

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EAST COLUMBIA BASIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT

October 4, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Duaine Anderson.

Present were:

Directors

Duaine Anderson
Kevin Lyle
Don Osborne
Dennis Swinger, Jr.
Reid Baker

Staff

Craig Simpson
Rosa Dekker
John McCourtie
Nate Andreini
Jon Erickson

Staff

Julio Gonzalez
Bobby Bischoff
Wendy Lange
Anna Franz

Visitors present: Clyde Lay and Amy Rodman, USBR; Darvin Fales, CBHP; Kristina Ribellia, CBCD; Paul Wollman, Lynn Olsen, Orman Johnson, Mary Beth Miller and Ian Toevs.

Visitors

Visitors via teleconference: Jennifer Hickenbottom, USBR; Mike Schwisow, Consultant; Randall Fox, Jake Wollman, Jr., Kirk Rathdrum, Brian Kuest and Eli Stahl.

Minutes of the regular meeting of September 6, 2023, had been mailed to the Directors. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 6, 2023, as written. Director Lyle seconded, and the motion carried.

Minutes
Approved

Manager Simpson presented the following contract a., for board consideration:

District
Improvements

Contracts

a. Renewal Interruptible First Phase Continuation Water Service Contract, Visker Farms LLC, 190-007-805, 291 acres

Following discussion, Director Baker moved to approve contract a., as presented. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

Manager Simpson reported staff approved and issued the following permits, consistent with board authorization:

Approved & Issued Permits

a. Grant PUD Overhead Fiber Crossings Block 41
b. Cal Anderson Drain Inlet Block 45, FU 39

Manager Simpson presented the following agreement a., for board consideration:

Agreements

- a. Permanent Release of Water Allotment, Michael Para, Block 45, Farm Unit 205-02, 0.1 acre

Vouchers audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the Board. After reviewing the vouchers submitted for payment approval, Director Baker moved to approve for payment check nos. 324437 through 324630 in the amount of \$685,444.23 and electronic Payroll and AP transfer in the amount of \$498,798.39 for a total of \$1,184,242.62 from the O&M Fund. Director Lyle seconded, and the motion carried.

Vouchers

Manager Simpson presented Resolution 2023-09, Surplus Equipment for board approval. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to adopt Resolution 2023-09 as presented. Director Lyle seconded, and the motion carried.

Resolution 2023-09

Assistant Manager McCourtie presented Resolution 2023-10, Declaration of Special Market Conditions for board approval. Following discussion, Director Lyle moved to adopt Resolution 2023-10 as presented. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

Resolution 2023-10

District Engineer Gonzalez presented the Allwest Testing & Engineering General Services Contract for board approval. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to authorize execution of the contract with Allwest Testing & Engineering for material testing and quality assurances services. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

OGWRP

Allwest Contract

District Engineer Gonzalez presented Anderson Perry & Associates Task Order No. 3 for automated gate installation Class III cultural resources survey services for board approval. He reported the task order is in the amount of \$16,790.00. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to approve Anderson Perry and Associates Task Order No. 3 in the amount of \$16,790.00 as presented. Director Lyle seconded, and the motion carried.

Anderson Perry & Associates Task Order No. 3

Manager Simpson presented the LRISRP MOU R14MU13746 Amendment No. 1 for board approval. There are no changes to report, only the expiration date of the MOU has been extended. Following discussion, Director Lyle moved to approve the LRISRP MOU R14MU13746 Amendment No. 1, as presented. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried.

LRISRP MOU R14MU13746 Amendment No. 1

Development Coordinator Erickson reported the landowner group has authorized work to proceed to 60% design. Discussions continue on the path from design to construction.

EL11.8 Delivery System

Development Coordinator Erickson reported the Colville Tribes have requested more inspections on two sites as part of the cultural resources review and IRZ is working on the 60% redesign moving the HVAC system and replacing that with exhaust fans. A

EL22.1 Delivery System Update

meeting will be scheduled with all delivery system landowners to discuss potential bonding.

