

PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

May 19, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Price River Water Improvement District was held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the District's Service Center located at 265 South Fairgrounds Road, Price, Utah.

Present

Scott Jensen	Jeff Richens
Ed Chavez	Micha Marrelli
Chris Haycock	Kiera Luke
Bryan Thayn	David Jelin
Terry Willis	Lynna Topolovec

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Jensen, who welcomed all in attendance. He noted that all board members were present. He also noted that the meeting would follow the order outlined in the agenda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

By invitation from Jensen, Haycock led those 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 May 5, 2026 meeting were reviewed by the Board. Chavez moved to approve the minutes. Haycock seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Thayn shared that the Fleet Department continues to perform preventative maintenance on large trucks and equipment, including fueling, greasing, inspections, and necessary repairs. The WWTP Polaris UTV was serviced, and during inspection technicians found a torn CV boot. Parts were ordered, repairs completed, and the unit has since been returned to service. Repairs to the Yanmar Tractor were also completed and the tractor was delivered to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Repairs on Unit #18, the 2006 International 7600 Dump Truck, have been completed. Following engine repairs and road testing, crews identified a leaking primary air tank fitting that required a specialty replacement part. As of May 19, 2026, the repairs were finalized and the truck has been returned to service. Unit #3, a 2013 Chevrolet 3500HD, was diagnosed with a failing A/C compressor after the driver reported severe squealing noises from the engine compartment. Parts have been received, refrigerant reclaimed, and crews are currently replacing the A/C compressor, accumulator, and orifice tube. Building and grounds crews continued spraying lawns for weed control, mowing, and trimming at the Service Center facilities. Work also continues at the East

Maintenance Building, where building supplies have been received and crews are constructing the mezzanine flooring above the utility rooms and continuing work in Utility Room #1. Fuel usage and fuel level logs continue to be maintained. The department also obtained fuel quotes and received deliveries of 700 gallons of ultra-low sulfur diesel and 2,500 gallons of unleaded fuel.

Chavez reported that the Water Treatment Plant has been producing an average of 2.5 to 3.0 MGD. PRWID was not exchanging water with Price City until May 6, 2026, when Price City requested emergency assistance due to issues at their plant. PRWID supplied 600 gallons per minute overnight until the issue was resolved. Crews have experienced intermittent power issues that cause lights to flicker and equipment, pumps, and the ozone system to temporarily shut down. An electrician responded, and it was determined the issues were likely related to power company problems that also affected other facilities in the area. Boe Jensen with ECI is continuing to troubleshoot the sludge pump controller and VFD issues with Schneider Electric. Staff believe the VFD tripping may also be connected to the recent power fluctuations. The belt press was returned to operation, although crews later experienced problems with the Marmon dump truck. The department also received notice that VOC sampling requirements have been reduced from quarterly to annual testing. Crews repaired the chain and flight system in the surge basin after a shear pin failed due to mud buildup. The system was repaired and placed back into service, and operations were changed from intermittent to continuous running to prevent future problems.

Haycock reported that the Wastewater Treatment Plant Staff have continued sampling for the State COVID-19 & Measles studies and completed quarterly W.E.T. testing during the reporting period. They continue pumping from the West Facultative Basin to the East Basin. Crews also began seasonal weed spraying, resumed mowing and landscaping projects, and continued general grounds maintenance around the plant. The department is working with engineers to compile plant data for the Everest Group project. Staff also sponsored a safety meeting at the East Maintenance building focused on ladder and scaffolding safety, including training and review of proper electric scissor lift operation. During the two-week reporting period, crews collected and performed 266 lab tests and samples.

Lastly, Willis shared that the Line Maintenance department has assisted with power-related problems at various stations and the 4 Mile Tank. Staff also responded to an issue at the Barred Choice Pump Station after SCADA indicated a pump had been running continuously for six hours. After inspection, John Singleton and crews determined the issue was caused by an air lock rather than a leak or electrical failure. Work also continues on updating the Emergency Response Plan, and supervisory staff attended a continuing education class on May 14 to maintain required CEUs. Administrative duties such as budget tracking, purchase orders, timecards, work orders, filing, and ordering replacement and stock parts are ongoing. The water crew has been preparing tanks and stations for the sanitary survey scheduled for June 18 by inspecting systems and correcting deficiencies. Crews are also working to make the Kenilworth Pump Station mouse-proof by repairing door jambs and sealing openings in the concrete walls. The vactor truck is currently being used to excavate the Steve Zorn fire hydrant in preparation for replacement. Additional work included backfilling exposed sewer lines in Kenilworth that were washed out during recent rainstorms, weekly station checks, work order assistance, and cleanup of settlement areas around previous leak locations and meter sets. The sewer crew installed the Zebra Lift Station Flyght pump received from Xylem; however, after approximately ten days the pump experienced a failure. Crews removed the pump and discovered excessive vibration had damaged the volute and impeller. A Xylem technician determined a sleeve and screw had been installed incorrectly, and the pump has been returned for replacement parts. Crews also poured the new concrete lid at the

