

PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
September 19, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Price River Water Improvement District was held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the District's Service Center located at 265 South Fairgrounds Road, Price, Utah.

PRESENT

Keith Cox	Jeff Richens
Rick Davis	Micha Marelli
Scott Jensen	Kim Wood
William Barney Zauss	Beau Fausett
Lenise Peterman	

EXCUSED

Shelly Bird

Chairman Cox welcomed everyone to Board Meeting and noted all Board Members 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 September 5, 2023 Board Meeting. As there were no corrections or additions. Peterman moved to approve the minutes from the September 5, 2023 meeting. Davis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss and Peterman.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS BY BOARD

Zauss reported that the water plant is treating 2.7 million gallons a day and giving Price City 300 gallons per minute. We started feeding Helper 450 per minute at around 1pm on September 19, 2023. The power box to the backwash tank has been waterproofed for winter. Troy is working on price quotes for next year's budget. Division of Drinking Water did not have them sampling for harmful algae this past week, but will start again on Wednesday. Crews continue to replace fluorescent lights with LED lights.

Jensen reported the Kenilworth leak and road are fixed. Crews fixed a Hwy 10 leak and cleared a valve for the WWTP. Setup to install the interconnect from Westwood to Fairgrounds Road, rebuilt several AY-McDonald meter boxes, did hydrant testing for the hospital and took first and middle of the month bacteria samples. Crews also completed asphalt repairs, Kenilworth pumphouse repairs, and flushed water that was thought to be a problem in our line but was caused by the customer's water heater.

Peterman reported that Covid 19 sampling is continuing. WWTP crews are still removing sludge from the sludge basin, coating the digester lids with roofing sealant and repaired the influent

sampler. Crews are also conducting tests on phosphorus removal as part of the upgrade and working on yard maintenance. 236 lab test samples have been performed over the last two weeks, mostly for process control and some for the state.

Davis reported Unit 21 2017 Ford 350 had trouble starting and then would not start. As there are 3 batteries on the truck, and 2 batteries tested bad, crews replaced the batteries. Mechanics will be installing odometer plates that were ordered. The Yanmar parts are ordered but are 45 to 60 days out. A 2-inch electric sewer pump has been changed. The 1998 Forklift is out of service and staff is trying to find parts. The 2024 truck from Ken Garff Ford has been ordered. The backhoe trade lease ends September 24 but they will not have replacements until the end of October. Current backhoes will be pro-rated and the new lease will start when the backhoes are picked up. CDL training is ongoing with 2 people in the program and they are working on the proposed budget.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens reported the water line connection from Westwood to Fairgrounds Road will not be tested until after the weekend. Crews interconnected a 4-inch line leaving only 6 connections left on a dead-end line instead of 15. Shelly Bird is not here and gave her notice asking if the District could find a replacement for the minutes. Kim Wood is considering giving it a try. He notified the Board of a PFAS class action lawsuit. All water systems that have PFAS in drinking water supply can join the suit. Our numbers are low so its unclear if we could join. The District was contacted by Carbon Canal about a culvert that needs replacing. The 4-inch line to the CO2 plant will need to be rerouted temporarily then put back into service. Carbon Canal has asked for our help, so we will design it and their contractor can do the work. The Bluffs Subdivision plans were submitted for review. Staff thought it was a 30% design, but the developers say it's at 90% design. These are not acceptable as is. This phase includes about 45 lots and the existing tank will accommodate these homes. A second tank and an upgrade the pump station will be required for the next phases. Alarm monitoring systems are not working properly at the business office and water treatment plant. Our contracts have been sold multiple times and the new alarm company said we would need to upgrade. They estimate \$6,000 for upgrades plus \$120 a month for monitoring. Bryan Christensen with Secure Solutions has been contacted to review our needs.

APPROVE HIRING NEW EMPLOYEE FOR LINE MAINTENANCE

At the previous meeting, the Board asked for information justifying the need of an additional new hire and if there is money in the balance of the 2023 budget. Micha explained we have money in budget to accommodate one more employee and prepared a spreadsheet of where that money would come from. We have saved money between the difference of the new hire and the retired person's wages and benefits and we saved money by not hiring 2 temporary employees that was in the budget. Beau has agreed that temporary employees will not be needed with this new employee. Beau also explained the need for an additional hire. The district has 739 more connections now than in 2007. The water system was radioed in 2002 and the radios are now going out and crews need to start replacing them. More sewer connections result in more need for the camera truck a camera crew which has been lacking due to injuries. We have had more leaks and more meter replacements this year. Also, with more lines due to take over of systems, more blue stakes are needed. In 2007, all staff had CDLs and were certified. Because of turnover, a lot of employees are without CDLs and more than half are not certified at the required level. Zauss moved to hire Braxton Atwood. Jensen seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss and Peterman.

APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-3 FOR CANCELLATION OF 2023 ELECTION

No write-ins were submitted and the deadline has passed, so the election can be canceled. Davis moved to approve Resolution 2023-3 for cancellation of the 2023 election as there are no other candidates. Zauss seconded and the motion passed unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss and Peterman.

APPROVE PURCHASE OF CHAIN & FLIGHT SPROCKETS AT WWTP

The WWTP needs to replace the drive sprockets on the Primary Clarifiers. Three suppliers were contacted for pricing. USA Roller Chains and Sprockets was the only supplier with a response quoting a price of \$1,874.15 for each and we need to purchase 3. Jensen moved to approve purchasing 3 drive sprockets from USA Roller Chain and Sprockets for \$5,622.45 plus shipping. Zauss seconded and the motion passed unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss and Peterman.

WWTP PRIMARY CLAIIFIER CONCRETE REPAIR

- A. WaterWorks engineers, staff from PRWID, and Vancon agreed upon a plan back in August, but now the designed is more robust. The original estimate was \$167,500, but VanCon is requesting an additional \$30,000 for the new design. Waterworks was questioned as to the need of the new design, and their structural engineers have assured that it is necessary. Richens suggests that the additional funds could be paid, but to require that the contractor will not charge any additional fees for delays, such as cold weather concrete work and honor this price if we do it in the spring. Funds will come from the PTF funds so there is no need to adjust the budget at this time. Zauss moved to approve the additional funds to Change Order #6 in the amount of \$30,000. Davis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss and Peterman.
- B. Zauss moved to approve the Work Change Order Directive. Davis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss and Peterman.

APPROVE CARBON COUNTY MAILER FOR PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

Carbon County will send out the mailer to the appropriate tax notice properties that are in the District's boundaries. Board members were provided a sample mailer in packet. The County Assessor's office will submit the average property value in the District's boundaries to the State Tax Commission. This new tax rate will generate an additional \$473k in revenue, but will not come to the district until year end of 2024. The notice will give the public hearing date and time and a phone number for questions and will save the district time and money. Peterman moved to approve the Carbon County Mailer for the proposed property tax increase. Second by Davis and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Davis, Jensen, Zauss and Peterman.

REVIW SUBMITTALS AND APPROVE AUDITOR CONTRACT FOR 2023

Six requests for proposals were sent for bids with four being returned. Smuin, Rich, & Marsing; Larson Certified Public Accountants; Squire and Company; and Gilbert and Stuart Certified Public Accountants. Staff reviewed all four submittals comparing various aspects of timing, costs, experience, distance, etc. Staff recommended using Smuin, Rich, and Marsing. Jensen moved to approve awarding Smuin, Rich, & Marsing the bid for a 1-year contract for 2023,

with staff determining if we extend the contract for the following three years. 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

None

Zauss moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Jensen seconded the non-debatable motion.



Keith Cox, Chairman



Kim Wood, Clerk