Assistant Manager Andreini reported WHB has requested adding 2,000 acres to the EL47.5 Delivery System. Discussions with WHB continue on turnout construction and their need to pay for the construction. [EL47.5 Delivery System Update](#)

Development Coordinator Erickson reported 60% design is moving forward with both systems and RH2 is working on the preliminary title reports for the easements for both systems. [EL80.6 & EL84.7 Delivery System Update](#)

District Engineer Gonzalez presented Budinger & Associates Task Order No. 2 for environmental site assessments for the EL80.6 Delivery System in the amount of \$13,600.00. Following discussion, Director Lyle moved to approve Budinger & Associates Task Order No. 2, as presented. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

District Engineer Gonzalez presented Budinger & Associates Task Order No. 3 for environmental site assessments for the EL84.7 Delivery System in the amount of \$14,500.00. Following discussion, Director Lyle moved to approve Budinger & Associates Task Order No. 3, as presented. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

Assistant Manager Andreini reported the delivery system pumping plants will be served by a new power line from BBEC. He reported BBEC will acquire the power line easements, a transformer will need to be replaced and it has been requested that BPA supply the power.

Development Coordinator Erickson reported construction will begin this winter and the EFO is currently working on easement acquisitions. [EL86.4 Delivery System Update](#)

Manager Simpson reported that upon signature of the easement documents from the Fox Family the District will purchase the pipe for the EL85E piping project. Manager Simpson requested authorization to call for EL85E pipe bids when the signed easement documents have been received. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to authorize a call for EL85E pipe bids contingent upon the District receiving signed easement documents by the Fox Family. Director Lyle seconded, and the motion carried.

Development Coordinator Erickson reported the watershed planning project is moving towards the federal Notice of Intent for the adoption of Reclamation's EIS for the Odessa Subarea Special Study. [Watershed Plan Project Update](#)

Ms. Mary Beth Miller and Mr. Ian Toevs from Lamb Weston shared a presentation of water quality and their intent to turn processed water into reuse water suitable for irrigation in Quincy to address wastewater discharge into CBP drainage facilities. [Quincy Wastewater Discharge](#)

Manager Simpson presented the 2024 Operation and Maintenance Budget. The budget has been developed by District staff with recommendations from the Assessment [2024 Budget](#)

Committee and Equipment Committee, and presented was to the Board of Directors for consideration. It was noted that the budget presented had an error in the displayed budget and would be corrected. The corrected budget estimates the 2024 basic Part 1 O&M expenditures to be \$20,485,000 and the 2024 basic Part 1 O&M income to be \$20,485,000. The budget estimates Part 2 System Improvement expenditures to be \$39,724,287 and the Part 2 System Improvements income to be \$39,068,000. At this time it is estimated that the 2023 O&M budget will finish the year with basic O&M expenses of \$17,017,000 and income of \$17,246,000. The 2024 O&M Budget proposes an average O&M assessment of \$78.08 per acre, an average increase of \$1.53 per acre over 2023. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to approve the recommended 2024 budget, as presented and discussed. Director Lyle seconded, and the motion carried.

Ms. Jennifer Korfiatis gave an update on the website, newsletter, and video project. She reported CBCD is providing the funding for the video.

Public Relations Update

The meeting recessed at 12:20 p.m., and reconvened at 1:20 p.m.

Special Projects Administrator Bischoff reported staff will interview three firms next week. He reported last month the board authorized staff to enter into contract negotiations with the chosen firm. He will report which firm was chosen at the November board meeting.

Space Utilization Study

CBHP Manager Fales requested \$10,000 for the Project Development Fund for legal fees. He reported the same amount is being requested from each District. CBHP Manager Fales also requested time in Executive Session to discuss the Banks Lake Project. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to approve payment of \$10,000 to CBHP for the Project Development Fund as requested. Director Lyle seconded, and the motion carried.

Columbia Basin Hydropower

Manager Simpson reported the South District has hired a water rights examiner through district attorney Larry Martin's office. The three Districts will be splitting the cost. Manager Simpson requested authorization to pay 1/3 of the water rights examiner fees. Following discussion, Director Osborne moved to authorize payment of 1/3 of the water rights examiner fees as discussed. Director Lyle seconded, and the motion carried.

