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

April 1, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Vice-President Kevin Lyle.

Present were:

Directors	Staff	Staff
Kevin Lyle	Craig Simpson	Miriam Garcia
Reid Baker	Rosa Dekker	Jonathan Erickson
Don Osborne	Bobby Bischoff	Julio Gonzalez
Dennis Swinger, Jr.	Nate Andreini	
	Anna Franz	

Visitors

Visitors present: Marc Maynard, Jennifer Hickenbottom and Joslin McClure USBR; Kristina Ribellia, CBCD; Michele Kiesz, Alice Weber, Derek Erickson, Margaret Davis, Lee Davis, Dennis Treat, Dave Melville, Jim Melville, Aaron Mickelson, Rob Rickert, Randy Kiesz, Brian Kiesz, Derek Friehe, Dianne Borth, Benjamin Leavitt, Jerry Gross, and Paul Wollman.

Visitors via teleconference:, USBR; Mike Schwisow, Government Relations Consultant; McKenna Murray, ECY; Willy Walter, Eric Weber, and Jake Wollman.

Vice President Lyle recognized and welcomed all visitors and asked if there were any public comments. Derek Friehe requested a delay of collection of the $100/acre design services agreement initial contribution that is due on April 16th. Vice-President Lyle reported that the request and further public comments on the design services agreements will be addressed under the Odessa Groundwater Replacement Program (OGWRP) agenda item. Michele Kiesz requested an introduction of the visitors present.

Minutes Approved

Minutes of the regular meeting of March 4, 2026, had been mailed to the Directors. Following discussion, Director Swinger moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 4, 2026, as written. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

District Improvements

Manager Simpson presented the following contracts a. - m., for board consideration:

<u>Contract</u>

a. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Jenks Holding Company, LLC., 041-056-802-000-01, 9.5 acres
b. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Derek W & Amber N. Friehe, 042-092-802-000-01, 14.1 acres
c. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Derek W. & Amber N. Friehe, 042-094-802-000-00, 15.5 acres
d. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Donald E. & Dolores Sieverkropp, 042-159-802-000-02, 41.6 acres
e. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Sidronio Martin & Lelah A. Camacho, 042-159-802-000-04, 3.8 acres
f. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Gary Olson, 044-049-802-000-01, 27.1 acres
g. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Bartelheimer Land Enterprises, 044-216-802-000-00, 29.6 acres
h. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Kristi L. Boersma, 044-265-802-000-01, 28.2 acres
i. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Phyllis AnnMagden, ETAL., 044-265-802-000-02, 20.5 acres
j. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, BLK Cow Farms, LLC., 045-261-802-000-00, 14.9 acres
k. Renewal Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract, Rowley & Hawkins Land Co. LLC., 047-059-802-000-00, 26.0 acres
l. First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract for Groundwater Replacement, Skone & Connors Inc., 390-147-812-000-00, 225 acres
m. Renewal Temporarily Deferred Lands Water Service Contract, Leo Gaeta, 049-804-803-01, 27.9 acres

Manager Simpson reported contracts a. – k. are renewal water service contracts. These are several Temporarily Productive Water Service Contracts that have been expired for three years and need to be renewed. These Article 28 Water Service Contracts are associated with CBP Block development that has met its construction repayment obligation. The form of contract approved by Reclamation ties the contract to the repayment period. The District presented these landowners a one-year Temporarily Productive Water Service Contract to cover the 2026 water season to allow Reclamation more time to review water service contract options for the future. Staff recommended approval of the one-year Temporarily Productive Water Service Contracts. These contracts do not need to be recorded. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to approve contracts a. – k., as presented. Director Swinger seconded, and the motion carried.

Manager Simpson reported contract l. is a new water service contract for the EL 80.6 Delivery System for 225 acres. The landowner was only able to get a portion of their proposed land approved by the Department of Ecology for groundwater replacement from the system. Following discussion, Director Osborne moved to approve contract l. as presented. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

