

PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
March 5, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Price River Water Improvement District was held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the District's Service Center located at 265 South Fairgrounds Road, Price, Utah.

PRESENT

Keith Cox
Rick Davis
Barney Zauss
Ed Chavez

Jeff Richens
Micha Marelli
Kim Wood

EXCUSED

Scott Jensen

Chairman Cox welcomed all in attendance to the meeting noting all Board Members are present with the exception of Scott Jensen who is excused.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cox led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR TWO BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMEBERS

Rick Davis representing Price City and Ed Chavez representing Helper City took the Oath of Office to serve as PRWID board members.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

POSSIBLE CONFLICT WITH AGENDA ITEMS

There were no conflicts with Agenda Items.

MINUTES

The Chair asked for input to the minutes of the February 20, 2024 board meeting. Zauss moved to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2024 meeting. Davis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Davis and Zauss.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS BY BOARD

Zauss reported that the WWTP continues to sample for the COVID study. They have done a lot of work around the digester, worked on the HVAC, and are removing old piping in the tunnels. The collected soil samples around the grassy areas, plowed snow, and collected 337 lab tests.

Chavez reported that the line maintenance crews repaired the RV dump yard hydrant, installed new brass fitting and reducers, ordered parts for stock and jobs. Crews set a 1-inch meter in the old industrial park, set another 1-inch meter at 4944 S 1000 E for the Mills, have cleaned out pump houses, marked and completed all blue stake requests, checked lift stations, helped with asphalt repairs, and helped Chris read meters.

Davis reported that the WTP water demand is down, but they are still working a day shift and a swing shift while receiving 600 gallons from Price. The District received an invoice from Amerigas dated 1/11/24 where they are charging PRWID for a tank rental from 8/19/22 through 8/18/23. We have contacted them many times to pick up their tank in 2021 so the invoice is in dispute. The basements lights are being changed to LED lights as well as in the filter area. Operators have been dealing with a lot of slush in the sand traps because of the winter storms.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens reported that he received another 2-week notice from another employee today. We are currently excepting applications for the Line Maintenance Dept., so staff would like to hire two of the candidates from this pool of applicants. Richens reminded the new board representatives that the District needs letters from the two cities authorizing these members being appointed to the board. Utah Retirement Systems has set Tier II limits at 10% going to employee's retirement by employer. Tier II employees are all those enrolling in URS after July 1, 2011. As of July 1, 2024, the retirement rate that will be required to be paid to URS for the employee will change to 10.75%. In the Legislative session all the entities were asking if URS can raise the limit or allow the entities to pick up the additional contribution. URS was fine with it, but the state did not act on it during this session. Richens talked with our URS representative today and she explained that the State of Utah is going to compensate their Tier II employees the extra 0.75%. Richens asked her if the District can compensate Tier II employees to their 401K to keep it in balance. The URS representative said that we would need to talk to our attorney. Richens is asking the board if it is okay to contact the attorney with those questions. He will try to have something for the next meeting. Richens gave a final legislative update of the new laws that passed in the legislative session that could affect the District.

APPROVE 2024-2027 WATER LEASE FROM PACIFICORP

An updated water lease agreement with PacifiCorp for their direct flow rights was presented to the Board for review and approval. Davis moved to approve the 2024 -2027 Water Lease Agreement from PacifiCorp. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Davis and Zauss.

APPROVE AWARD FOR 2024 VEHICLE PURCHASE BID

Vehicle bids were opened on March 1, 2024 and evaluated. A bid assessment was presented to the board for the vehicles and for the service beds. Chavez moved to approve the purchase from Larry H. Miller Ford for the vehicle and Reading Truck for the service bed. Zauss seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Davis and Zauss.

APPROVE AWARD FOR REMAINING EAST PROPERTY FENCE AND GATE

The East Property Fence bids were opened on March 1, 2024 and evaluated. Bids were presented to the board for the remaining fence around the East property. Zauss moved to approve the bid from Southeast Fencing for \$30,856.21. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Davis and Zauss.

APPROVE 2024 WATER LEASE TO PUBLIC AND SET PRICING

Both the Carbon Water Conservancy District and the Price River Water User's Association have confirmed that water share delivery for 2024 will be at 100%. Staff is recommending offering up to 1,200 shares for lease at a rate of \$30.00/share. Zauss moved to approve leasing up to 1,200 water shares to the public for \$30.00 each with a limit of 25 shares per person starting March 6, 2024. Davis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Davis and Zauss.

APPROVE BRAXTON ATWOOD CHANGE FROM PROBATION TO PERMANENT STATUS WITH RAISE IN WAGE SCALE STEP

Beau Fausett has submitted a letter requesting that Braxton Atwood receive a status change from Probation to Permanent and receive the step and compensation in the wage scale. This will take effect March 25, 2024. Chavez moved to approve Braxton Atwood's change to permanent status with the accompanying wage increase. Zauss seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Davis and Zauss.

APPROVE 3 EMPLOYEES TO ATTEND THE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE APRIL 24-26, 2024

Three employees are requesting to attend the Water Environment Association of Utah conference April 24-26, 2024 at a cost of \$365.00 plus motel. This is a wastewater treatment centered training. Attendees would be Blain Shipley, Jake Gray and Jeff Richens. Davis moved to approve three employees to attend the Water Environment Association of Utah conference April 24-26, 2024. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Davis and Zauss.

APPOINT VICE-CHAIR OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Zauss moved to appoint Davis as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Davis and Zauss.


CLOSED SESSION

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Davis mentioned to Richens about reviewing the water exchange agreement between Price City and PRWID from 1985. Davis is requesting to have Richens add this to the next agenda for the Board to review the agreement and decide if there are any changes needed.

Davis moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Zauss seconded the non-debatable motion.



Keith Cox, Chairman



Kim Wood, Clerk