

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

April 3, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Duaine Anderson.

Present were:

Directors

Duaine Anderson
Reid Baker
Don Osborne
Dennis Swinger, Jr.

Staff

Craig Simpson
Rosa Dekker
John McCourtie
Nate Andreini

Staff

Jon Erickson
Miriam Garcia
Jennifer Hubbard
Anna Franz

Visitors present: LJ Olsen; Kristina Ribellia, CBCD; Christina Wyatt, BBEC; Willy Visitors
Walter, Paul Wollman

Visitors via teleconference: Jennifer Hickenbottom, USBR; Mike Schwisow and Jake Wollman.

President Anderson opened the public comment period, and there were no public requests to discuss agenda items/non-agenda items. Public Comment Period

President Anderson opened the hearing of petition for Inclusions of Lands. The hearing remained open until the end of the meeting.

Manager Simpson presented new Executive Secretary Miriam Garcia. He also presented Neil Brooks with an award recognizing his 20 years with the District and presented Water Quality Supervisor Jamie Balliet with an award recognizing his 10 years with the District. Staff Recognition

Manager Simpson reported the March minutes should be amended to reflect a correction. Following discussion, Director Osborne moved to amend the March 6, 2024 minutes to reflect the corrections. Director Swinger seconded, and the motion carried. Minutes Approved

Manager Simpson presented the following contracts a. through j., for board consideration: District Improvements

Contracts

- a. Renewal Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract, Friehe Land Holdings LLC, 190-011-805, 654.34 acres
- b. Renewal Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract, Wheeler Trust, Berend Friehe Tr, 190-031-805, 132 acres
- c. Renewal Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract, Stahl HB Trust, 190-027-085, 960 acres
- d. Renewal Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract, Radach, 190-021-805, 477 acres
- e. Renewal Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract, for Groundwater Replacement amendment for Citation Farms, 390-078-809, adding 138 acres
- f. Renewal First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract, Bill Rosenberg and Charlotte Zidack Roseburg, 190/029-805, 131 acres
- g. Amendment, Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract, for Groundwater Replacement WHB Trust, 390-105-810
- h. Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract for Groundwater Replacement, Frank Tiegs LLC, 390-087-811, 540 acres.
- i. Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract for Groundwater Replacement, WHB Trust, 390-121-810
- j. Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract for Groundwater Replacement, WHB Trust, 390-122-810

Following discussion, Director Swinger moved to approve contract a-e., as presented. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried. Director Swinger moved to approve contracts f. and g., as presented. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried. Director Baker moved to authorize Manager Simpson to execute contract d. for Stahl HB Trust contingent upon a permit for a turnout and receiving the land reclassification from Reclamation. Director Swinger seconded, and the motion carried.

Manager Simpson stated contracts i. and j. are not yet ready for approval but expects document completion soon. Director Swinger moved to approve contracts i and j, contingent on completion of the contracts and review by appropriate staff. Director Baker seconded and the motion carried.

Manager Simpson reported staff approved and issued the following permits, consistent with board authorization:

Approved & Issued Permits

a. Adams County Public Works	Underground Cross	BLK 49 FU 88
b. Adams County Public Works	Underground Cross	BLK 49 FU 86
c. Adams County Public Works	Underground Cross	BLK 49 FU 86/87
d. Adams County Public Works	Underground Cross	BLK 49 FU 85/86
e. Adams County Public Works	Underground Cross	BLK 49 FU 82
f. Adams County Public Works	Underground Cross	BLK 49 FU 71
g. Adams County Public Works	Underground Cross	BLK 49 FU 39/70
h. Adams County Public Works	Underground Cross	BLK 49 FU 37/38
i. Adams County Public Works	Underground Cross	BLK 49 FU N/A

-2024-23-

j. Getzinger Farms	Inlet Pipe	190-14
k. Marlin HB Trust	Pump Div & Ret Flow	BLK 40 FU 804/804
l. Warden HB Trust	Turnout Connection	390-77-810
m. Warden HB	Turnout Connection	390-74-810
n. Callen Andersen	Erect and Maintain	BLK 49 FU 34
o. Chris Clark	Over Head Power	BLK 42 FU 301
p. Boe Clausen	Buried Crossing	BLK 43 FU 144
q. Airway Farms	Connection	BLK 46 FU 29
r. Airway Farms	Connection	BLK 46 FU 63

Vouchers audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the Board. After reviewing the vouchers submitted for payment approval, Director Baker moved to approve for payment check nos. 325747 through 325951 in the amount of \$977,492.03 and electronic Payroll and AP transfer in the amount of \$572,052.97 for a total of \$1,549,545.00 from the O&M Fund. Director Swinger seconded, and the motion carried.