CBP Water Rights

Manager Simpson briefly reported on the Diversion Rate meeting held at the Grand Coulee Power Office on September 21st expressing that it was not a good use of the Districts time.

Diversion Rate

Manager Simpson reported quagga mussel larvae have been discovered in the Snake River Idaho. He reported that the Idaho State Department of Ag has determined a plan of action. A stretch of the Snake River near Pocatello is being treated with a pesticide and is currently closed for use.

Snake River Quagga Mussel Larvae

Assistant Manager Andreini presented the following acoustic doppler current profiling instrument quotes for board consideration:

Quotes & Bids

	Supplier	Bid Amount
1.	Frontier Precision	\$18,440.00
2.	Xylem	\$21,715.00
3.	Water Monitoring Solutions	\$21,765.00
4.	Fondriest Environmental Inc.	\$21,776.47

It was reported that the instrument submitted by Frontier Precision did not meet the District's quote specifications and therefore should be declared non-responsive. Following discussion, Director Osborne moved to declare the quote from Frontier Precision non-responsive for not meeting District quote specifications and to accept the quote from Xylem in the amount of \$21,715.00, plus sales tax, as the lowest responsive quote. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

Assistant Manager McCourtie requested authorization to call for Fall 2023 Quotes & Bids that consist of two pickups, 2 dump trucks, one D5 dozer, one grader and semi lift jacks. Following discussion, Director Baker moved to approve a call for Fall 2023 Quotes & Bids, as requested. Director Osborne seconded, and the motion carried. Following further discussion, Director Osborne moved to authorize a call for pup trailer bids. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried.

As called for in statute and by District policy, Secretary Simpson announced that the filing period was now open for Director Division No. 1, Incumbent Don Osborne. The Petition for Nomination, signed by at least 10 qualified voters from the division, must be filed in the East District's main office by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023. The election date is Tuesday, December 12, 2023. A news release will be sent to area news outlets.

Announcement
of Director
Elections

As called for in statute and by District policy, Secretary Simpson announced that the filing period was now open for Director Division No. 3, Incumbent Dennis Swinger, Jr. The Petition for Nomination, signed by at least 10 qualified voters from the division, must be filed in the East District's main office by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023. The election date is Tuesday, December 12, 2023. A news release will be sent to area news outlets.

EFO Irrigation District Liaison Rodman reported there is a new M&I contract form that will need Manager Simpson's review and more discussion after his review.

USBR Report

Safety Supervisor Walraf presented the monthly safety report.

Safety Report

District Engineer Gonzalez reported the engineering department has been busy with EL86.4 design and EL71.5 hoist installation assistance.

Engineer Report

Treasurer Dekker reported there were nine investments and nine maturities last month. She also reported she attended the WFOA conference.

Treasurer
Report

Assistant Manager McCourtie reported on both Watermaster section activities. He reported District crews have been preparing for the upcoming construction season.

Assistant
Manager O&M

Manager Simpson reported on a tour with Reclamation staff involved with OGWRP and an FCA tour of Main Canal features and the upper end of OGWRP. Manager Report

Director Lyle moved to approve Manager Simpson and appropriate staff to travel to the Bureau of Reclamation 2023 Tribal and Stakeholder's Workshop, October 17-18, 2023, Denver Federal Center in Lakewood, CO. Director Baker seconded, and the motion carried. Travel Authorization


Mr. Jake Wollman, Jr. commented on the proposed water service contract O&M increase from 75% to 80%, commenting landowners need the difference to pay for power and maintenance of their facilities. Public Comment

President Anderson declared an executive session at 2:30 p.m., for a total of 30 minutes, to discuss litigation and potential litigation with legal counsel under RCW 42.30.110(i), the sale of property under RCW 42.30.110(c), and to review the performance of a public employee under RCW 42.30.110(g). The meeting came out of executive session at 3:00 p.m. Executive Session

At 3:00 p.m., there being no further business to come before the Board at that time, President Anderson adjourned the meeting. Meeting Adjourned



Secretary



President