

PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
April 4, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Price River Water Improvement District was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 7:02 pm at the District's Service Center located at 265 South Fairgrounds Road, Price, Utah.

PRESENT

Keith Cox
Rick Davis
Scott Jensen
William Barney Zauss
Lenise Peterman

Jeff Richens
Micha Marelli

EXCUSED

Shelly Bird

Chairman Cox welcomed everyone to board meeting and noted all Board Members were present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Davis led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

POSSIBLE CONFLICT WITH AGENDA ITEMS

There were no conflicts with Agenda Items.

MINUTES

Chairman Cox asked for input to the minutes of the March 7, 2023 board meeting. As there were no corrections or additions, Jensen moved to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2023 meeting. Zauss seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss, and Peterman.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS BY BOARD

Peterman reported that VanCon finished the work on the digester mixer tubes, state Covid testing is ongoing, crew is working on the tunnel piping project, four employees have signed up for certification testing, and 282 lab tests were performed for process control.

Davis reported that black smoke was coming from Unit #1 so staff diagnosed and replaced spark plug access gasket with other necessary parts and vehicle is back in service. The Vactor had a water leak requiring a Victaulic coupler to be fixed. East Maintenance building electrical plans have been reviewed by two electrical suppliers and HVAC system will be sent for review. ELDT training modules are nearing completion. April safety meeting will be a CPR/1st aid refresher.

Zauss reported that the District is receiving 400 gpm of water from Price City. Crews have needed to work extensively on LMI diaphragm chemical pumps and are considering changing to a peristaltic pump. Scotty and Zach have both completed class in preparation for certification testing. Staff is removing a lot of debris from the intake indicating an active beaver population.

Jensen reported a power problem that affected the Hill Subdivision pump house, Zebra lift station, and other places where 3-phase motors were in service. Rocky Mountain Power is working

on the issue and will inform the District on findings. The newly installed pump at Questar pump house was wired in reverse phase and has now been corrected. Crews have fixed settlement areas in Coal Creek area, worked on strengthening an aqua duct support pillar with rock and a gabion basket, and improving the storm drainage for the East Maintenance building.

DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES REBATE PROGRAM AND DEVELOPMENT CODE REVISION DISCUSSION WITH CARBON COUNTY

Richens explained that there was a mix up in which day this was to be on the agenda. This item will be included in the April 18, 2023 agenda for discussion.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens reported that water is being released from Scofield Reservoir in excess of 300 cfs., but the inflow is over 700 cfs. This is the time of year when we use Elwood Staffing to hire temporary employees. Staff will keep the Board informed as to who we receive from Elwood. Rocky Mountain Power wanted to restate the water lease agreement and add some language restricting the participation in the System Conservation Pilot Program. As the District agrees with this, we will ask for minor adjustments to the agreement and sign the same. The District received an engineering services contract from Water Work Engineers for occasional, limited services on an hourly basis. We have received a report from Utah Local Governments Trust indicating that the District is doing very well in keeping our insurance utilizations low. The water right extension on the wastewater plant effluent has been completed with an error in the advertisement language by the Division of Water Rights. They didn't feel it was worth re-advertising. Lastly, Richens presented the Board with the completed 2023 Legislative Update on new laws that could affect the District.

NUTRIENT PROJECT PROPOSED CHANGE ORDER #12

This item was to pay VanCon to modify two slide gates that were missed in a previous change order. Due to the cost proposed and question about voiding the warranty on these gates, staff recommends declining this offer. Jensen moved to deny PCO #12 to modify two slide gates. Zauss seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss, and Peterman.

EXTENSION OF 2023 WATER LEASE PERIOD

Richens reported that, to date, the District has leased almost 1,100 shares of PRWUA stock to the public. Staff is requesting to extend the leasing period until April 28, 2023 but not to lease more than 1,500 shares. Davis moved to allow the lease period extension to April 28, 2023. Jensen seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss, and Peterman.

WASTEWATER OPERATOR CERTIFICATION CLASS – RURAL WATER

Blaine Shipley is requesting to allow four employees to attend the Rural Water online certification preparation class. The cost is \$250.00 each. The class is three days. The District already has the necessary text books for this course. Peterman moved to approve four employees attend the Rural Water wastewater certification training at a cost of \$250.00 each. Davis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss, and Peterman.

PRWID BOUNDARY AND PROPERTY TAX DISCUSSION

Richens brought forth two questions to the Board, one about annexation of properties into the District boundaries where we serve those properties and the second is whether the Board wants to move forward with a property tax increase as advised by the last audit. Discussion ensued as it was found that a few properties are, or can be, served water but aren't currently within the District's boundaries. To bring this into the District's boundaries would require an annexation. This process happens in concert with the County Clerk's office. Zauss moved to begin the annexation process for those properties that are or can be served by the District. Peterman seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss, and Peterman.

The second question was to formally decide if the District wanted to pursue a property tax increase. This discussion centered on questions regarding timing and levels of increase. Richens indicated that he had been in contact with the State Tax Commission and the County Clerk. The first step at this time is to formally vote to move in this direction and decide later as to levels. Jensen moved to approve beginning the property tax increase process. Zauss seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss, and Peterman.


CLOSED SESSION

There were no items for a closed session.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were no items of unfinished business to discuss.

Jensen moved to adjourn meeting at 8:10 pm. Peterman seconded the motion. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss and Peterman.



Keith Cox, Chairman



Kim Wood, Clerk