Manager Simpson reported contract m. is a renewal under Article 28 of the repayment contract. During the renewal, it was determined that there were a few issues with this contract. The contract included Class 6 ground; there was no active turnout, and water had not been ordered for over 15 years. Mr. Gaeta has made his annual payments nonetheless and would like to renew his contract. Staff recommend that the contract be renewed with conditions. The conditions include that the contract will be rewritten with the removal of the Class 6 land, Mr. Gaeta will need permitted coordination of a common delivery with his other two contracts, he will need to create easements to each parcel in the three contracts from his single turnout, and will need to show water use for commercial ag by the end of the 2027 irrigation season. This resulted in a reduction of 12.1 acres in the renewed contract. Mr. Gaeta agreed to these conditions and asked to have this requested on his behalf. Following discussion, Director Swinger moved to approve contract m. as presented. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried

Manager Simpson presented agreement a. for board consideration:

Agreements

a. Agreement for Permanent Release of Water Allotment, Mathew & Kathy Kascak, 045-250-095-205, 0.2 acres

Manager Simpson reported agreement a. is a release of water allotment for a small parcel of 0.2 acres. Following discussion, Director Swinger moved to approve agreement a., as presented. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

Vouchers

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 comparative 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. 329448 through 329466 and 2356 through 2588 in the amount of $5,021,427.51 and electronic Payroll and AP transfer in the amount of $619,563.52 for a total of $5,640,991.03 from the O&M Fund. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

Resolution 2026-04, Amended By-Laws

Manager Simpson presented Resolution 2026-04, Amended By-Laws. He reported that in January, the Board had approved minor updates to the By-Laws and the Rules and Regulations, but that those changes should be memorialized by resolution. The minor changes to the By-Laws included the start time of board meetings and an increase in the Manager's equipment purchase limit authority to $45,000. Following discussion, Director Swinger approved Resolution 2026-04, Amended By-Laws. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

Resolution 2026-05, Establishing Rules and Regulations

Manager Simpson presented Resolution 2026-05, Establishing Rules and Regulations. Similar to the amended By-Laws, the Board approved changes to the Rules and Regulations, but did not document the changes in a resolution. The approved updates included the addition of the EL 80.6, EL 84.7, and EL 86.4 delivery systems. Following discussion, Director Baker approved Resolution 2026-05, Establishing Rules and Regulations. Director Swinger seconded, and the motion carried.

1st Half Reserved Works Payment

Manager Simpson reported the 1st Half Reserved Works invoice has not been received yet, but has received some of the draft reconciliation documents that are used for billing. The Reserved Works payment estimate is still being determined by Reclamation.

Reclamation informed the District that they expect to issue the invoice soon. Manager Simpson reported he will be reviewing the invoice. Adjustments may be made to the billing prior to the final payment at the end of June. He reported we expect to receive groundwater credits that will impact the adjustments to the billing.

OGWRP:

Development Coordinator Erickson resumed discussion on the request to delay the \$100/acre design service agreement initial contribution that is due on April 16th. Senator Schoesler proposed a \$3.2M grant for design of the Remaining Acres' proposed delivery systems which was included in the approved state budget. Derek Friehe questioned the need to pay an initial contribution of \$100/acre if a \$3.2M grant will be allocated to the design of the remaining acres delivery systems. He requested a delay in payment to a future date. Director Swinger commented that it is a tough time for landowners to allocate the funds for the \$100/acre design service agreement initial contribution. Director Swinger moved to delay the landowner contributions and use the State funds to cover the design costs. Director Baker asked how many delivery systems there are. Development Coordinator Erickson replied that there are seven proposed delivery systems. Director Osborne seconded the motion to delay the landowner contributions and use State funds to cover design costs.

McKenna Murray with the Office of Columbia River (OCR) reported that the funds will be available to OCR, in July and the District would need to apply for the grant. The grant funds would likely be available between September and October. EFO Manager Maynard commented that inflation during the delay may exceed the benefit of the proposed grant by the State. Manager Simpson reported the District has recently hired staff to manage and design these proposed systems, and that delay could result loss in staff and higher costs. It would also create issues for completion of designs for some landowners. Director Swinger commented by delaying the payment of the initial contribution he is advocating for the landowners. Director Lyle asked if the development fund could be used for any OGWRP expenses. Manager Simpson reminded the Board that the \$3.2M in grant funds isn't enough to get to 30% design, and landowner contributions will be needed to get to 30% design. Attorney Franz asked what the total amount needed to fund the gap for design of the delivery systems from the present to the date the grant funds are needed. Director Lyle asked if the contribution could be decreased to \$25/acre. Development Coordinator Erickson replied the District should be cautious with changing the amount of initial contribution as not all systems are the same size and should be evaluated on a system-by-system basis. Manager Simpson asked the Board if they have considered asking which landowners do not want to delay the process and are ready to move forward regardless of the proposed grant.

