

PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

July 7, 2026

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

Present

Scott Jensen

Jeff Richens

Micha Marrelli (excused)

Ed Chavez

Kiera Luke

Chris Haycock

Doug Rasmussen – Smuin, Rich, Marsing, & Rasmussen

Bryan Thayn

David Jelin

Terry Willis

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

By invitation from Jensen, Haycock led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Jensen invited those in attendance to provide public comments. David Jelin noted that the previous board meeting minutes had not been posted to the District's website since February. Richens responded that he was unaware that the meeting minutes were not posted to the website. All meeting minutes have been approved by the Board, and he would follow up with the employee responsible for posting the approved minutes to the District's website.

POSSIBLE CONFLICTS WITH AGENDA ITEMS

There were no conflicts with agenda items.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 16, 2026 meeting were reviewed by the Board. Chavez moved to approve the minutes as written. Willis seconded and the motion passed unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Thayn began by sharing that in the past month the Fleet Department continues to perform preventive maintenance and repairs on district vehicles and heavy equipment. The new CUDA parts washer has been installed and is fully operational, while installation of the Hotsy hot water pressure washer is nearing completion, with electrical, plumbing, and venting work in progress. Staff also completed a cost-saving modification to the Hotsy control box, avoiding the expense of a factory replacement. The department supported operations by fueling and monitoring the Wastewater Treatment Plant emergency generator during an extended period of use. Fleet staff also continue coordinating and completing Ford safety recalls, including diagnosing and ordering replacement parts for Unit #21. At the Service Center, crews completed routine ground

maintenance. Progress also continues on the East Maintenance Building, where Utility Room #2 is nearing completion with electrical, plumbing, insulation, wall installation, and door improvements substantially finished.

Chavez reported that the Water Treatment Plant continues to operate on a 24-hour schedule, producing an average of 3.5 million gallons of treated water per day while supplying 300 gallons per minute to Price City. Staff completed repairs to the plant security gates, including adjustments to the gate chains and microswitches to improve reliability. Staff has also begun its annual Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) monitoring program, with weekly water samples being collected through October for state-funded analysis. Operators continue to monitor intermittent issues with a PLC that controls the filtration and chlorination systems. Staff are working with ECI to diagnose the problem and determine whether the cause is related to power supply quality or a failing component before additional repairs are made. Routine plant operations and monitoring continue to ensure reliable service and regulatory compliance.

Haycock reported that over the past few weeks the Wastewater Treatment Plant Staff have continued collecting samples for the State COVID-19 and measles monitoring program while maintaining daily plant operations. Crews completed maintenance projects including cleaning and repairing the outfall structure, installing a new weir plate, continuing weed control activities, and resuming mowing and landscaping throughout the facility. Staff also pumped FSB water to the field as part of an evaporation study and installed a rebuilt mixer on the North Digester. The department worked closely with engineers and Keller to provide plant data and information needed for the Everest Group study. ECI replaced the plant's main transfer switch breaker after a utility power failure required the facility to operate on backup generator power for approximately six days. During this time, staff successfully maintained plant operations without interruption. Over the reporting period, the laboratory completed 429 tests and samples supporting process control operations and State Discharge Monitoring Report requirements.

Lastly, Willis shared that during the past month Pat Hanson and crews continued responding to maintenance needs while supporting daily water and sewer operations throughout the district. The new I.E. fire hydrant was installed, repairs began on a damaged valve box on Consumers Road, and the annual sanitary survey was completed with no Improvement Priority System (IPS) points received. Four employees also completed the Water Distribution Certification exam, with three successfully passing. Administrative responsibilities included budget tracking, processing timecards and purchase orders, attending weekly supervisor meetings, managing work orders, ordering inventory and replacement parts. The water crew repaired a leak in Miller Creek, replaced leaking meter boxes in Spring Glen and Kenilworth, completed camera inspections, and performed routine station checks and maintenance throughout the system. The sewer crew replaced the wet well lid at the Pinnacle Lift Station, attended Flyght pump training, continued camera inspections and Vactor operations, and completed routine system inspections. Blue Stakes personnel continued daily and emergency locate requests, collected required monthly samples, completed work orders, inspected air vacs as time allowed, and assisted the water and sewer crews.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens provided several operational updates. He clarified two items identified during the recent sanitary survey. The first involved a long-standing alum storage tank that currently lacks adequate space for a secondary spill containment structure, which continues to be noted during inspections. The second involved missing filter media test data from a previous evaluation. Richens stated that the filter media will be tested again to ensure current data is available.

