

PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

June 17, 2025

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Price River Water Improvement District was held on Tuesday, June 17, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the District's Service Center located at 265 South Fairgrounds Road, Price, Utah.

Present

Keith Cox
Ed Chavez
Scott Jensen
Barney Zauss

Jeff Richens
Micha Marrelli
Kiera Luke

Excused

Rick Davis

Chairman Cox welcomed all in attendance to the meeting and excused Rick Davis from the meeting, as he was out of town.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

POSSIBLE CONFLICTS WITH AGENDA ITEMS

There were no conflicts with agenda items.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 3, 2025 meeting were reviewed by the Board. Two spelling errors were identified and corrected. Jensen moved to approve the minutes from the June 3, 2025 meeting with those corrections. Chavez seconded and the motion passed unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Jensen, and Zauss.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Zauss reported that the Water Treatment Plant is currently operating continuously, twenty-four hours a day, and is producing an average of 3.5 to 4.0 million gallons of water per day. 300 gallons per minute are being supplied to Price City. The backwash air rate-of-flow valve has been installed and inspected by an electrician, who confirmed that the system is functioning properly. Zauss also noted that the plant will begin weekly testing for Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) starting June 16. In compliance with Homeland Security recommendations, a security camera has been installed at the front of the facility, and warning signs have been placed along the fence to clearly indicate security measures. In addition, staff have been engaged in landscaping and general cleaning around the plant grounds.

Jensen provided updates from the Wastewater Treatment Plant operations. Sampling for COVID-19 is ongoing. Staff have been repairing asphalt, working in the lift station dry well, and servicing the southwest primary clarifier. They are currently pumping from the facultative sludge basin and performing routine grounds maintenance, including lawn mowing and spraying

herbicide when weather conditions allow. In the past two weeks, 309 laboratory tests have been completed.

Chavez had no updates to report during this meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens reported that three candidates have officially filed for the upcoming board election this fall: Chris Haycock, Ray Savala, and Keith Cox.

As of the day before tonight's meeting, the Scofield Reservoir was approximately four inches below the spillway. He also shared that Phase V of the Ballpark Subdivision is moving forward with ten approved lots, all of which have met current requirements. However, the original hydraulic analysis for the area included a looped water line, which may no longer be completed due to the sale of certain properties. This may present challenges if or when this development enters Phase VI.

Richens addressed a previous inquiry from Zauss regarding PRWID's role in subdivision plat approvals. While a formal legal opinion is still pending, the District's attorney expressed concern that PRWID is not required to sign subdivision plats and noted the lack of a designated signature block. A more detailed legal statement is expected in the near future.

The protest hearing that was mentioned and all were invited to during the last meeting, was held last week. Several individuals attended and shared comments. There was general agreement that the Carbon Canal Company may use the water in question; however, many attendees emphasized the need for clear, enforceable usage guidelines. A decision is expected within 30 to 60 days.

As the board has previously discussed, an updated water exchange agreement with Price City is still being worked out. The city is considering borrowing around \$15 million for improvements to their spring water collection line. However, Richens noted that the proposed water exchange rates do not align with the cost difference of treated water provided during peak months (June through August). PRWID has requested additional financial analysis from the city's public works director and is awaiting a response.

Richens recommended that the District host a local flagger certification class. This would cost \$60 per participant. He has reached out to UDOT, Carbon County, Price City, and other regional partners to organize a combined training event. Holding the training locally would be significantly more cost-effective than sending employees out of town.

To conclude his report, Richens invited the board to tour the new East Maintenance Building following the meeting this evening. The interior lighting is now operational, although the air conditioning and other systems are not yet functioning.

RESOLUTION 2025-3: CERTIFIED TAX RATE

The Board reviewed Resolution 2025-3 outlining the Certified Tax Rate, the percentage (0.000660), and the proposed funds (\$1,053,432.00) to be received. Chavez moved to approve and adopt Resolution 2025-3. Zauss seconded and the motion passed unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Jensen, and Zauss.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SCADA SOFTWARE UPDATE PURCHASE

With the updated computers at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, updated software to interface the programmable logic controllers (PLC) to the SCADA computer is needed. A sole-source purchase proposal for Allen/Bradley software was presented. Zauss moved to approve the

purchase in the amount of \$15,494.94 for the WWTP software. Jensen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Jensen, and Zauss.

APPROVE SIX LINE MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEES TO ATTEND THE WATER OR WASTEWATER OPERATOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING

Richens explained that because of so many recent hires in the Line Maintenance department and the progression in training, there is the need for six individuals to receive training in preparation for certification testing. The training will be online, cost is \$250 per employee, and will cover Grade 1 and Grade 2 levels for both water and sewer operations for the various employees. Jensen moved to approve the cost for the training. Chavez seconded and the motion passed unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Jensen, and Zauss.

APPROVE IEGEC PARTIAL PAYMENT #6 FOR EAST MAINTENANCE BUILDING

Richens explained that this payment includes costs for subcontractors covering concrete, plumbing, and electrical work, and brings the project to the retainage phase with approximately \$70,000 remaining on top of that. Chavez moved to approve the partial payment #6 in the amount of \$188,657.75. Zauss seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Cox, Chavez, Jensen, and Zauss.

CLOSED SESSION

No closed session was held

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Zauss inquired about overall staff morale, particularly in light of recent hires. Richens reported that the new employees are doing well and seem to be adjusting quickly. He stated that the team is motivated by job security, retirement benefits, and access to health insurance.

Richens also informed the board that the auditors will present their report during the second board meeting in July.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Chavez, and was seconded by Jensen at 7:30PM.


Kim Wood, Clerk


Keith Cox, Chairman