

PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

August 19, 2025

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Price River Water Improvement District was held on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 7:00 pm at the District's Service Center located at 265 South Fairgrounds Road, Price, Utah.

Present

Keith Cox	Jeff Richens
Rick Davis	Micha Marelli
Ed Chavez	Kiera Luke
Scott Jensen	
Barney Zauss	

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Cox at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed all to the meeting and noted that all Board members were in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Davis 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 August 5, 2025 meeting were reviewed by the Board. Upon a motion by Zauss that was seconded by Chavez, the minutes were approved unanimously. AYE: Chavez, Davis, Cox, Jensen and Zauss.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Zauss reported that the Water Treatment Plant has been operating continuously, running twenty-four hours a day at a capacity of four million gallons per day, and also delivering 300 gallons per minute to Price City. The recent flooding issue with the chem building was traced to a faulty actuator limit switch, for which parts were salvaged from an older unit. A sludge decant pump was sent to Tram Electric for a quote on a potential rebuild. While quotes for new pumps have been received in the range of \$34,000 with a lead time of approximately 22 weeks, a rebuild estimate has not yet been provided. Given the age of the pump and the uncertainty regarding the longevity of the second similar pump, it was suggested that rebuilding may be the best course of action. Richens shared that once the costs and availability of the parts are known, rebuilding will likely prove to be the most viable option. A third option under consideration is researching different types of pumps that could perform the same function. Zauss then moved on by sharing that harmful algae testing continues every Monday. Additionally, high-pressure warnings at the Austrian vault in were resolved by lowering the water level from 38.8 feet to 37.5 feet.

Jensen shared that the Wastewater Treatment Plant continues to sample for COVID-19, along with regular influent samples collected at the sample shed being constructed over the influent sampler. The south primary clarifier and south secondary clarifier are being cleaned and maintenance performed. Crews are also cleaning the facultative sludge basin, repairing sprinkler lines, mowing, and spraying herbicide. A total of 256 laboratory tests were completed over the past two weeks.

Chavez reported that he had no items to bring forward. Richens noted that Tony was absent for part of the day, and that may be the reason for a report not being sent.

Davis shared updates he received from Jacob and reported on the recent leak at the Morris property, explaining that final repairs required the services of an outside hot welder. The work was completed successfully earlier today and the issues have been resolved. Richens added that photos of the repair process will be presented at a future meeting. Davis also noted that crew reassignments are underway, and lead and copper samples are scheduled to be collected in September.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens reported that the flooring installation at the front of the building and entryway has been completed, stating that it looks good and is expected to last for many years.

He also provided an update regarding a harassment claim that had previously been brought before PRWID. At the time, the complainant was informed they had 90 days to pursue the matter further. As 105 days have now passed with no filing, PRWID is no longer subject to the claim.

Richens met with the representatives of the non-disclosed company interested in water reuse, along with state water quality officials. The Water Quality Board offers financial assistance through a low-interest loan option to support such a project. Richens emphasized during a virtual meeting that before any progress can be made, the company must sign the necessary documents guaranteeing their intentions to move to the area and commit to use the water. In addition, the engineering firm chosen by the company will be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement and provide clarity on intended water use and other key details, which has not yet been disclosed.

Richens also presented a sample letter, drafted with placeholder names and dates, that he proposes to send to several engineering firms. The goal is to solicit proposals from several firms with the necessary expertise to support PRWID's needs. Firms identified for potential outreach include Jones and DeMille, Johansen and Tuttle, Waterworks, Frandsen, and others. He requested board feedback on additional firms that should be considered and intends to raise the matter at the upcoming superintendent meeting tomorrow.

APPROVE APPLIANCE PURCHASE FOR EAST MAINTENANCE BUILDING

The board reviewed quotes for a new refrigerator, microwave, and stove, noting that the difference in cost in relation to the counter depth options didn't necessarily justify the choice of the higher value quote. Chavez moved to approve the purchase of the appliances from Home Depot for \$2,179.98. Zauss seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Chavez, Davis, Cox, Jensen and Zauss.

APPROVE SHELVING PURCHASE FOR EAST MAINTENANCE BUILDING

The board considered shelving purchase options and decided to move forward with the purchase from Amazon at a cost of \$2,277.50. Zauss moved to approve the purchase. Davis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Chavez, Davis, Cox, Jensen and Zauss.

APPROVE DECANT PUMP REBUILD IN-LIEU OF PURCHASE

Richens explained that if a favorable quote is received before the next board meeting is scheduled, he will circulate the information to the board via email. But he would like to move forward authorizing the rebuild and have the board ratify the action rather than delay the process another two weeks. Zauss moved to approve the rebuild at a cost not to exceed \$20,000. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Chavez, Davis, Cox, Jensen and Zauss.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENTAL P-CARDS

Micha discussed alternatives to the Capital One credit card used exclusively at Walmart. Following the audit, and in consultation with Darin Lancaster, she recommended pursuing credit cards through Zions Bank for each department. Under the proposal, each supervisor would receive a card with spending limits set by the board. Micha would monitor expenditures to ensure accountability and accurate tracking. Currently, three district cards are in circulation held by Richens, Micha, and Kim. All receipts are cross referenced for tracking purposes. Micha emphasized that additional cards would be useful for purchases at vendors without an established charge account, such as Tractor Supply or Harbor Freight. After this discussion, Zauss moved to approve departmental purchasing cards with a \$1,000 ceiling limit. Davis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Chavez, Davis, Cox, Jensen and Zauss.

CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session held.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Micha distributed copies of the district's financial statements through June of the current calendar year. She stated that the district is in good standing financially, that the departments are within budget at 50% of the year, and encouraged board members to reach out with any questions.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Chavez which was seconded by Davis at 8:00 p.m.


Kim Wood, Clerk


Keith Cox, Chairman