PRICE RIVER WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
October 6th, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Price River Water Improvement District was held on Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 7:00 pm at the District's Service Center located at 265 South Fairgrounds Road, Price, Utah.

Present

Scott Jensen	Jeff Richens	Tony Mower
Ed Chavez	Micha Marrelli	Troy Mastin
Chris Haycock	Kiera Luke	
Bryan Thayn	Blaine Shipley	
Terry Willis	Pat Hanson	

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Scott Jensen. He welcomed all in attendance noting that all board members were in attendance and 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

There were no public comments.

POSSIBLE CONFLICTS WITH AGENDA ITEMS

There were no conflicts with agenda items.

MINUTES

After review by the board, Chavez moved to approve the minutes of September 15, 2026. Thayn seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Thayn reported that the Fleet Department continues preventive maintenance efforts of District vehicles and heavy equipment. The Miller TIG welder remains out of service, and the department has received a $750 repair quote with no warranty and is awaiting further action. The Hotsy hot water pressure washer continues to have intermittent operating issues caused by a faulty IDEC relay. Royce Industries located a replacement for $500, which has been received, and will be installed in-house to avoid a service call. Staff are also re-piping the Water Trailer's 3-inch fill line after a fill valve broke due to aging glued joints. Unit #14, a 2012 Ford F-250, was damaged after striking a large rock near the Water Treatment Plant. The parts have been received and the damaged snowplow mount will also be repaired. Unit #1, a 2003 Chevrolet Trailblazer, has excessively worn front tires, and new tires have been ordered with a front-end alignment planned. Grounds maintenance is ongoing while work continues on the north-side drainage concrete improvements at the East Maintenance Building.

Chavez shared that the Water Treatment Plant has experienced challenging conditions due to continued heavy rainfall up the canyon causing increased turbidity and making water treatment more difficult. During periods when the plant cannot operate, Price City has provided approximately 300 gallons per day of spring water to assist the District. When PRWID can treat water, then water is returned to Price City. As of September 30, neither facility was exchanging water. Staff have also spent several days sluicing mud from in front of the diversion due to significant buildup, cleaning the trash rack, and hosing out the sand trap. Power fluctuations have been interrupting the PLC programming at the sludge building, so John Singleton diagnosed the issue and recommended installing a UPS power supply. Wiring and an outlet have been installed in the PLC cabinet, and the UPS is being ordered. Staff continues collecting Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) samples each Monday, with sampling expected to continue through the end of October or until otherwise directed by the Division of Drinking Water. Despite the challenging water conditions, the plant continues operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, producing an average of approximately 2.5 million gallons per day as conditions allow.

Haycock began by reporting that over the past several weeks, Wastewater Treatment Plant staff continue collecting samples for the State COVID-19 and measles monitoring study and collected and performed 346 samples and tests during the past three weeks. Most of the testing was completed for process control, with additional testing supporting State Discharge Monitoring Report requirements. Crews continue removing sludge from the West Facultative Sludge Basin and hauling sludge from the basin and drying bed to the farm field in Coal Creek as conditions permit. Staff repaired the sump pump in the old clarifier/overflow basin, hauled gravel and road base to address drainage issues around the plant, and maintained routine lawn mowing and landscape work.