Vouchers

Upon recommendation and on motion of Director Swinger, seconded by Director Baker, which motion passed unanimously, management was authorized to the Project Reserved Works First Half Installment Billing CY2024 1st half O&M estimate less CY2023 (Surplus)/Deficit, due April 30, 2024, as presented or as revised by Reclamation before April 30th.

Reserved Works

Manager Simpson presented Resolution 2023-10, Surplus Resolution. Following discussion, Director Swinger moved to adopt Resolution 2023-10 as presented and discussed. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

Resolution 2024-10

Manager Simpson reported no assents were received from Reclamation nor were any other comments received for the following Petitions for Inclusion of Land.

Order for Hearing for Petition for Inclusion of Land

- a. G&O Johnson, LLC No. 237
- b. Mary Jantz, LLC No. 234
- c. Loewen Farms, Inc. No. 238

Ms. Jennifer Korfiatis presented a public relations video on the OGWRP. She also gave an update of the District's website including the newsletter. She reported that the website traffic in February has increased by 20%.

Public Relations Update

Development Coordinator Erickson reported CBCD is working to get Under Secretary Bonnie to visit the OGWRP.

OGWRP:

Development Coordinator Erickson reported MHB is working with? the District and Reclamation to see what a private system could look like in the interim while agencies work toward funding for the system. He also reported that the District and CBCD are looking into whether MHB can assess themselves and move over to District oversight through LO contributions and whether or not that can be used to leverage RCPP asks.

EL11.8 Delivery System Update

Development Coordinator Erickson reported the 90% design of the EL22.1 Delivery System has been submitted to Reclamation for review. He also reported the LO's are identifying funding schedules with the District and so far have received \$5.5 M in this years supplemental capital budget.

[EL22.1 Delivery System Update](#)

Development Coordinator Erickson reported that Michele Kiesz is working with the LO's to determine their palate for the proposed MOU

[EL40.2 Delivery System Update](#)

Development Coordinator Erickson reported the break and repair of the fiber optic cable pipe on the EL 47.5 system.

[EL47.5 Delivery System Update](#)

Development Coordinator Erickson reported the landowner group decided to dedicate \$20/acre and execute a MOU.As a result, the next step is entering in to a design services agreement but first the landowners need to identify all the acres that they may want included.

[EL54 Delivery System Update](#)

Development Coordinator Erickson reported EL80.6 design efforts are moving forward. He also reported Reclamation is working to ensure that there are 1890 reservations on lands identified in the alignment.

[EL80.6 Delivery System Update](#)

Assistant Manager Andreini reported that the amendments to the Task Authorizations for design of the EL 80.6 and the EL 84.7 systems are for additional funds to cover scope changes resulting from incorporation of landowner requested changes into the system designs. The landowners were previously advised that the additional costs would need to be funded by the landowners or other non-District sources as the costs exceeded the public system cost limit. Discussion was tabled until after the executive session.

[EL84.7 Delivery System Update](#)

Assistant Manager Andreini presented the bid results and informed the board of the awards by Manager Simpson to LAD Irrigation for HDPE pipe and to Hobas Pipe for FRP pipe. Assistant Manager Andreini stated that the bids came in under the engineer's estimates and that this is a good start to keeping the project within budget.

[EL86.4 Delivery System Update](#)

Assistant Manager Andreini reported that several more bids need to be advertised soon in order to keep the materials arriving in time to meet the construction schedule. Director Swinger moved to authorize the call for bids for all remaining materials necessary for construction of the EL 86.4 system. Director Osborne seconded and the motion carried. Development Coordinator Erickson reported the District is moving forward with RH2 Engineering for the 60% design. RH2 is moving forward with title work for the easements.

[Watershed Plan Project Update](#)

The Memorandum of Understanding with Reclamation for federal title transfer of the EL 86.4 system was presented to the Board. Director Swinger moved to authorize staff to sign the MOU. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried. Development Coordinator Erickson reported the installment of the dike at the end of the canal and the District has started the procurement process. He also reported that staff has been meeting to discuss resource needs currently and, in the future, and this project is scheduled to be completed and delivering water in the 2025 water season.

[Space Utilization Study](#)

-2024-25-

Development Coordinator Erickson reported discussing scoping with the WSP team so we can progress the project. There is ongoing efforts to complete the EIS adoption and produce the Record of Decision (ROD).

