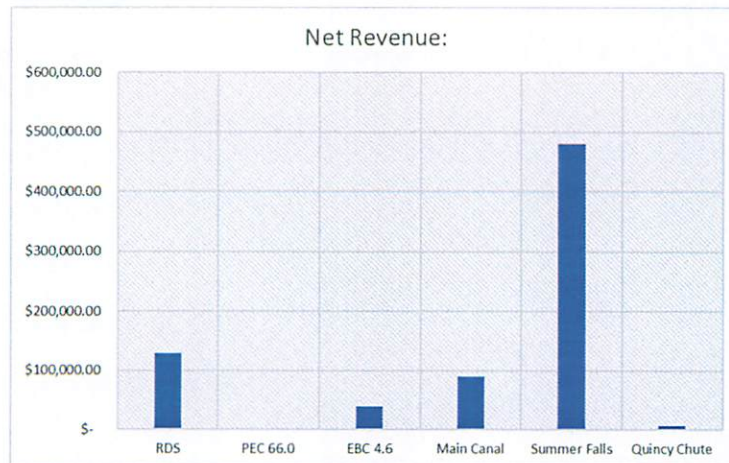
Upgrades - Assura projects for water quality, chemical application, and damage claims are in process.



Foreclosures - Certified letters were mailed to six water users that remain on the foreclosure list. Eight water users made payments on their delinquent accounts.

Network Security - In the last 90 days, viruses were not detected on the first level of security, and 21 viruses were detected and blocked on the second level of security. With the exception of ten devices that were powered off, all devices are utilizing the most current version of security software. The District Information Technology company will update the remaining ten devices.

2022 – 2023 POWER REVENUE & EXPENSES



ENGINEERING REPORT

Chief Engineer Scott reported on the following topics:

Since Engineering Technician Amy Barber began work on June 12th, she is assisting with fall projects, reviewing grant opportunities, and riding with co-workers to familiarize herself with the District. District Engineers are completing designs and contracts for fall projects.

Chief Engineer Scott met with Rubicon Water to discuss additional automatic gate locations. The additional automatic gates could possibly be funded by 2024 grant opportunities. A preliminary design and estimated budget are being prepared for the Eltopia heavy equipment and pump mechanic shop.

The Mesa Lake storage request, which would provide 150 acre-feet of additional storage, is being reviewed to determine the validity of utilizing this lake as a regulating reservoir for the PP1.6 pump plant.

Crews are installing the foundations for the flow meter walkways. The walkways will be set as time allows. Four new flow meters and their bridges will also be installed as time allows. Three level transducers were installed at the Mattawa wasteways and the meters that were removed will be reinstalled when the walkways are available.



PERMITS

Chief Engineer Scott presented the following permits for Board consideration and recommended approval:

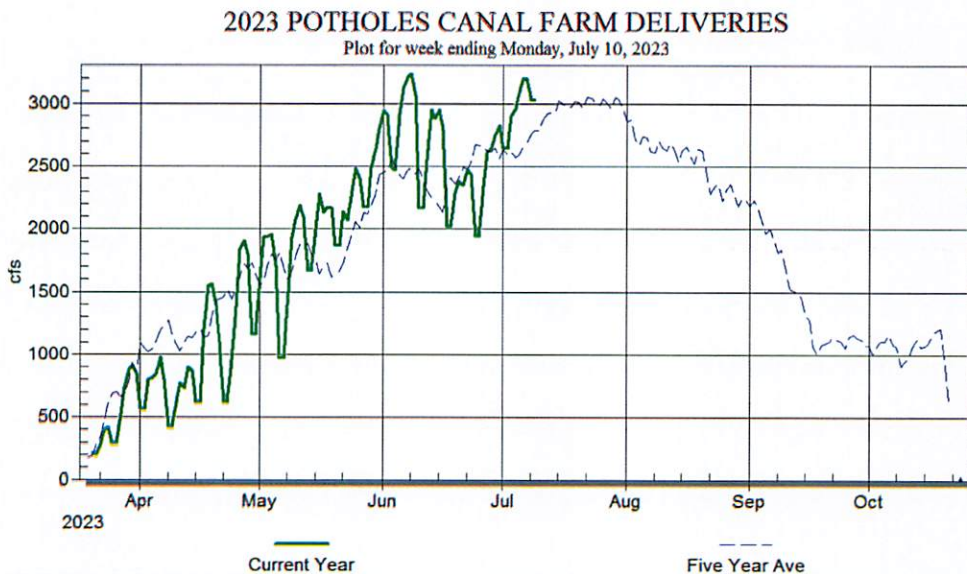
BLOCK/FARM UNIT	APPLICANT/LANDOWNER	PERMIT REQUESTED	FEE
16/342	Steve Smillie	Culvert Crossings	\$150
01/104	Diamondback Farms, LLC	Crossing Permit	\$250
14/116	John Casey	Crossing Permit	\$250
25/62	Grant County PUD	Encroachment (Guy Wires)	\$150
16/125	Edward Headley	Bridge Crossing (repermit)	\$0

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 following topics: The elevation of the Potholes Reservoir is 1036.9 feet (238,800 acre-feet active storage) and the feed is 180 cubic feet per second (CFS) as of July 10, 2023. Potholes Canal Discharge at O’Sullivan Dam was 3200 CFS. Potholes Canal Discharge at Scooteny Outlet was 1700 CFS. Wahluke Branch Canal Diversion was 1610 CFS.

There have been 3,201 acres sprayed to date. There have been 1,262 acres and 811 miles mowed.