Director Swinger claimed there are misunderstandings about the initial contribution and the overall cost of design. Manager Simpson commented that each delivery system landowner signed a commitment to pay for the design of the delivery system to include their requested acres. He suggested the board allow landowner groups who do not want to wait for a delay to be allowed to continue. Jennifer Hickenbottom, with Reclamation, commented that 30% design of each system is very expensive to complete. Derek Friehe replied that landowners signed the design agreements to continue moving forward with the program. He is hopeful that, at the next biennium, the State will continue granting funds to the program. He stated he is willing to pay the initial contribution, but would prefer to delay. Director Swinger commented that he recognizes the District will utilize the current proviso and state funding. Michele Kiesz commented that the grant is an actual appropriation and not a competitive grant as the Senator wanted to help the landowners to move forward with the remaining acres and is willing to wait for the release of the funds. Kristina Ribellia with Columbia Basin Conservation District (CBCD) suggested for landowner contribution to start with $10/acre. She is expecting funds from the PL-566 Plan to be granted for design.

Attorney Franz explained that under the Agreement that the landowners have signed, the landowners are obligated to pay for all of the design costs for their delivery system based on their acres; however, if grant funds are received, they are applied first. Attorney Franz explained that the Board has two options: authorize an amendment to change the initial contribution amount or due date, or direct staff to change the agreement and re-circulate to the landowners for signature. Development Coordinator Erickson reported he will need to amend the design services agreement to change the landowner contribution commitment date to reflect any new "due date" decided by the Board. Director Swinger rescinded his previous motion. Vice-President Lyle tabled further discussion until the end of the OGWRP report.

Assistant Manager Andreini requested authorization to use the MRSC roster to solicit qualifications for engineering services. The MRSC roster will be used to hire an engineering company to start designs for the remaining acres delivery systems. The board will approve selection of the most qualified engineering company and negotiate an agreement. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to authorize the District to use the MRSC roster to solicit qualifications for engineering services. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

Assistant Manager Andreini reported final updates are being made to the design and the bid documents for the 34.5 kV line extension in coordination with Big Bend Electric Cooperative (BBEC) for completion before the next water season. He intends for the power line extension bid to go out in April. Assistant Manager Andreini requested authorization to call for bids for the 34.5 kV line extension. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to authorize the call for bids for the 34.5 kV line extension. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

<u>EL11.8 Delivery System Update</u>

Development Coordinator Erickson reported Jerry Gross with MHB remains motivated to move forward with a public delivery system. Mr. Gross requested that staff inform the board about his interest in the District issuing bonds to fund the EL 11.8 Delivery System. Mr. Jerry Gross wants to keep moving forward and not delay the process. The 100% design is still being reviewed by Reclamation and the District, and easements still need to be acquired prior to starting construction. Manager Simpson reported the PL-566 Watershed Plan is currently in draft form and an associated Supplemental EIS (SEIS) must be completed prior to the start of construction of the EL 11.8 Delivery System.

<u>EL22.1 Delivery System Update</u>

Development Coordinator Erickson reported that an ECBID grant for the EL 22.1 Delivery System with Office of Columbia River (OCR) is still being reviewed at the executive level with OCR. They expect to have the grant executed later this month or within the next month. The grant is needed to complete a third-party estimate, continue meetings, and complete execution of an easement acquisition package with NRCS. Development Coordinator Erickson reported the EL 22.1 Delivery System landowner group wants to move forward. He also commented that Senator Schoesler anticipates starting the construction of the sump of the pump plant in the Fall of 2026. District Engineer Gonzalez gave a construction update and displayed a live video feed of the construction of the EL 80.6 Delivery System pumping plant. He reported C&E backfilled around the pump and added stop logs before the start of the water season. There has been minor water seepage through the stop logs. C&E Trenching is scheduled to place the elevated slab of concrete on April 17th. They will be placing rebar and installing scaffolding under the elevated slab. He reported he met with Future Pipe Industries (FPI) to discuss the pipeline material. Due to the current events in the Middle East, the pipe will not be delivered on time. He reported that FPI requested to extend their delivery date, but the District denied their request. The pipe will be transferred to a different port to be shipped. The pipe was scheduled to be delivered in late May, but is now scheduled to arrive in early June with all 42-inch pipe scheduled to arrive in mid-June. The 42-inch pipe installation will start at the pump plant.