Pinnacle Lift Station, which will need to cure until June 15, and are currently replacing concrete at the Vink Tolich meter site. Routine weekly station checks, monthly siphon and rectifier inspections, work orders, and Blue Stakes assistance also continue. The Blue Stakes crew also completed monthly sampling and residual testing, emergency and daily Blue Stakes, and additional work orders. They also assisted both the water and sewer crews during employee absences and have continued inspecting air-vacs as time allows.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens updated the Board that the District is currently in the middle of the 2025 audit process and noted that Micha Marrelli has been working many additional hours assisting the auditors. Richens commented that if the board room appears somewhat disheveled, it is because the auditors are currently on-site. Richens then gave an update on Scofield Reservoir, reporting that the reservoir remains approximately seven feet from spilling. He reiterated that both PRWID and Price City intend to focus on educating the public regarding responsible water usage rather than implementing water restrictions.

An update was also provided on Project Everest. Richens explained that engineers are actively working on the project and that an upcoming online meeting will address proposed pipeline alignment details. He further stated that a 30% billing milestone is expected in June, which will be passed along to Project Everest. Richens next discussed the Sanpete Water Conservancy District and ongoing concerns regarding the proposed Gooseberry Narrows State Park study and potential dam project. Legal counsel has advised gathering all affected entities together to discuss how to formally oppose the proposal moving forward.

Lastly, Richens addressed recent electrical and SCADA issues affecting PRWID facilities. He explained that PRWID has determined that locations utilizing three-phase or 220-volt connections are not experiencing internal PRWID failures, but rather power-related issues originating from the utility company. He noted that the power company has acknowledged the problem and stated they are working to correct it. Richens shared that occasional power fluctuations have caused electronic communication failures, resulting in false reports that certain pump stations are running when they are not.

OPEN A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE INPUT AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC RELATED TO SUBMITTING A CIB APPLICATION FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR THE CULINARY WATER DISTRIBUTION MASTER PLAN

Willis moved to open the public hearing at 7:14pm. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

Richens had previously distributed copies of the Scope of Work and explained that the purpose of the public hearing was to receive comments regarding PRWID's proposed Culinary Water Distribution Master Plan and associated CIB funding application. He noted that Dave Jelin and Lynna Topolovec were present. Richens explained that the master plan would help identify strengths and weaknesses within the current water distribution system, determine areas where future development can or cannot occur, and evaluate infrastructure improvements needed to support future growth and service demands. He also shared that the study may lead to updates to certain district policies.

The estimated total cost of the project is approximately \$150,000. Richens explained that the Community Impact Board (CIB) offers funding assistance programs for studies and master plans and that PRWID intends to pursue a 50% grant match. He stated that funds have already

been set aside that would cover the remaining balance. Richens emphasized that the master plan could serve as a foundational planning document for the next 20 years and would provide benefits related to fire protection, economic development, maintaining current service levels, and identifying future infrastructure needs such as storage tanks, looping of dead-end lines, and system upgrades of aging infrastructure.

Jensen asked how the completed plan would ultimately be presented. Richens explained that the final product would be electronic and integrated into PRWID's GIS system, allowing staff to visualize infrastructure data, model system impacts, identify weaknesses, and evaluate possible solutions and improvements. It would also act as documentation to future development requirements to ensure levels of service are maintained and future service can safely and effectively meet state standards.

Richens also discussed the possibility that the CIB could offer alternate funding assistance deny funding assistance altogether. If that occurs, he related that the District could reduce the scope of the study to lower costs below the automatic threshold for 50% funding and resubmit. Thayne asked whether loan funding could also be pursued. Richens confirmed that financing options would still be available if needed and would have to be discussed and evaluated to know exactly the impact one option would have in relation to another.

Jensen then opened the floor for public comment.

Lynna Topolovec expressed several concerns and questions regarding the proposed master plan study. She asked whether source water protection issues, particularly algae blooms at Scofield Reservoir, would be addressed. She also questioned how ditch companies and irrigation systems might be impacted and whether secondary water systems could be incorporated into future planning efforts. Topolovec additionally asked how the public could remain involved in future development discussions and inquired about modeling elevations and water aging within distribution lines.

Richens addressed her concerns individually. He clarified that the master plan itself would focus specifically on the culinary water distribution system and would not directly address source water protection, reservoir operations, or water treatment expansion. He did note, however, that PRWID updated its source protection plan approximately two months earlier. Regarding algae concerns, Richens explained that ozone treatment was specifically installed at the treatment plant to destroy algae cells before toxins develop.