Eltopia - A washout on the PE59.4D5 at Birch Road caused by a circle shutting off, washed out over the county road. The ditch at the road crossing had to be reconstructed but there was no damage to the crossing or road. There were several small washouts/overtopping on the PE47Q2



due to flood backs. No major damage occurred. The PE61 pipeline repairs along Cypress Drive are completed. District crews will repair the asphalt driveway and grass. Crews are working on ditch cleaning and chemical treatments. A new house was constructed on the west side of the PE59.4, downstream of Sagemoor Road. The ditch leaks in this area which has become a problem for the new home. Crews are monitoring the situation for any changes and determining if any temporary repairs can be made during the irrigation season. Further work will likely be required this winter.

Mesa - Crews continue to repair the dump truck that was involved in an accident on Booker Road. Most of the parts have been received. Electrical/computer work on the dump truck may require a dealership service appointment. Crews are cleaning ditches and completing road maintenance and chemical treatments as well as responding to minor issues as they occur. The Ringold Wasteway alternate gate has power and is in the process of having the telemetry installed for SCADA connectivity.

Wahluke - Crews have been cleaning ditches and completing chemical treatments. RH2 Engineering is continuing the analysis of pump redundancy options for the Radar pumping plant. Historical flow demand for the plant was analyzed and will be used as a basis for analysis. Overtopping on the WB5G3WW occurred due to a plugged weed rack. Damage was contained to the operation & maintenance road.

Mattawa - Crews are cleaning ditches, maintaining roadways, and completing chemical treatments as necessary. A rental D9 dozer was used in the M Road pit to stockpile a significant amount of shot rock. Crews are moving some material to the J Road pit as time allows. The chemical room is almost complete. The plumbing for the water fill is being finished. Blowing debris from an upstream hay field plugged the weed rack on the WB44C upstream of the Road 25.5 SW crossing causing the ditch to washout. Approximately 2.75 acres of onions were damaged.

Miscellaneous - Assistant Manager Dixon, Chief Engineer Scott, and Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan met with the Farmers Conservation Alliance to discuss potential funding opportunities through PL566 and the creation of a watershed plan. Casne Engineering continues to work on the SCADA master plan and analysis of the current system. Another group meeting will be scheduled for August to discuss key concepts for the new system. The District participated in a follow-up meeting with members of the USBR Ephrata field office. The group is feeling energetic about moving the Title Transfer process forward. A report is being assembled to brief Commissioner Camille Touton. There are questions surrounding the scope of work/requirements for the cultural/historical evaluation. The District intends to hire a contractor for the task.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan reviewed and discussed various meetings attended during the month. The budgeting process for 2024 has begun. The water service contracts are being updated. Legislative meetings with local representatives and senators have been taking place.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan reviewed the July and August calendars.

USBR REPORT

Ephrata Field Office Manager Maynard reported on the following topics:

The title transfer process is progressing. A call to prepare for the Reserved Works meeting will be scheduled. Diversion Rate meetings are taking place. Commissioner Camille Touton has committed funds to replace the SCADA System. A meeting between Reclamation and the Columbia Basin Project Districts is scheduled for October 11 to discuss the current status of the SCADA planning project. It was previously discovered that the City of Quincy wastewater plant manager was falsely reporting lab results to the Washington State Department of Ecology. The city of Quincy has created an electronic record of the last 6 years of internal data. The internal data will be compared to the results reported to the Department of Ecology to determine how long the false reporting has taken place. The Industrial User Group comprised of food processors and various other business that produce effluent water in the Quincy area are researching the concept of treating industrial wastewater to the extent that it could be used for crop irrigation. Remediation of the dairy property acquired for the supplemental feed route is taking place. The route could be operational in June 2024 depending on the results of nitrate testing that is taking place.

RECESS

Director M. Balcom called for a 10-minute recess at 11:30 A.M. The meeting reconvened at 11:40 A.M.

TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan requested authorization for the following travel:

Tri-State Meeting in Boise, Idaho on September 22, 2023
Legislative Meetings in Washington, DC on September 17 - 19, 2023
NWRA Western Water Seminar in Medora, North Dakota on July 30th - Aug. 4, 2023

Director Lyall moved to approve the travel authorizations as presented. Director Danz seconded the motion and it carried.

DIVERSION RATE UPDATE

Secretary/Manager O'Callaghan updated the Board on the Diversion Rate meeting that occurred on June 30th. The next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2023, in Spokane, Washington.



RESERVED WORKS MEETING

The Reserved Works Meeting is scheduled for August 14. A tour of the Keys plant will take place after the meeting.

DPE 224 Drain

Assistant Manager Dixon informed the Board that options are being discussed for the DPE 224 drain. Chief Engineer Scott advised the group on preliminary information.

COLUMBIA BASIN HYDROPOWER

There were no matters regarding Columbia Basin Hydropower to discuss.

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

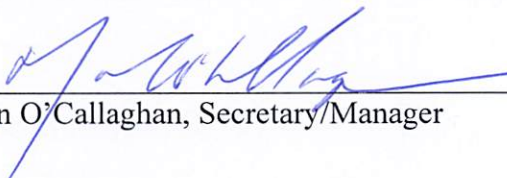
There is no other business to discuss.

NEXT MEETING

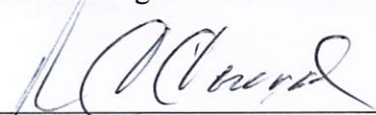
The next regular meeting will be on August 10, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Director M. Balcom adjourned the meeting at 11:55 A.M.



John O'Callaghan, Secretary/Manager



Director Maurice Balcom, President