EL80.6 Delivery System Update

District Engineer Gonzalez gave a construction update and displayed a live video feed of the construction of the EL 84.7 Delivery System pumping plant. He reported the construction of the EL 84.7 Delivery System is further ahead than the EL 80.6 Delivery System. The EL 84.7 Delivery System construction started later than the EL 80.6 Delivery System. Tapani has completed the placement of the elevated slab and completed the floor placement. He reported Tapani installed stop logs but had water seepage. They have been pumping out the water and will be placing a sealant to contain the leakage. The District construction crew size was diminished as the crew was relocated to the EL 68M to help finish that project. Director Lyle asked how long the scaffolding will stay under the elevated slab. District Engineer Gonzalez replied that it would depend on the water. Director Lyle asked if the turnouts have been welded and coated. District Engineer Gonzalez replied that the turnouts are currently being welded. Director Lyle also asked for an update on the EL 80.6 groundbreaking. Manager Simpson replied that PR Consultant Korfiatis has been trying to schedule a groundbreaking around NRCS Chief Bettencourt's availability. The potential groundbreaking ceremony would be scheduled for June.

EL84.7 Delivery System Update

Development Coordinator Erickson reported that Assistant Treasurer Garza has been working on the EL 84.7 Delivery System's, NRCS and State grant reporting and reimbursements. The NRCS approval of the first payment request was submitted. The reimbursement payment is estimated to have a quick turnaround. Director Lyle asked if state funds are easier to obtain. Development Coordinator Erickson replied that grants from NRCS, CBCD, and other state funds are similar to OCR.

Development Coordinator Erickson reported the work for the Supplemental EIS (SEIS) is moving forward. He also reported that the grant agreement with NRCS will expire on June 1st, 2026. There has been a one-year delay due to the pause of the watershed planning activities, but NRCS needs to keep the agreement current. He requested a no funding level change-grant agreement extension to June 1st, 2027. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to approve the grant agreement extension with NRCS to June 1st, 2027. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

Watershed Plan Project

Development Coordinator Erickson reported there are multiple individual groundwater replacement Water Service Contracts currently in place that are contractually required to

Remaining Acres

join a public system when it's available. There are multiple landowners that would like the ability to continue to use their private delivery systems and have requested not to be included in a public delivery system. A landowner on the EL 42.7 Delivery System contracted for nine acres, is requesting to remain on their private delivery system as their system meets the District's return flow requirement. Landowners requesting to remain on private systems will need to execute a Water Service Contract Amendment and meet the requirements of Resolution 2021-15, Individual Delivery Systems for OGWRP. Individual landowner systems will not negatively impact the normalized costs for OGWRP and will continue to pay the development fee. Following discussion, Director Osborne moved to approve the remaining acres requestors to remain a private delivery system subject to Resolution 2021-15, Individual Landowner Delivery Systems for OGWRP upon meeting the return flow requirement. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried. Director Lyle asked when the bridges will be needed. Development Coordinator Erickson replied that the timing depends on need and flow restriction.

Design Service Agreements

Director Swinger moved to approve the Design Service Agreements with the EL 4.8, 27.9, 40.2, 42.7, 54.0, 56.5, and 73.3 Delivery Systems and authorize an amendment to reduce the initial contribution to $50 per acre due April 16, 2026. Director Baker seconded. After discussion, Director Swinger withdrew his motion and moved to approve the design services agreements as presented and authorize an amendment to delay the due date of the initial contribution to May 15, 2026. Director Baker seconded and the motion carried. Director Swinger moved to grant staff the discretion to move forward with designs of systems that make payment of the initial contributions in advance of the new due date. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

Public Relations Update

PR Consultant Korfiatis gave an update on the website. She reported there was an increase in website traffic but a decrease in traffic for the e-newsletter. The increased website traffic targeted the open positions, job openings, and bid opportunities pages. She reported there were a couple of news hits on the website including interviews with Manager Simpson and the irrigation season water start-up date. PR Consultant Korfiatis displayed an ECBID produced video of the burning and priming of the East Low Canal during its water opening of the season. She also reported the Columbia Basin Development League (CBDL) is still working on the production of the short film update. PR Consultant Korfiatis gave an update on website ADA accessibility requirements and reported that the process hasn't started yet. Staff is currently working on changing the hosting services for the website. She reported that she is working on completing an infographic for CBP continued development to provide to Manager Simpson for our attendance of the NWRA Federal Water Issues Conference in Washington, D.C. PR Consultant Korfiatis gave an update on the production of the short film "The Race to Save a Declining Aquifer." The video's footage is being updated and she is planning to finalize interviews for the production. She also reported that she will be attempting to publish the live video feed of the EL 80.6 and EL 84.7 Delivery Systems to the website.

