



**Minutes**

President Huffman called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and Mr. Freeman called roll.

**Directors:**

Gene Huffman, President  
 Kirk Rathbun, Vice President  
 David McKenzie  
 Dean Dennis  
 Arland Ward

**Staff Present:**

Charles Freeman, District Manager  
 Kipp Drummond, Comptroller/Treasurer  
 Jason McShane, Engineering/Operations Manager  
 Seth Defoe, Land and Water Resources Manager  
 Melissa Olheiser, Accounting Supervisor  
 Matt Berglund, Public Relations Coordinator  
 Lynda Rosenbaum, Real Property Manager  
 Doris Rakowski, Executive Assistant

**Other Persons Present:**

John Crotty, Western Legal  
 Two members of the public

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Director Dennis moved to approve the agenda. Director Ward seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA: Vice President Rathbun moved to approve the consent agenda. Director Ward seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

Items on the consent agenda were:

1. Minutes, KID Board Meeting, July 20, 2021
2. Vouchers/Warrant Approval

**Accounts Payable:**

Numbers:

	82645	through	82646	\$	3,275.78
	82647	through	82718	\$	176,325.57
	82719	through	82723	\$	85,222.27
Bank Drafts	FSA			\$	-
Bank Drafts	General			\$	-
Bank Drafts	AP			\$	92,187.96
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>				\$	<b>357,011.58</b>

**Payroll:**

Numbers:

	34364	through	34365	\$	751.54
Direct Deposit		7/20/2021		\$	144,734.74
<b>Total Payroll</b>				\$	<b>145,486.28</b>

**Voided Checks:**

	None	\$	-
<b>Total VOID</b>		\$	-
<b>Total Disbursements</b>		\$	<b>502,497.86</b>

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**PRESENTATIONS:** None

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**BOARD REPORTS:** President Huffman thanked staff for working with Red Mountain customers to address their system challenges.

**ACTION ITEMS:** None

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution 2021-26, Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan:** Materials for the action were distributed in the meeting room, and displayed on Zoom. Mr. McShane spoke about the format of the recently revised Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan for the years 2021 to 2027.

Revenue and funding sources, estimated by year included:

- Capital Charges (Assessments)
- In-kind labor or equipment
- WaterSMART or Ecology Integrated Plan grants
- Red Mountain Conservation Funds
- Conservation Capital Project Reserves
- Red Mountain LID interest and principal
- Regional Masterplan surcharges
- Real Estate Lease Income
- Drought Reserve Funds, as allowed by policy
- New Water Infrastructure and Supply Fund
- Bonding or outside funding

Projects categories included canal lining, technology/automation, system improvement, infrastructure upsizing, central storage, and non-irrigation infrastructure projects. Mr. McShane briefly highlighted several projects, including private line area conversion, large transmission piping projects, and recapture wells.

In response to a question from Director Dennis, Mr. McShane spoke about potential streamlining of capital activities resulting from title transfer.

Mr. McShane spoke about funding options for projects such as re-regulation, inline storage, and a central storage reservoir, such as low-interest loans and bonding.

Mr. Freeman spoke about consideration of development of a District-wide surcharge for conversion of private line areas to pressurized service. Mr. McShane spoke about the benefits of the conversion program.

Mr. McShane explained the difference between operational and conservation reservoirs, and spoke about advance procurement of equipment, labor, and materials. He said canals modifications and inline storage were needed, prior to construction of an operational reservoir.

Mr. Drummond noted that the Finance Committee had discussed financial planning for large projects, to take advantage of currently low interest rates.

Mr. McShane confirmed to Vice President Rathbun that canal widening was planned from about milepost 14 to 12.8; and canal deepening was planned from Badger Canyon road to milepost 6.8.

At President Huffman's request, Mr. McShane spoke about new recapture wells, lining, and encouragement of water conservation.

Mr. Freeman commended the level of detail in the plan. He said a project financing Board retreat would be planned for this fall.

The importance of long term vision and continuing to speak about District goals, and the vision and persistence of the District's founders were discussed.