Richens further discussed water age concerns, noting that PRWID regularly monitors water quality by flushing systems, testing chlorine levels, and performing additional testing throughout the system for disinfection byproducts. He emphasized that the master plan would not promote development but would instead allow PRWID to better determine what capacity currently exists and what infrastructure improvements may be necessary in the future.

Topolovec inquired about new connections to areas that have a bond payment fee as part of their monthly bill. "Why are new connections not required to pay back the previous months before service was activated and only required to pay from date of service forward?"

Richens responded that the District has always required new connections to take on bond payments if their connections are part of the newly installed lines, but only upon receipt of service.

Topolovec additionally asked questions regarding water share discounts for Scofield cabin owners. Richens and Marrelli clarified that PRWID does not oversee the Scofield cabin water system or its water share structure, as those systems are managed by separate entities.

Dave Jelin then asked questions regarding industrial growth and whether existing infrastructure studies had already been completed to determine if sufficient water and sewer

capacity exists for future industrial development. Richens explained that PRWID has never previously completed a formal master plan. He discussed the existing 12-inch line running along Ridge Road from Highway 10 to Wellington, noting that much of that infrastructure was installed approximately 25 years ago and would be incorporated into future planning efforts. Due to nondisclosure agreements surrounding Project Everest, Richens noted that certain details could not yet be publicly discussed.

Jelin referenced a national article regarding a utility system that reportedly lost 10 million gallons of water and questioned whether this type of study would help identify similar concerns. Richens explained that the Lower Elevation Project and the proposed master plan are intended to help better manage and maximize existing water resources rather than create new water supplies, emphasizing that water remains a finite resource. Jelin thanked the board for the discussion and responses provided.

Upon confirmation by the Chair that there were no further questions, Chavez moved to close the public hearing at 7:50pm. Willis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

AUTHORIZE THE DISTRICT MANAGER TO COMPLETE THE CIB APPLICATION AND CHAIR TO SIGN APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS

Willis moved to authorize the district manager to complete the CIB application and the chair to sign the appropriate documents. Thayn seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

REVIEW AND APPROVE ANNUAL FRAUD RISK ASSESSMENT FOR AUDIT

Marrelli explained that the annual Fraud Risk Assessment is required by both the State of Utah and PRWID's auditors. She noted that PRWID consistently scores well because staff actively monitor financial procedures and controls. She also shared that CISA has been very helpful in identifying best practices and compliance standards. PRWID's overall score places the district in the "moderate risk" category, largely due to staffing limitations that would require additional personnel or structural changes to improve further. Willis pointed out that adopting a formal written policy reporting fraud and/or abuse would strengthen our position in the assessment and should reflect partial compliance in that area. Richens clarified that although PRWID actively monitors for fraud and misuse, a formal written policy has simply never been adopted. Marrelli noted that implementing such a policy would likely be relatively straightforward and simple and could be easily done.

Willis moved to approve the 2026 annual Fraud Risk Assessment. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

Thayn then moved to approve the 2025 annual Fraud Risk Assessment. Haycock seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

APPROVE INTERIM SESSION LEGAL WORK AND COOPERATIVE COALITION

Richens shared that he had contacted the Carbon Water Conservancy District regarding the Gooseberry Narrows State Park proposal. He stated that the project had recently been listed as an agenda item during an interim committee meeting. Richens explained that affected entities on this side of the mountain need to organize a coalition to oppose the proposal and coordinate legal efforts moving forward. Richens expressed concern regarding the proposal to divert water out of the Colorado River drainage without any return flows. Willis stated that Price City would continue

supporting opposition efforts. Chavez and Thayn confirmed that both Helper and Wellington would also support the coalition moving forward but that they would touch base in their city meetings in the coming week.

Chavez moved to approve participation in interim session legal work and cooperative coalition efforts opposing the project. Willis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

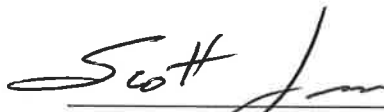
CLOSED SESSION

There was no need for a closed session.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business brought before the board. During final discussion, David Jelin sought clarification regarding the Sanpete County proposal and whether diverted water would be returned to Carbon County. Richens clarified that the proposal involves constructing a dam to divert water to an existing tunnel that transports water into Sanpete County and that the plan would utilize all taxpayers funding the construction of the dam. Richens emphasized that this diversion of water remains one of the district's major concerns given ongoing discussions regarding future water curtailment. Jelin reiterated his concern that the diverted water would not be returned, which Richens confirmed. Willis added that any water loss would ultimately have to be replaced from another source.

With no further business at that point, the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Chavez which was seconded by Willis at 8:02 pm. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.



Scott Jensen, Chairman



Kim Wood, Clerk