



PO Box 849 ~ 755 Connie Street
Mills, WY 82644

The Casper Alcova Irrigation District's annual meeting and election is scheduled for Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Agriculture Resource & Learning Center 2011 Fair Grounds Road.

In anticipation of this coming annual meeting and election, I would like to pass along some information:

District Commissioners and Their Responsibilities ~ A Brief Summary:

- Guided by Wyoming State Law, specifically Wyoming §§ Title 41 Chapter 7, the district is divided into five (5) commissioner subdistricts, with an elected commissioner from each subdistrict to serve on the board. Each commissioner shall serve for a term of three (3) years. These terms are staggered.
- Once elected, commissioners shall take and subscribe an oath to support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the state of Wyoming, to perform their duties faithfully and impartially as commissioners and to render a true account of their doing.
- The Board shall exercise the functions conferred on them by law.
- The Board shall have the power, and it shall be their duty, to adopt bylaws, make and execute all necessary contracts, employ such agents, attorneys, officers, and employees as may be required and prescribe their duties, and to establish equitable rules and regulations for the storage, management and release of water using the district's reservoir/canal system.
- To conduct business, a quorum must be present. CAID has five (5) commissioners, at least three (3) need to be present to have a quorum. The requirement for a quorum is protection against unrepresentative action in the name of the body by an unduly small number of persons ~ no single board member has the power as described above.
- Any member of the commission who has a personal or private interest in any matter proposed or pending before the commission shall publicly disclose this fact to the commission and shall not vote thereon. They will recuse themselves from the vote.

rPlus and Project Specific Black Canyon Hydro ~ A Better Understanding:

I have received several questions regarding the pumped storage project which CAID entered into a contract last year. Below are some key highlights:

- **What:**
 - The Seminoe Pumped Storage Project is a 972-megawatt pumped hydro energy storage project. This system shifts water between an upper reservoir and a lower reservoir to store energy and generate power when needed.
- **How:**
 - Pumping water from an existing lower reservoir (Seminoe Reservoir) 1,000 feet up to a newly created upper reservoir not to exceed 15,000 acre-feet in size.

Stored water in the upper reservoir is released to flow downhill through a turbine. The gravity driven force of the water flowing back down is harnessed to produce electricity. The lifespan of the facility is 75+ years.

- Securing water for the initial one-time fill requirement is approximately 13,400 acre-feet filled over the course of one (1) or multiple years. Once operational, the estimated water requirement or subsequent make-up water to replace annual evaporation and seepage loss is less than 700 acre-feet per year.

➤ **Income:**

- Initial payment (contract closing payment): Upon the execution of the agreement to secure sufficient water for the initial one-time fill and subsequent make-up water is ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). CAID has received this payment.
- Annual Payment: Until the initial fill of the new reservoir is completed, annual payments will be received every January in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). CAID has received this first January payment.
- Initial Fill Payment: The Initial Fill Payment of seventy-five \$75 per acre-foot of water (13,400 acre-feet) for a maximum amount not to exceed one million one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$1,125,000.00) will be paid to CAID.
- Once the initial fill is completed, CAID will then receive an annual payment of at least eighteen thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$18,750.00). CAID will also receive an additional \$75.00 per acre foot if more than 250 acre-feet are needed for make-up water in any given year. The price of \$75.00 per acre foot will escalate on a revolving five (5) year basis.

You can find more information about the project here:

[Seminole Pumped Storage](#)

[rPlus Hydro Reaches Major Milestone on its 900-Megawatt Seminole Pumped Storage Project \(prnewswire.com\)](#)

All meetings can be watched live via ZOOM. The link can be found on the calendar under the Resource Tab. Click on the day of the meeting. The PIN is 755. All meetings are recorded and will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

As always, I want to hear from you! Please stop by the office or call me with any questions, concerns, or if you hear something that just doesn't seem quite right!



Joan McGraw
District Manager