Special Projects Administrator Bischoff reported he is meeting with Bernardo Wills every Thursday and hoping to get them to attend the next board meeting to present information and answer questions. [Partial Title Transfer](#)

Special Projects Administrator Bischoff reported that Reclamation still needs to identify acreage for two parcels and he has been working with Adams County to identify the parcel numbers for the two properties. [Columbia Basin Hydropower](#)

Manager Simpson reported no change from USBR development. [USBR Report](#)

Manager Simpson briefly reported on an upcoming CBP water rights meeting on April 5th. [CBP Water Rights](#)

Manager Simpson gave a 10(d)-transfer update and states that applications are being prepared. [10\(d\)Transfer Update](#)

Assistant Manager McCourtie requested authorization to call for the following bids: Butt Fusion Welding Machine and used water truck. He also requested authorization to purchase an excavator and a long reach excavator through Sourcewell. Following discussion, Director Swinger moved to approve calling for bids and the purchase of the excavators through Sourcewell, as requested. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried. [Quotes & Bids](#)

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:10 p.m., and the meeting reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

Manager Simpson reported a 2.5-4% increase is expected in the premium. Manager Simpson requested authorization to approve the insurance renewal upon clarification of the percentage of increase to the policy. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to authorize the Manager to bind the major property insurance. Director Swinger seconded, and the motion carried. [Insurance Renewal](#)

Manager Simpson reported he will be attending the NWRA Federal Water Issues Conference later this month in Washington, D.C. Some topics of discussion will be PL-566 funding, congressional approval for the Watershed Plan, Farm Bill funding, CBP completion and the Columbia River Treaty. [NWRA FWIC Topics](#)

Treasurer Dekker presented a Power Point reporting on her Ag Forestry trip. [Ag Forestry Presentation](#)

The renewal of the temporary crossing permit requested by Bob Gilbert for Country Morning Farms was moved to be approved by Director Baker. Seconded by Director Swinger, and the motion carried. [Temporary Crossing Permit Request](#)

-2024-26-

<p>The late seasonal change permit requested by Ralph Hirz, was moved to be approved subject to the payment of late fee of \$250 by Director Swinger, seconded by Director Osborne. EFO Manager Maynard reported on the main canal repair and the 10d request process.</p>	<p><u>Late Seasonal Change Request</u></p>
<p>Safety Supervisor Walraf presented the monthly safety report.</p>	<p><u>Safety Supervisor</u></p>
<p>District Engineer Gonzalez reported that staff has concluded with the surveys for conservation pipelines and the next phase is design, for installation next maintenance season. He also reported that the compaction test results for the EL 86.4 dike have been sent to Reclamation.</p>	<p><u>Engineer Report</u></p>
<p>Assistant Manager Andreini reported on the procurement of EL86.4 being a lot of work and reported on the bids the District received for the project. He also reported he attended meetings on the Reserve power rate and Diversion rate.</p>	<p><u>Asst Manager Technical Services</u></p>
<p>Treasurer Dekker reported the front office has been kept busy with landowners paying assessments, RRA paperwork, and combinations. She also reported that the exit audit passed in the areas of accountability, accounts payable, and statement report. There were three maturities and five investments last month.</p>	<p><u>Treasurer Report</u></p>
<p>Assistant Manager McCourtie presented a PowerPoint slide show with pictures and a video of water damage to SCBID's canal. He also reported on the Road W Bridge, stating staff were to finish priming on this day.</p>	<p><u>Assistant Manager O&M</u></p>
<p>Manager Simpson reported on the NWRA conference he will be attending later this month. He also reported on future membership dues which will be discussed in November's Board Meeting.</p>	<p><u>Manager Report</u></p>
<p>Manager Simpson also reminded the board about Clyde's Farm request for approval. Director Swinger moved to approve Manager's travel to meet with the Nevada irrigation districts on behalf of NWRA. Director Baker seconded and the motion carried.</p>	<p><u>Travel Authorization</u></p>
<p>Director Baker requested that staff make an assessment of any impacts of a downward adjustment to the Development Fee for the next board meeting.</p>	<p><u>Other</u></p>
<p>President Anderson declared an executive session at 2:40 p.m., for a total of 15 minutes, under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss potential litigation with legal counsel. President Anderson extended executive session to continue for 10 minutes until 3:05 pm.</p>	<p><u>Executive Session</u></p>
<p>Director Swinger moved to approve RH2 Task Authorization No. 6, Amendment No. 1 and Task Authorization No. 7, Amendment No. 1 with the understanding that the respective landowner groups will be charged for the additional cost if new outside funding is not available when payment is due. Director Osborne seconded and the motion carried.</p>	<p><u>Meeting Adjourned</u></p>

At 3:05 p.m., there being no further business to come before the Board at that time, President Anderson continued the Hearing for Petition for Inclusion of Lands to the next regular board meeting and adjourned the meeting.

Tabled RH2 Task
Authorization No.
6, Amendment
No. 1 and No. 7,
Amendment No.
1



President



Secretary

Minutes continue on page -2024-27-