Headquarters Relocation

Assistant Manager Bischoff reported Bernardo Wills Architect is working on Task Order No. 4. This task order is for design development of the main office. Assistant Manager Bischoff requested time in executive session to discuss land acquisition.

USDA Water Savings Commodities

Assistant Manager Bischoff reported there is no update and he is not optimistic about the continued progress of the program. At the last meeting he attended with FFA, the

Ferguson Group, and USDA, regarding the program, it seemed as if USDA was questioning the validity of the program and how grant recipients were selected. He reported there is a significant amount of money involved with this grant.

Manager Simpson reported there is no significate update. CBHP took over the O&M of the PEC Headworks Plant and Quincy Chute and has started their first year of operations under CBHP. Manager Simpson reported he requested a change to utilizing the Reserved Works formula for the Districts' revenue and cost distribution for the hydropower plants in writing to the South District and Quincy District managers, but has not received a response yet. CBHP

Assistant Manager Andreini reported the Buy America, Build America (BABA) waiver is under review in the U.S. Department of Interior's "Made in America" office with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). He reported this is a good step forward in the nine-step process. SCADA

Manager Simpson gave an update on the draft of a policy that was published by the Department of Ecology (DOE) for public review and comment. He reported the comment period is open regarding the policy. The policy would inform Ecology's management of Columbia Basin Project (CBP) water rights and clarifies the right to use and reuse water within the project, and recognizes return flow reuse more clearly. CBP Water Rights

Manager Simpson reported the District has not received the renewal quote from Marsh McLennan Agency for 2026 Major Property, the Engineering Professionals Liability, and other insurance coverage yet. He reported the insurance company informed the District that a 5% increase is expected from the 2025 premium and a decrease in other areas. Manager Simpson reported that the insurance premium is included in the 2026 budget. He will be binding the coverage and will report on the finalized premium at the next Board meeting. Insurance Renewal

Assistant Manager Bischoff presented the following Endothall quotes for board consideration: Quotes & Bids

	Supplier	Amount
	Budget	$44,551.76
1	Cygnet	$39,375.00
2	ClearChannelVM	$39,375.00
3	Helena	$39,375.00
4	Nutrien	$39,375.00
5	Wilbur-Ellis	$39,375.00

Assistant Manager Bischoff reported there was a tie between the bidders and staff followed the District's tie-breaker protocol which resulted in awarding the bid to Cygnet. Manager Simpson awarded the bid to Cygnet due to UPL, the supplier, increasing its prices on April 1st. Assistant Manager Bischoff requested ratification of the bid for Endothall Products from Cygnet in the amount of $39,375.00, plus sales tax, as the lowest responsive bid. Following discussion, Director Osborne moved to ratify the bid for

Endothall Products from Cygnet in the amount of $39,375.00, plus sales tax, as the lowest responsive bid. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

Assistant Manager Bischoff gave an update on the purchase of two ½ ton pickups that were authorized for purchase through a purchasing pool in November. He reported the pickups had arrived for our fleet and are currently being equipped with radios and the District's decal and numbering.

Assistant Manager Bischoff presented the following Hot Mix Asphalt Patching for Road Crossings quotes for board consideration:

	Supplier	Amount
1	C&E Trenching	$33,450.00
2	Central Washington Asphalt, Inc	$37,400.00
3	All Service Asphalt, LLC	$55,500.00

Assistant Manager Bischoff reported the quote is for patches on Johnson Road, Hampton Road, and Danielson Road. The quote for Hot Mix Asphalt was authorized for purchase for the EL 84.7 Delivery System on Johnson Road to be completed in June. The quotes for the patches on Hampton Road and Danielson Road will be for conservation pipelines. Following discussion, Director Swinger moved to accept the quote for Hot Mix Asphalt Patching for Road Crossings to C&E Trenching in the amount of $33,450.000, plus sales tax, as the lowest responsive quote. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

<u>EL 68 MWW Railroad Crossing Update</u>

Assistant Manager Bischoff gave an update on the progress of the construction of the conservation pipeline for the EL 68M. He reported the project is still on schedule to be completed and is hopeful to have it completed for water deliveries today. The District's construction crew relocated to this project to help the Watermaster crew. EFO Manager Maynard appreciated the efforts made by the District to solve a problem that started off as a difficult process.