**Vice President Rathbun moved to approve Resolution 2021-26, Adoption of 2021-2027 Six-Year Capital Improvement Plan of the Kennewick Irrigation District. Director Ward seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Resolution 2021-27, 2021 Authorized Positions & Salary Range Rev. IV:** Mr. McShane presented staff's request for nine additional full-time employees in the Engineering and Operations department, including:

- One Executive Assistant position in Engineering (\$4,612.09 to \$6,218.48 per month)
- One Staff Engineer position (\$31.30 to \$41.62 per hour)
- Seven Maintenance I, II, or III positions (\$15.81 to \$28.01 per hour)

The Executive Assistant and Engineer positions would be hired directly, and the Maintenance positions would be filled over time as needed. Continued use of temporary staff was planned.

Mr. McShane reported that Kim Scharnhorst, a contracted temporary employee, had been offered the Executive Assistant position.

Mr. McShane estimated the recommended action would increase the Engineering group 2022 budget by about \$188,500, and the Operations group 2022 budget by about \$480,000. The total impact for 2022 would be about \$668,500.

**Director Dennis moved to approve Resolution 2021-27, 2021 Authorized Positions and Salary Range Revision IV. Director Ward seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

#### **STAFF REPORTS:**

**Finance Manager:** Mr. Drummond reported regarding:

- Rescheduling a Zoom Finance Committee meeting
- Alternatives to the State's long-term care insurance coverage

**Engineering/Operations Manager:** Mr. McShane reported that meetings were held with Red Mountain growers regarding failure of two of three intake structure filters. Growers said rolling blackouts of filtered water were preferred to unfiltered water, dirty water was better than none.

Growers with alternative water sources switched over, which has helped significantly. The system ran at reduced capacity since the weekend, reducing the flushing frequency, and increasing functional life of the filters. Staff was able to fabricate one working screen from the two failed filters, so the system now operating with two filters. Mr. McShane said the failures were likely material fatigue, so future failures were anticipated.

Mr. McShane reported that Amiad estimated about three months for delivery of the unique filters, and had been asked to expedite the order. Amiad provided names of customers with same model, and there may be one filter in a U.S. warehouse, which could arrive more quickly.

Due to the exceptionally high level of sediment in the Yakima River, staff proposed adding a fourth filter for redundancy by the beginning of the 2022 season.

Mr. McShane played a video demonstrating the AMIAD EBS self-cleaning filter system.

Mr. McShane confirmed that the flushing rate went from 1.5 minutes earlier this week to about 7.5 minutes. He spoke about previous experience with filter arrays, and said he anticipated more than a proportional improvement in flushing times from increasing the number of filters.

Mr. McShane reported that the Marcello Estates project was underway, and spoke briefly about aquatic weed growth and control.

**Land & Water Resources Manager:** Mr. Defoe said La Niña conditions were anticipated for next year. He displayed and discussed web pages including:

- usbr.gov - Yakima River Five Reservoir Diagram, and Water Year Graph
- noaa.gov – Temperature and Precipitation graphs

Mr. Defoe also reported regarding:

- Elliot Lake levels
- Title Transfer progress
- River Ops meeting - August 4, 2021
- Realty Committee meeting - August 5, 2021
- Server room over-heating issues
- Archeological survey

**District Manager:** Mr. Freeman reported regarding:

- NWRA tour - next week
- Webinar drought planning - August 5
- Planned meeting with Roza District Manager at Yakama Nation offices
- Homeowners magazine, version 2
- Irrigation Leader Israel Water Education and Trade Tour. Discussion ensued. Action to authorize two Engineering/Operations or director attendees would be brought to the board.
- COVID-19 update

President Huffman express appreciation of the Red Mountain growers for their on-going cooperation and understanding of the filter situation.

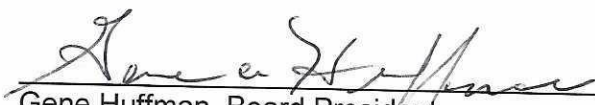
**WORKSHOP:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**Vice President Rathbun moved to adjourn at 10:54 a.m. Director Dennis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

Attest:

Witness:

  
Gene Huffman, Board President  
Minutes Approved August 17, 2021

  
Charles Freeman, Board Secretary

Prepared by Doris Rakowski