

PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
September 7, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Price River Water Improvement District was held on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the District's Service Center located at 265 South Fairgrounds Road, Price, Utah.

PRESENT

Keith Cox	Jeff Richens
Rick Davis	Micha Marrelli
Gary Harwood	Shelly Bird
Scott Jensen	Cory Christiansen – Waterworks Engineers
Paula Noyes	Blaine Shipley
	Jacob Martinez
	Bo Jensen – Electrical Contractors Inc.
	Pat Hansen

EXCUSED

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Cox asked Harwood to lead attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONFLICT WITH AGENDA ITEMS

There were no conflicts with agenda items.

MINUTES

Chairman Cox asked for input or corrections to the minutes of the August 17, 2021 meeting. Harwood motioned to accept the minutes as written. Noyes seconded and the motion carried unanimously as follows: AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS BY BOARD

Noyes: At the water treatment plant, there has been a decrease for the demand of water. The average flow has been 3.0 MGD and Price City has not been receiving any water since August 27th. Flushing and hosing the sand trap and diversion is happening every other day. In order to control the ph and alkalinity of the water and get a good floc in the treatment process, they have been adding lime. Part of the Chain and Flight project has been received and is being stored. Derek Quinten has registered for a free online class, which is on September 21st. Troy has been in contact with Guy Mills, a representative from Blackhawk Coal, to discuss rerouting the backwash tank road to the right-hand side and on higher ground in hopes that this will prevent storms from turning the road into a ditch.

Jensen: At the wastewater treatment plant, sampling is still continuing for the Covid 19 Study. There has been some clean up from minor flooding around the plant caused by the storms in August. Seasonal lawn care and maintenance is continuing. Holes in the biofilter line and the

south digester mixing tube have been repaired. The south digester is continuing to be cleaned out. Sludge is being dried and stacked in the East Facultative Sludge Basin. The Headworks building roof has been repaired as well as the circulation pump in the Enginator Room, sprinkler lines, check valves and an expansion joint in the #2 blower system for the aeration basins. Two hundred and ninety seven lab samples have been collected in the last 3 weeks.

Davis: Forklift safety training for the District's employees has been completed. This was all handled in house and everything was in compliance. The Fairgrounds Road leak was finished. The quotes are being worked on for the 2021 budget project on the Zebra Lift Station pump. Hopefully there will be more information about the quotes for the next board meeting. Information regarding the fire hydrants on airport road has been sent to an engineering firm. Beau met with Keith Cox and Jeff Richens to discuss what is happening with UDOT and they are working together to resolve Port of Entry issues.

Harwood: Trucks are continuing to be serviced as required. There may possibly be a shortage or delay in tires, so more have been ordered to have on hand. The Vactor Truck has had several problems, which have been repaired, but the computer scanner still needs to be updated. It was last updated in October 2020. Service was completed on the John Deer backhoe, the Polaris and the Water Treatment Plant ATV. Parking lot lines have been painted and weed spraying is continuing. The 2021 budget is being worked on.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens: The Itinerary for the UASD board training sessions held on November 3, 4 and 5 was presented to the board. The district has about 680 acre feet of reservoir water remaining in Scofield. The recent rains have helped as there is less water needing to be treated as well as less water being used. The water plant did not need to be shut down because the turbidity of the river did not increase keeping the plant in treatment mode. The district will be on reservoir water until the middle of October but should have enough shares in Scofield to go into November when there is enough water in the river to cross over to the Pacific Corp lease. Richens has not heard of any plans to shut off the river. Last year at this time there was twice as much water in Scofield as there is now. On October 5th all of the department heads will attend board meeting to present the raw budget proposal regarding expenditures for the coming year.