<u>W20 Water Conveyance Concept</u>

Manager Simpson gave an update on the W20 Water Conveyance Concept proposal. There is a movement looking to send CBP water through an extension of Quincy District's W20 lateral. This is being proposed for supplemental feed, the Port of Moses Lake M&I needs, and Moses Lake water quality improvements in the Rocky Ford arm. The District has not opposed this; however, Manager Simpson does have concerns of how it is being portrayed and what impacts it could have on other facilities and efforts. EFO Manager Maynard reported that he attended the W20 Water Conveyance Concept meeting and commented that it was a good meeting which proposed addressing M&I water needs without impacting irrigation water. Kristina Ribellia with CBCD appreciated the discussion regarding the W20 concept during the meeting. She reported she did seek OCR as a potential funding source as her intention is to move forward with the concept, but does not intend to compromise any of the funding that is intended to be allocated to the Districts.

<u>NWRA Topic Discussion</u>

Manager Simpson reported he, Assistant Manager Andreini and Assistant Manager Bischoff will be attending the NWRA Federal Water Issues Conference later this month in Washington, D.C. They will schedule meetings with NRCS. Some topics of discussion will include the Watershed for the approval of the executive summary, RCPP grants, and title transfer with Reclamation, realty staffing, and the USDA Water Savings Commodities Grant. Manager Simpson reported that Reclamation has stated that the title transfer process is streamlined and simple. He will be requesting support from the Ephrata Field Office realty staff to help with the District's title transfer. He also reported he will be acknowledging and expressing appreciation to our members of congress for their support. There will also be a meeting with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) regarding the NHPA Section 105 requirements. Manager Simpson reported he has been working with PR Consultant Korfiatis to create an infographic of the District to take to Washington, D.C. Director Swinger suggested discussing the continued development of the Columbia Basin Project (CBP) and to request for a study of Project completion to be started. He also suggested adding to the infographic what it means for the CBP to be completed.

EFO Manager Maynard gave a report on SCADA, Water Rights, and the W20 Conveyance Project earlier during the meeting. He also reported the District will be receiving the Reserved Works invoice later this week, with payment being due 45 days after. USBR Report

Treasurer Dekker reported the exit audit was scheduled last Friday. The audit resulted in an unmodified opinion. In 2022 and 2023, there was a liability labeled "Other Liability" that Treasurer Dekker attempted to resolve but ultimately sought out help with CLA. CLA broke contact with the District and failed to respond. The issue was resolved by the District, but it did result in a finding for 2024 financial audit. The District also received a management letter regarding the report of capital assets. Manager Simpson suggested the District buy equipment and utilize and depreciate it to a salvage value. Within the next year, the District will be evaluating how to not depreciate the assets to zero, as they will need to show a valued amount. Treasurer Report

Manager Simpson requested time in executive session to discuss personnel. Manager Report

Director Swinger moved to authorize the Board and appropriate staff to travel to the GFOA Annual Conference, June 28th - July 1st, 2026, in Chicago, IL., and the Administrative Professionals Conference, September 13th – 16th, 2026, in Nashville, TN. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried. Future Meetings

Vice President Lyle declared an executive session at 1:00 p.m., for a total of 20 minutes, to discuss personnel performance, acquisition of property, and potential litigation under RCW 42.30.110(b), (g), and (i). At 1:20 p.m., the session was extended for 20 minutes. At 1:40 p.m., the session was extended for 10 minutes. The board came out of executive session at 1:50 p.m. Executive Session

At 1:50 p.m., there being no further business to come before the Board at that time, Vice President Lyle adjourned the meeting. Meeting Adjourned

EAST COLUMBIA BASIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT
ORGANIZED
SEAL
1939
ADAMS COUNTY
WASH.

-2026-40-

President

Secretary

Minutes continue on page -2026-41-