

PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
February 17, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Price River Water Improvement District was held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the District's Service Center located at 265 South Fairgrounds Road, Price, Utah.

Present

Rick Davis	Jeff Richens
Scott Jensen	Micha Marrelli
Ed Chavez	Kiera Luke
Chris Haycock	Terry Willis
Bryan Thayn	

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rick Davis. He noted that all board members were present and thanked everyone in attendance. He also noted that the meeting would follow the order outlined in the agenda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

By invitation from Davis, Haycock led all in attendance in 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 February 3, 2025 meeting were reviewed by the Board. Jensen moved to approve the minutes as written. Chavez seconded and the motion passed unanimously. AYE: Chavez, Haycock, Davis, Jensen, and Thayn.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Chavez shared that since February 3, the Water Treatment Plant has been receiving 500 gallons per minute from Price City, which was increased to 550 gpm on February 13 and then to 600 gpm on February 14 at Price City's request. The system has been operating at an average of approximately 1.5 MGD. Comprehensive inspections, cleaning, and chain-and-flight maintenance were completed on the pre-treatment basins, which have since been refilled. Flocculation and sedimentation basins were also cleaned, inspected, and returned to service. Staff compiled five years of raw turbidity and water quality data for Hazen and Sawyer with a borrower's agreement prepared for execution prior to document transfer. Two operators, Scotty Burns and Daniel Martinez, successfully completed Entry Level Driver Training and passed their driving tests, earning Class A CDL licenses. Work continues on updating the source protection plan. The mini-split HVAC unit has been installed and is operating as expected. The decant pump has shipped after several vendor delays, including correction of impeller installation and replacement of the mounting base at no additional cost. Staff is awaiting delivery to complete installation.

Haycock reported that the Wastewater Treatment Plant continues participation in the state COVID-19 and measles sampling study. Repairs were completed on the headworks bar screen press to maintain reliable operations. Crews performed general housekeeping, including cleaning the shop and re-covering laboratory counters with protective plastic. Roads and gutters around the plant were cleaned, and gravel road repairs were completed in and around the facility. Quarterly Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing for the first quarter was successfully completed. Staff also repaired the dissolved oxygen probe in the aeration basin to ensure accurate process monitoring. A total of 248 laboratory tests and samples were collected and analyzed over the two-week period.

Jensen then reported that the Line Maintenance staff completed the Gary Scow meter set and responded to multiple leaks, including a major repair at the Williams Pipeline building in Carbonville where a failed 6-inch valve was replaced and road base restored. Crews completed follow-up cleanup at old leak locations and meter sets throughout the county. Water crew activities included weekly station checks, work order support, and assisting other departments as needed. Sewer crews replaced a frozen and cracked 2-inch winter water meter, completed monthly siphon and rectifier inspections, and assisted with the Williams leak repair. Blue Stakes staff completed daily and emergency locates, monthly samples and residuals, and assisted water and sewer crews as staffing allowed. Inspections of air vacs were initiated as time permitted. Administrative duties included reviewing 12 applications for an open position, building new tap machines for trucks, completing timecards and purchase orders, and attending weekly supervisor meetings. Staff attended the Blue Stakes of Utah 811 Seminar for continued training. Additional support was provided for meter reading, shut-off notifications, and monthly meter reads.

Lastly, Thayn shared an update from the Fleet Department. They continued routine preventive maintenance on large trucks, equipment, and light-duty vehicles. Unit #18, a 2006 International 7600 dump truck, was removed from service due to excessive engine blow-by and is currently being diagnosed for potential engine or cooling system issues. The WWTP 2002 Case backhoe was also taken out of service and transported to the west maintenance building for evaluation and repair of a leaking input shaft seal. Work continued on interior walls at the East Maintenance Building, including electrical and plumbing tasks. The PKS automotive lift was relocated and fully installed in the East Maintenance Building, including anchoring, electrical wiring, airline installation, hydraulic oil replacement, safety sensor alignment, and testing. Installation of the Omni waste oil burner furnace was completed, with the exception of a storm collar that remains on backorder. Daniel Martinez completed additional training and successfully passed the Utah State CDL Skills Test on February 12. During CDL driver training, a tailgate was not properly latched, resulting in rock debris damaging a vehicle windshield. The incident was addressed, an invoice for windshield replacement will be processed, and drivers and trainers were retrained on required walk-around inspections before entering public roadways. Richens added that the employees were training to haul a load and the driver thought he had the gate shut on the truck. When the gate was not latched, rock fell onto the road way and unfortunately damaged a windshield. The individual that this happened to was very understanding and a replacement is already being taken care of.