CARL JONES REQUEST

Carl Jones had asked to be on the agenda, but failed to show up for board meeting. Jeff briefly recapped Mr. Jones's situation. When he started his project he was told the cost of the water line would be his responsibility. His property is in Wellington and the board authorized him to put the water line in. He wanted a reimbursement agreement and one was granted for up to 10 years, but only on that portion of the line outside of the city limits. Any additional connections inside the city limits had to be approved by the Wellington city council. He had to do the work to get the water there and also pay all of the customary fees. He paid his meter and impact fees but did not want to turn over a water share. He wanted to come tonight to tell the board he should be able to pay the fee in lieu of the water share because he had this project going 2 years ago. There was nothing in past minutes stating that all he had to do was pay these fees. The past minutes stated that he had to pay the districts fees, which one is a water share or a fee in lieu of a water share. The Board feels that they have enough information to understand Carl

Jones' request. Paula suggested the board should wait to make a motion regarding Carl's request so that she can learn more about the situation and any information Wellington City may have. Jensen motioned to table the request. Harwood seconded and the motion passed unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes.

RESOLUTION 2021-4

This is a resolution to cancel the 2021 Election for Board of Trustees. Jeff reported cancelling the election is possible because there was only one person who filed for election and no one filed for a write in candidate. Rather than pay to include PRWID on ballots, the district can cancel the election by resolution and send it to the County and the Lieutenant Governor's office. Harwood motioned to accept Resolution 2021-4 to cancel the election. Jensen seconded the motion. AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes. Motion carried unanimously.

AWARD OF BIDS

A. WWTP Nutrient project: Richens reported to the board that the amount of money in the waste water reserves is around \$1,400,000. \$600,000 of this money is required to be set aside. When the new bond is in place the monies will need to be spread out a little more. The district is hoping to use the same 1.25% and put another \$250,000 toward it. The waste water plant bid needs an additional \$250,000 and \$100,000 in contingent for unknown expenditures. If more money is needed than \$350,000 they could get by with \$450,000, but that would cut the district close on the waste water reserves.

A discussion on the specific type of debris screen was held, including the cost, function, maintenance and which one was preferred by the plant crew. Jeff Richens and Blaine Shipley shared their opinions as to the advantages of both types of screens bid. Cory explained the difference between the two screens being considered. He also explained the type and importance of the mixing system listed on the bid. Rick Davis expressed that the board needs to take the budget into consideration, but also wants the plant to be very efficient and last for a long time. The Board is very appreciative of all the thought and work that has gone into making sure the district is getting the right systems in place and also the cost involved has been considered. \$3,550,000 is what the district is looking for to move ahead with the WWTP Nutrient project. It is also contingent upon the CIB as their guidelines must be followed in order to proceed forward. CIB has approved the project with a loan of \$3,200,000 at 1%. Davis made the motion to approve to use \$350,000 from the reserve account so the project can move forward. Harwood seconded it. Having no further discussion, AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes. Motion carried unanimous. Davis motioned to accept the VanCon revised bid for \$3,018,850.00. Motion seconded by Jensen. AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes.

B. WTP Chain & Flight project: This is funded 100% out of District savings reserve account. The district has already planned for this expenditure and will not need to secure bonds etc. or put the district in jeopardy in any way. Harwood motioned to award this water project bid to VanCon, not to exceed \$500,000 without coming back to the board. Jensen seconded. No further discussion. AYE: Cox Davis, Harwood, Jensen Noyes. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF COVID 19, MASKS, VACCINES

This was put on the agenda to make the board aware of the possible impact too many employees affected by Covid would have on the water district. The district is not looking for any kind of decision, but wants to let the board have some idea where this may or may not go. They would like to be proactive before the situation gets worse.

Richens reported that with the approval of vaccines for everyone age 12 and older and for boosters, all the previous restrictions such as no mask mandates and employers can't require vaccines no longer exist. Employers can and many employers are now requiring masks and/or vaccines. Some of the employees feel one way and others feel a different way regarding masks and vaccinations. The district is a critical infrastructure employer. (This terminology comes from the Health Department.) There is concern that if too many employees from one department tests positive for Covid or need to quarantine there will not be enough certified employees to work resulting in the district not being able to make water for their customers. If things continue the way they are going, the board needs to be in a position to make a decision as how to cover for those events.

Employees were present and shared their opinions regarding the subject. Jacob Martinez said that the Health Department told them that since we are a critical employer they can give the employee an exemption to come to work, even if they have Covid.

