

COLUMBIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING  
November 15, 2024

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Shawver called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Present at the meeting were:

Vincent Shawver, President  
Neil Martin, Vice President  
Dallas Ayde, Director  
Sherri Thackham, Director  
Marilyn Dickenson, Director

Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager  
Lila Freshment, Recorder  
Jeff Sperline, Attorney

**Guests:**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Director Martin motioned to approve the agenda as submitted. Director Thackham seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Minutes of November 1, 2024**

Director Thackham motioned to approve the minutes of November 1, 2024. Director Dickenson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**CID/KID Drought Agreement**

Mr. Strifert reported that the Kennewick Irrigation District is working on a draft proposal, with completion anticipated within the next two weeks. Additional details and updates are expected to be available for discussion at the next meeting.

**CID Office/West Richland Property**

Mr. Strifert notified the Board of a property in Richland, which offers a total of 6,200 sq. ft. of space for a potential new office. Of this, 4,200 sq. ft. is available for use, while 2,000 sq. ft. is currently leased to a tenant through 2028. The building requires minimal modifications and includes a professional layout with potential for future expansion.

### **KSD School Bridges**

Mr. Strifert stated that he spoke to Enduris about the bridges. Joe Davis from Enduris suggested adding signage with the Districts contact information for problems with the bridge and “Use at Own Risk” on the sign. Mr. Strifert will work with the Districts attorney to finalize signage.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Operations Report**

Mr. Strifert reported that the District has begun working on winter projects. Liner material is expected within the next two weeks. The shotcrete lining projects will not be delayed by light rain, but heavy rain could shift focus to preparing other projects, removing concrete, or completing minor repairs. A mini excavator and skid steer are scheduled for pickup in the coming weeks to support ongoing work. The District is still waiting for a notice to proceed from the Bureau of Reclamation before beginning work on the gates.

### **PL 566**

Mr. Strifert outlined the PL566 program he is working on, aimed at addressing critical infrastructure needs. The funding program requires a 20% District match. While the program could provide up to \$50 million over 10 years, its time-intensive nature may impact applications for other grants like WaterSMART.

### **CID Tree Program**

Mr. Strifert informed the board about the potential benefits of acquiring a telehandler with a man basket for the CID Tree Program. He explained that this equipment would allow the team to trim trees and perform additional tasks, such as rolling out canal lining. The cost could range from \$25,000 to \$30,000 at auction and noted its versatility with various attachments. He emphasized the potential cost savings, efficiency, and flexibility this equipment could provide, especially on projects like the Kennewick flume.

### **Certification of Election – Division #1**

Director Shawver was the only candidate to submit a “*Petition of Candidacy*” for Division #1 and therefore being unopposed, retains his seat on the Board.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President Shawver moved the meeting into Executive session at 11:07 a.m., for 30 minutes, to discuss current litigation and District acquisition of real estate purchase. It was extended by 5 minutes at 11:37 a.m. The meeting was moved to an open session at 11:42 p.m.

**DIRECTOR DISCUSSION**

The Board members reviewed the travel arrangements for the upcoming WSWRA conference in Spokane. The Board was also reminded of the scheduled canal tour next Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

President Shawver adjourned the meeting to 291 Bradley Blvd, Richland at 10:31 a.m. for a tour of the building.

The meeting was reconvened at 10:54 am at 291 Bradley Blvd. Mr. Strifert conducted a tour of the office building and answered questions from the Board.

Director Thackham moved to have Mr. Strifert make an offer on the building as discussed in Executive session. Director Ayde seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Shawver adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

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Vincent Shawver, President

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Neil Martin, Vice President

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Sherri Thackham, Director

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Dallas Ayde, Director

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Marilyn Dickenson, Director

ATTEST:

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Curt Strifert, Secretary/Manager