Lastly, Willis shared that the Line Maintenance staff have continued daily maintenance, administrative work, and support for other District departments. Staff also responded to an irrigation leak, a meter leak, a call from Joe Cha, and the 4-Mile Tank power failure. The water crew continued locating and capping lines on the Rays Road system, cleaning up previous leak locations, backfilling holes, and completing weekly station checks. The crew investigated a reported sewer break in Liberty Estates and determined the line was intact, with the settlement caused by excessive rainwater. On September 30, the crew repaired two mainline leaks, including one previously scheduled repair and another discovered while checking valves for an upcoming shutdown. The sewer crew continued leak cleanup, vactoring, camera inspections, weekly station checks, and hauling crushed rock and road base for stock. Monthly siphon and rectifier inspections were also completed. The Blue Stakes crew continued mapping test stations and lines, completing daily and emergency requests, work orders, monthly samples and residuals, and beginning air vacuum valve inspections.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Richens directed the Board's attention to a packet containing data on reservoirs throughout the State of Utah. He reported that Scofield Reservoir still has approximately 22,000 acre-feet remaining and is in very good standing. Recent rainfall has improved conditions statewide, with some lower drainages reaching approximately 96% in September, and soil moisture is at its highest recorded level. Scofield remains at 100% delivery, with most of the remaining volume being irrigation water. Richens also stated that there should be sufficient water to meet the District's needs for the rest of the year.

Richens provided an update regarding Valar Atomics. Blain, Jake, and the engineers are scheduled to participate in a "Teams" meeting the following day regarding the proposed project, which involves approximately 640 acres of State Trust Lands. Representatives for the Division of Water Quality have been invited to participate. Valar is interested in using PRWID effluent water and is exploring whether they could install a pump to transport the effluent to their facility, where they would be responsible for treatment. Additional research is needed to determine whether this arrangement would be permitted. Valar would also need to treat a portion of the water to an Ultra Pure standard and address applicable TDS limits. Richens noted that one of the largest challenges is that Valar does not currently own the property where they are considering locating, and it is outside of the District's boundaries so he has also been researching the process of annexation by special districts as this is a limitation associated with the District's water right.

Richens reported that the District received a letter from Dino and Angelo Kiahtipes regarding agreements signed more than 35 years ago concerning prepaid water connections. Richens has also reported that Glen Wells has been selling some of his prepaid connections. The Kiahtipes family is requesting that the District honor prepaid connections, as well as two from Wellington City, and connections they purchased from others' estates, although documentation confirming those purchases is still needed. Richens requested the Board's support in honoring the District's listed connections and not the City connections.

PRELIMINARY 2027 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Department heads attended the meeting to present their preliminary 2027 budget requests. Richens first presented the Administration proposal, noting that accounting and professional services are slightly higher due in part to extra time being billed to the audit. The overall proposed increase for Administration is approximately $29,000 before any wage or benefit increases.

Troy Mastin presented the Water Plant budget and explained that he is not requesting additional funds overall, despite continued increases in chemical and fuel costs. He prepared projections and shifted funds from building maintenance to chemicals to account for the increased costs while keeping the remainder of the budget consistent. He also provided a list of potential equipment and purchases the department would like to work toward in 2027 and 2028.

Pat Hanson presented the Line Maintenance budget and requested several smaller increases, with the largest being $5,000 for meter and radio upgrades as batteries begin to fail. He also requested a $500 increase in the education budget due to new employees and turnover, for a total proposed increase of approximately $5,700. Hanson requested the potential purchase or lease of a skid steer, which he feels would benefit the entire District.

Tony Mower presented the Fleet Department budget and requested a $10,000 increase for Gas and Oil to account for rising fuel and lubricant costs, along with a $1,000 increase in the utilities budget due to this being the second year in the new building. He also reviewed several desired purchases with the Board. The overall proposed increase for the Fleet Department is approximately $126,500.

Blaine Shipley presented the Water Treatment Plant budget and explained that chemical costs, particularly chlorine and sulfur, have increased significantly. Skid steer rental and janitorial costs have also contributed to the proposed increase of $27,750. Shipley asked the Board to consider purchasing a 2-ton dump truck and a commercial lawn mower with a 60-inch deck to assist with maintaining the facility's extensive grounds.

The Board thanked the department heads for presenting their proposals and indicated that additional discussion and updates would take place before the end of the year.