Chairman Cox said, for the comfort level of the board, they would like to see the option for people coming back to work with Covid in writing by someone in authority. Having it in writing would give the board accurate information so that they could decide based on reality and not just on hearsay. Chairman Cox suggested that if Covid gets worse or if there are more concerns from the board or employees, it can be addressed along with options at next board meeting. The board will monitor the situation and would like the district to find out the information and options from the Health Department so they will know what to do if an emergency situation arises.

INTERLOCAL COOPERATIONS

- A. Port of Entry: The Division of Facilities Construction and Management met on a call with UDOT, Beau, Jeff, Keith and others requesting that they would like water at the new Port of Entry. The district let them know there are protocols that need to be met in order to receive water, as there had previously been problems with contractors taking it illegally. The contractor is Patriot Construction with the site superintendent being Jason Lee. DFCM will guarantee payment of all the water during construction, even the water that flooded their building. The district will turn on metered water but prohibit use from the hydrant. DFCM agreed that they would not touch the hydrants. DFCM is paying for an activated account as of September 1 and are currently being billed. One connection feeds both sides of the road. Jason Lee will call the district when they are needing it. The easement was signed. Harwood motioned to ratify the decision with DFCM and UDOT. Jensen seconded the motion. No further discussion. AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Helper City request of support: Helper City is requesting ARPA money and needs a letter from the water district expressing that the District supports them in this request.

Motion by Davis to approve the letter of support. Seconded by Harwood. No further discussion. AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes. Motion carried.

- C. Wellington City request of rock: Wellington is doing a 4-wheel, horse, biking, walking trail combination. It follows the river way and they are in need of one 10 wheeler load of rock. The district has rights to the rock pit and are allowed to share with government entities at no cost. Wellington is asking the district for their help in delivering it. It may take a few hours. Harwood motioned to approve Wellington's request. Seconded by Jensen. No further discussion. AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes. Motion carried.

PARTIAL PAY REQUEST FOR RESIDUAL SEWER LINE REFURBISH PROJECT

The district requested permission to pay a bill from November 2020 in the amount of \$2170.00 for the Sewer Line Refurbish project and was somehow misplaced, never sent or never received. The PTIF will reimburse the amount of the bill. Davis motioned to approve to pay the partial payment request. Paula seconded the motion. No further discussion. AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes. Motion carried.

CLOSED MEETING SESSION

There were no items for a closed meeting session.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bo Jensen, who represents Electrical Contractors Incorporated, mentioned he thought he might be able to save the district some money on the nutrient project but feels it might be too late. Bo is the apparent low bidder on electrical and instrumentation to VanCon but he was considering withdrawing his bid from that. Jeff and Cory don't feel that they can go to VanCon and tell them they wanted to hire Bo on the side. They decided to go forward with the bids and if Bo decides he wants to pull his bid, then VanCon needs to find an electrical and instrumentation contractor who will do the work and stay within that same bid amount. Per Bo, if he pulled the electrical out of the contract he could save the district around \$75,000. It could be awarded to anyone the district wanted. Per Cory, Vancom won the bid 3 weeks ago and today he received the call that there was this issue. Cory has no time to research or make a recommendation. There is no mechanism for him to go to a low bid contractor and let them know they are not going to award a certain portion of the work. Cory questioned as to why this issue was not brought up three weeks ago? There is no time for Cory to react or verify. Bo understood and agreed with Cory. Legalities were also a concern. Cory's recommendation is to go forward with the bid as is and work through any issues as they arise.

Jeff: Forgot to put on the agenda that there was another employee who is retiring. He will advertise for 2 two positions, one at the water plant and one at the waste water plant. It will be on the next agenda for the board's ratification. Job applications will be taken until October 1 and the employee would start working on November 1.

Paula: Met with the CIB last week and they wanted them to try for the ARPA money. Their engineers are looking into that. If they were to submit they will need recommendations. She was instructed to write the letter requesting support and then the board could ratify it.

Motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. by Harwood and seconded by Davis. AYE: Cox, Davis, Harwood, Jensen, Noyes.



Keith Cox, Chairman



Jaci Adams, Clerk