



Special Meeting-Board of Directors

Friday, July 19, 2019, 1:00 p.m.

Columbia Irrigation District

10 E Kennewick Ave, Kennewick, WA 99336

Columbia Irrigation District (CID) President Shawver called the Joint Meeting of Columbia Irrigation District and Kennewick Irrigation District Boards of Directors to order at 1:00 p.m.

CID Directors Present:

Vincent Shawver, President
Neil Martin, Vice President
Dallas Ayde
James Gose
Sherri Thackham

KID Directors Present:

Dean Dennis, President
Kirk Rathbun, Vice President
Gene Huffman
David McKenzie
Raman Venkata

CID Staff Present:

Clancy Flynn, Secretary/Manager
Lila Freshment, Office Manager

KID Staff Present:

Chuck Freeman, District Manager
Jason McShane, Engineering/Operations Manager
Seth Defoe, Land & Water Resources Manager
Lori Gibson, Executive Assistant
Shelbea Voelker, Public Relations Coordinator
Doris Rakowski, Executive Assistant

Other Persons Present:

Jeff Sperline, CID Attorney
John Crotty, KID Legal Counsel
Gary Weatherly, J-U-B Engineers

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: CID President Shawver called for approval of the agenda, which the CID board passed unanimously.

Attendees at the meeting briefly introduced themselves.

OPEN SESSION PRESENTATION: Chandler Electrification Project

Materials distributed or displayed at the meeting included:

1. KID Water Supply and Chandler Electrification
2. Yakima Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan (IP) Impacts to the Kennewick Irrigation District (KID)
3. Chandler Electrification Project
4. KID Diversion July 9, 2015 Hydro Pumps

Mr. Freeman spoke briefly about the need for a meeting on this topic and introduced Mr. McShane.

Mr. McShane spoke about:

- History of KID's water rights, the 1945 Consent Decree, and total water supply available (TWSA).
- 1994 YRBWEP (Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project) II legislation
- IP modeling revisions to show negative effects of conservation to the lower river
- Chandler electrification project

Mr. McShane referred to the KID Diversion July 9, 2015 Hydro Pumps handout and spoke about how Chandler electrification would work. He compared water use under the current conditions and with electrification of the pumps.

Mr. McShane spoke about reduction of water in the lower Yakima River, and potential impact to the CID, at Horn Rapids or Wanawish Dam. The need for the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to mitigate loss of supply.

Mr. McShane clarified that the Chandler electric pumps would only be run when there was not enough water in the river to run the hydro pumps. Discussion ensued regarding sufficient flow for CID and mitigation of reduced supply to CID, and level of available flow at existing physical facilities.

Mr. McShane confirmed to Mr. Gose that there would be both the existing hydro pumps and new electric pumps after the Chandler Electrification project. Mr. Flynn provided Mr. Gose a map illustrating the design.

In response to a question from Mr. Ayde, Mr. Freeman and Mr. McShane spoke about KID's ability to divert supply from reservoirs and the KID's 1950s contract.

Mr. McShane spoke about Title 12 of YRBWEP legislation, and how water flows were being managed for fish, rather than being continuously released from reservoirs. Use of saved water for replacement irrigation water supply under that law was discussed.

Mr. McShane spoke briefly about options for replacing water lost to KID, including pump exchange and subordination of power production. He noted that past subordination was insufficient to replace lost water, and pump exchange was extremely expensive.

Mr. Flynn said CID did not know the precise impact of conservation on their district or the potential effects of Chandler Electrification on CID. He spoke about measurement challenges.

Timing of the Chandler Electrification project under USBR process was briefly discussed. KID staff assured Mr. Flynn that the KID did not want to operate in a way to harm CID's supply. Mr. Freeman said KID asked the USBR to include CID in the stakeholder group being formed.

Mr. Flynn said he did not believe current target flows were adequate to serve CID's needs.

Mr. Freeman spoke about the process leading to the USBR's recent acknowledgement that they needed to mitigate KID's lost supply.

Mr. McShane spoke about how USBR operated the river to try to maintain target flows. Mr. McShane said that CID's structural challenges should be addressed by the USBR, in addition to mitigation of KID's lost supply.

At Mr. Flynn's request, Mr. McShane spoke further about USBR's modeling. Mr. McShane noted that the Kachess drought relief pumping plant (KDRPP) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) use of the model was being revised.

Mr. McShane referred to the KID Water Supply and Chandler Electrification graph and spoke about return flows to the Yakima River between Parker Gage and Prosser Dam in select drought years with pro rationing, as related to both CID and KID.

Mr. McShane spoke about the Yakima Basin reservoirs and support for increased storage. He said the IP plans were designed to get irrigation districts to 70%, not replace lost supply. Mr. Crotty said that, operationally, YRBWEP took conserved water and put it into storage.

Mr. Freeman said he thought accurate flow readings at CID's dam would be very helpful. Flynn spoke about concerns regarding flows this year. Responses of other districts to the 67% TWSA were discussed.

Mr. Freeman said KID would like to help CID install an accurate measuring device in exchange for shared data. He spoke of the importance of working together for the benefit of the lower river.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 2:00 p.m., CID President Shawver announced that the boards would go into executive session to discuss with respective legal counsels the legal risks of a proposed action pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)(iii), starting at 2:15 p.m., for 40 minutes.

At 2:55 p.m., the meeting returned to open session.

OPEN SESSION:

President Shawver asked CID directors for further discussion.

Mr. Flynn answered a question from Mr. Ayde about a construction project.

President Shawver said CID would try to be more involved in meeting important to the lower river.

The meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Attest:

Witness:



Dean Dennis, Board President
Approved August 20, 2019



Charles Freeman, District Manager

Prepared by Doris Rakowski