APPROVED RETURN OF WATER SHARE REQUIREMENT

Casey and Connie Ware requested the return of their water share for parcel #02-0654-0035 as they intend to sell the property without the associated water share. Marrelli will prepare the necessary documentation to complete the process. Chavez moved to approve the water share return request. Willis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

APPROVE CIB FUNDING FOR WATER DISTRIBUTION MASTER PLAN

Richens reminded the Board of previous discussions regarding the Water Distribution Master Plan and presented the funding approved through the Community Impact Board (CIB). PRWID was approved for a $75,000 grant. Chavez asked whether an additional public hearing would be required, and Richens explained that one would not be necessary because the project would not require an increase in rates. Thayn moved to approve the CIB funding and for the Water Distribution Master Plan to proceed. Haycock seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

APPROVE ADVERTISEMENT OF AIRPORT TANK AND PUMP STATION FENCE PROJECT

Hanson requested approval to advertise for a contractor to install security fencing around the Airport Tank and Barred Choice Pump Station. The District has worked in recent years to enclose tanks and pump stations at the direction of the Division of Drinking Water to secure our facilities. The estimated cost should be approximately $20,000 and will be paid from the Water System Maintenance Fund. Willis moved to approve the advertisement of airport tank and pump station fence. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

APPROVED LINE MAINTENANCE PURCHASE OF WELDER AND PLASMA CUTTER

Hanson requested approval to purchase a small welding unit and plasma cutting unit for Line Maintenance. He presented three options and recommended approval of the low bid. Chavez moved to approve the purchase of Miller Multimatic 215 pro Welder for $2,013.16 and the Powermax30 XP Plasma Cutting Unit for $1,567.19. Thayn seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF CHANGE IN THIRD-PARTY PAYMENT COMPANY

Administration staff have been reviewing payment processing programs and associated costs and recommended changing the District's third-party payment provider from Express Bill Pay to Caselle Connect. Caselle is already used by the District for accounts receivable and accounts payable, and the change would provide greater consistency and reduce confusion by allowing the District to work with a single vendor. Marrelli also discussed the process for notifying customers of the change. Willis moved to approve the change in the third-party payment company to Caselle Connect. Thayn seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

DISCUSSION OF TIMING FOR POSITION ADVERTISEMENT

Richens reported that the District received an official notice of retirement from Ross Bryner, effective July 1, 2027. He requested guidance from the Board regarding the appropriate

timing to advertise for the position noting the importance of allowing adequate time for training and mentoring with Bryner while planning for the position in the budget. Haycock recommended advertising in December, taking the holidays and end of the calendar year into consideration, with the goal of having the new employee hired and prepared to begin before the end of January. Richens agreed that the District should move forward with advertising in the first part of December. The budget will plan for two employees in the position during the transition period.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Marrelli reported that a "Teams" meeting was held with the District's insurance brokers. Richens stated that any increase to medical benefits will be held to 8.9%, while the remaining benefits will stay generally the same. The District is considering changing its vision coverage because another provider offers better coverage for less cost. Dental coverage is not expected to change, and life insurance is expected to increase by approximately 2.2%.

Willis reported that work continues on the Price City lines, although the project is encountering difficulties like obtaining an easement from one individual. Fortunately, the issue is located near the edge of Section Two, and the City will continue moving forward with the project as the easements allow.

Haycock asked whether PRWID had received the remaining payment from Project Everest. Richens confirmed that the payment is expected to be processed on October 9. Haycock also asked about the recently hired employees, and Richens reported positively on the first individual and stated that the second new employee is scheduled to begin October 12.

CLOSED SESSION

Everyone was excused from the meeting as the Board entered into a closed session at 8:25 p.m. upon a motion made by Thayn that was seconded by Chavez with a voice vote: Willis – yea, Haycock – yea, Chavez – yea, Thayn – yea, and Jensen – yea.

At 9:06 p.m., Willis moved to return to open meeting status. Chavez seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

With no further business, Thayn moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. Willis seconded and the motion carried unanimously. AYE: Willis, Haycock, Jensen, Chavez, and Thayn.

Scott Jensen, Chairman

Kim Sandoval, Clerk