Richens also reported receiving a phone call from Dana Zebelean and Curtis Page, Regional Engineer with the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), who complimented the District's employees on the excellent condition and operation of its treatment plant and distribution system as they were performing their necessary evaluations of the facilities.

He then addressed a recent bromate detection in a drinking water sample. Additional samples were collected from the raw water source and multiple locations throughout the treatment process. After reviewing the results, state officials Russell Seeley and Luke Truetel, who oversees chlorine byproducts, agreed with PRWID's assessment that the original elevated result was likely due to laboratory error, as all subsequent samples showed no detectable bromate.

Richens then reported that Scofield Reservoir is currently 10.6 feet below spill level. Although reservoir levels have declined, the District currently holds 1,326 water shares, which are expected to provide an adequate supply through the remainder of the year. If necessary, additional shares could be acquired from one of the municipalities through the normal administrative process.

He also shared current soil moisture and precipitation graphs with the Board, noting below-average conditions compared to previous years. He also reminded Board members of the Employee Appreciation Barbecue scheduled for July 15 at noon in the neighboring building.

Lastly, Richens updated the Board on recent discussions regarding the proposed Gooseberry Reservoir and State Park project. He explained that local officials are working to reestablish a committee originally formed approximately 30 years ago to address long-term water resource issues in Carbon County. This committee would support water improvement efforts all across the County. He also extended invitations to candidates for public office to tour the affected area to better understand the issues involved.

2025 AUDIT REPORT BY SMUIN, RICH, MARSING, AND RASMUSSEN

Doug Rasmussen of Smuin, Rich, Marsing, and Rasmussen presented the District's 2025 Annual Audit. Rasmussen explained that the auditors issued an unqualified opinion, indicating that the District's financial position is good overall and that the financial statements fairly present the District's financial position. He reviewed several sections of the audit, including the Management Discussion and Analysis, fund balances, operating results, and budget performance.

Rasmussen noted that the General Fund remains financially stable and finished the year under budget by approximately \$240,000. He reported that the Sewer Fund continues to perform well, while the Water Fund experienced an operating loss largely due to depreciation expenses and should continue to be monitored. Rasmussen recommended reviewing the Water Fund budget near the end of each fiscal year and increasing appropriations if necessary to remain in compliance with state budgeting requirements.

The audit contained one budget compliance finding related to the Water Fund exceeding its adopted budget during 2025. Rasmussen explained that while the District's overall financial condition remains strong, appropriate budget amendments should be made when necessary. Richens also discussed internal borrowing practices and the importance of maintaining proper documentation when funds are transferred between accounts. When asked by Chavez to assign an overall grade to the District's financial condition, Rasmussen responded that he would give the District an "A."

Willis moved to accept the audit report. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

APPROVE ADVERTISEMENT OF OPEN POSITION

Richens requested authorization to advertise for the open Line Maintenance position. He stated that the position will be advertised through ETV News and Workforce Services, with applications remaining open until August 7. The goal is to present a hiring recommendation to the Board at the second meeting in August.

Chavez moved to approve the advertisement of the open position. Haycock seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

APPROVE NEW UTAH RETIREMENT SYSTEMS RATES

Richens presented the Utah Retirement Systems (URS) employer contribution rates for fiscal year 2026-2027. He explained that Tier 1 contribution rates will remain unchanged, while Tier 2 rates will increase from 13.19 percent to 14.49 percent. Willis asked whether the increase would require higher employee contributions, and Richens confirmed that it would. Willis moved to approve the 2026/2027 Utah Retirement Systems Rates. Thayn seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

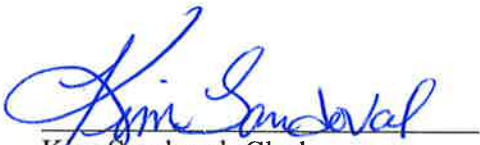
CLOSED SESSION

The board had a need to enter a closed session. Chavez moved to go into a closed meeting to discuss the character, competency, or the mental and physical health of an individual at 8:06 p.m. Willis seconded and the motion carried unanimously upon a voice vote. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

The board went back into the open meeting session upon a motion by Chavez at 8:13 p.m. Haycock seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

With no further business, Chavez moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. Willis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.


Scott Jensen, Chairman


Kim Sandoval, Clerk