Before moving on, Chavez did inquire about some of the work done while setting the meter at Gary Scow's property. He asked if PRWID bored under the farm road like they offered to do previously. Richens shared that Gary Scow did not respond to the offer, so they only set the meter where he had placed a stake, but that PRWID is still willing to bore under the farm road. He also clarified that before this is done, Scow will need to sign a release as well as pay for the materials.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens reported that discussions with Project Everest regarding wastewater reuse are ongoing. The proposed study report has been sent to Everest for review so they may determine whether they are willing to fund the project. The report was also forwarded to the County Commissioner over economic development and the District is awaiting a response. Richens then provided the Scofield Reservoir update, noting the reservoir remains approximately six feet from spilling. Scofield's theoretical flow is currently 2.67 and has remained steady for approximately five days. This is expected to increase once the mine pumping resumes. He then presented a mid-session legislative update in his role as Chair of the Utah Association of Special Districts. Of the approximately 175 bills being tracked statewide by the Association, he highlighted some of those with potential impacts to PRWID:

- **House Bill 19** has been withdrawn.
- **House Bill 69** remains under consideration.
- **House Bill 73** strengthens whistleblower protections for contractor employees reporting unsafe conditions.
- **House Bill 147** would require government entities to offer electronic submission of public forms via their websites.
- **House Bill 165** mandates notification to the Utah Cyber Center within two hours of any data breach.
- **House Bill 246** expands employee drug testing methods to include oral fluid and blood testing.
- **House Bill 292**, related to the 1984 subordination agreement affecting Carbon County, was removed from committee but may reappear.
- **House Bill 355** proposes exceptions to governmental immunity related to nuisance claims involving public facilities.
- **House Bill 449** proposes a constitutional amendment requiring voter approval for tax increases.
- **House Bill 501** would require tiered water rates and demonstration of financial effort prior to seeking public funding.

Chair Davis asked whether funds generated through tiered rates could be tracked in a separate budget line item. Richens responded that the intent of the legislation is to ensure proper financial processes are followed before seeking additional funding. Marrelli opined that a separate account could be set aside for these funds.

Richens also summarized Senate legislation:

- **Senate Bill 64** addressing GRAMA fee structures
- **Senate Bill 97** which limits how impact fees may be saved and used geographically.
- **Senate Bill 209** Richens explained that after testifying in opposition, the bill was initially defeated on February 4. However, substitute language was introduced and passed on February 9, authorizing a study into a potential state park and dam project. A subsequent substitute has been drafted. Richens stated that prior studies by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Army Corps of Engineers should be considered. The fiscal note for the bill is \$10,000. Richens then shared that there are about fourteen days left of the legislative session and he would likely have the final report after the next meeting.

### APPROVE PURCHASE OF CHLORINE VACUUM REGULATOR

Richens shared a request from the Water Plant to purchase a replacement chlorine vacuum regulator due to a cracked housing that could not be repaired. Two quotes were reviewed: Evoqua Water Technologies at \$3,111.69 and Weidner & Associates at \$2,558.27. Chavez moved to approve the purchase of the regulator from Weidner & Associates for \$2,558.27. Thayn seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Chavez, Haycock, Davis, Jensen, and Thayn.

### REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT FORM AND PUBLIC SIGN-IN FORM

Davis deferred discussion to Chavez, who explained that Helper City requires public comment forms to be submitted in advance of the meeting and limits speakers to two minutes. The intent is to inform the Board of upcoming comments and ensure orderly meetings. The Board expressed support for the proposed forms. Richens noted that school boards are required to allow public comments at meetings while city councils, commissions, and boards are not, and all entities can set procedures in place to govern public comment. Richens will present proposed public comment procedures at the next meeting.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEE ORGANIZATION

1. Oath of office of new board member
  - a. Micha Marrelli administered the oath of office to Terry Willis, who will serve as PRWID Board Member representing Price City.
2. Reorganization of board leadership
  - a. Davis reminded the board of his intent to step down and the need to select a new chair and vice-chair. Chavez moved to appoint Jensen as Chair. Haycock seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Chavez, Haycock, Jensen, Thayn and Willis.
  - b. Haycock then moved to appoint Chavez as Vice-Chair, which was seconded by Jensen. The motion carried unanimously. AYE: Chavez, Haycock, Jensen, Thayn and Willis.
3. Assignment of departments
  - a. Willis was assigned oversight of Line Maintenance. All other Board Members will retain their current departmental assignments.

### CLOSED SESSION

There was no need for a closed session.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Haycock shared that he visited the Wastewater Plant and shared that he had discussions regarding attendance at the upcoming WEAU Conference. Blaine will attend, while Jake is unable. Haycock expressed interest in sending another employee to gain experience. Richens responded that the conference typically targets Grade 4 operators and that others who may attend that do not have that Grade 4 mastery may not understand the content or instruction.

Richens then took the time to formally thank Chairman Davis for his service on the Board, noting his municipal experience and willingness to engage deeply with district operations. Davis expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve and humorously apologized to Marrelli for frequent budget questions, which was met with positive acknowledgment.

Marrelli reminded Jensen and Chavez that they will need to complete the paperwork authorizing them to sign financial and other documents.

With no further business at that point, the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Chavez which was seconded by Jensen at 7:57pm. AYE: Chavez, Haycock, Jensen, Thayn, and Willis.

  
Scott Jensen, Chair

  
Kim Wood, Clerk