

Exhibit “A”

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING –MARCH 27, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President McLaughlin on March 27, 2023 at the District offices, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

Directors Present: LaMar, Reinhart, and McLaughlin

Directors Absent: Swan and Withers

Written and Oral Communications: None.

Also Present: General Manager Cook, Executive Director of Operations Chambers, Executive Director of Finance and Administration Clary, Executive Director of Technical Services Burton, Executive Director of Water Policy Weghorst, Director of Strategic Communications and Advocacy / Deputy General Counsel Compton, Director of Water Resources Sanchez, Director of Recycling Operations Zepeda, Director of Human Resources Mitcham, Director of Water Quality and Regulatory Compliance Colston, Director of Safety and Security Choi, Director of Maintenance Manning, Director of Treasury Morris, Secretary Bonkowski, Assistant Secretary Swan, General Counsel Collins (via Webex), Assistant General Counsel Beck, and members of the staff and public.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On MOTION by LaMar, seconded by Reinhart, and unanimously carried, CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 4 THROUGH 7 WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

4. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the March 13, 2023 Regular Board Meeting be approved as presented.

5. FEBRUARY 2023 TREASURY REPORT

Recommendation: That the Board receive and file the Treasurer’s Investment Summary report, the summary of fixed and variable rate debt, and the disclosure report of reimbursements to Board members and staff, approve the February 2023 summary of payroll ACH payments in the total amount of \$2,468,704, and approve the February 2023 accounts payable disbursement summary of warrants 433681 through 434258, Workers’ Compensation distributions, ACH payments, virtual card payments, wire transfers, payroll withholding distributions and voided checks in the total amount of \$20,300,121.

6. TRUCK-MOUNTED CRANE PURCHASE

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a Purchase Order with Altec Industries, Inc. in the amount of \$416,646 for the purchase of one new truck-mounted crane.

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

7. TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY AND CONTINUED SERVICES AGREEMENT

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute the Consent to the Trabuco Canyon Water District Withdrawal from South Orange County Wastewater Authority and Continued Services Agreement, subject to non-substantive changes.

ACTION CALENDAR

8. 2023 RECHARGE PROGRAM WITH BUENA VISTA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Executive Director of Water Policy Weghorst provided an overview of the Buena Vista Water Storage District (BVWSD) noting that: 1) the average entitlement is 150,000 acre-feet per year of Kern River water with the right to divert surplus water; 2) has storage rights in Lake Isabella; 3) its management program consists of up to 100,000 acre-feet per year of Palms Groundwater Recharge Project and up to 17,500 acre feet of IRWD Strand Ranch Water Bank.

Mr. Weghorst reviewed the long-term banking program with BVWSD and said that in 2010, IRWD and BVWSD entered into a long-term *Agreement for Water Acquisition by Irvine Ranch Water District from Buena Vista Water Management Program* (Exchange Agreement) which established an exchange program at the Strand Ranch portion of IRWD's Water Bank. The Exchange Agreement allows BVWSD to recharge up to 17,500 acre-feet (AF) of high-flow Kern River water per year at the Strand Ranch on an unbalanced exchange basis, with IRWD receiving 50% of the water, less a proportional share of losses. BVWSD's allocated annual rate of recovery under the Exchange Agreement is 6,667 AF.

Mr. Weghorst said that after purchasing the Stockdale West property in December 2010, IRWD constructed recharge basins on the Stockdale West portion of the IRWD Water Bank. In August 2011, IRWD and BVWSD entered into an agreement allowing BVWSD to use the Stockdale West recharge basins for one year to capture up to 10,000 AF of high-flow Kern River water on an unbalanced exchange basis. BVWSD recharged 3,268 AF of high-flow Kern River water using the Stockdale West basins, in addition to 17,500 AF at the Strand Ranch.

Mr. Weghorst said that in 2017 IRWD executed an agreement with BVWSD for a one-year recharge program to augment recharge using the Stockdale West recharge facilities for up to an additional 12,500 AF, and they recharged 13,654 AF utilizing the Strand and Stockdale West recharge basins with IRWD receiving 6,827 AF.

Mr. Weghorst said that in 2019 IRWD executed an agreement with BVWSD for a one-year recharge program to augment recharge under the Exchange Agreement utilizing the Stockdale West recharge facilities for up to an additional 12,500 AF and IRWD purchased 5,974 AF from BVWSD at \$110 per AF.

Mr. Weghorst said that implementation of the proposed 2023 Recharge Program would at IRWD's discretion provide the following: 1) after first delivering 17,500 AF under the Exchange Agreement, BVWSD could deliver a minimum of 4,500 AF of high-flow Kern River on a second priority basis; 2) if BVWSD augments recharge by at least 4,500 AF, then IRWD would pay BVWSD \$25 per AF for its share of water delivered under the Exchange Agreement and the 2023 Recharge Program; 3) BVWSD would pay all actual recovery costs for its share of water delivered under the 2023 Recharge Program, estimated at \$120 per AF; 4) if BVWSD augments recharge by at least 4,500 AF, then BVWSD would be provided additional annual recovery capacity of 750 AF on a first priority basis; and 5) all other terms and conditions under the Exchange Agreement would apply to the proposed Recharge Program.

Following discussion, on MOTION by Reinhart, seconded by LaMar and unanimously carried, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A LETTER AGREEMENT WITH BUENA VISTA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT FOR A 2023 RECHARGE PROGRAM BASED ON TERMS PRESENTED, SUBJECT TO NON-SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES, GIVING IRWD THE ABILITY TO ALLOW BUENA VISTA WATER STORAGE DISTRICT TO AUGMENT THE SUPPLIES DELIVERED INTO STORAGE AT THE IRWD WATER BANK.

OTHER BUSINESS

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Cook reported that due to the recent rains, the District is releasing water from Irvine Lake and that Sand Canyon Reservoir is spilling water. Mr. Cook said that if there is another storm, the boards may be installed to hold water at a higher level at Irvine Lake.

Mr. Cook said that with the Governor lifting the drought emergency, the District will be bringing an item to the next Board meeting rescinding the 2021 drought declaration.

Mr. Cook introduced Water Quality Laboratory Manager Scott Giatpaiboon and Director of Treasury Kent Morris to the Board.

Mr. Cook said that this afternoon, he heard of the passing of Mr. Jim Goodrich and asked that the President adjourn the meeting in his memory. He said that Mr. Goodrich was an IRWD Board member from 1980 through 1988.

10. COMMUNITY UPDATE

Consultant Newell reported that all is well in the canyons.

11. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Director LaMar reported on the meetings on the list.

Director Reinhart reported that he attended a MWDOC Board meeting.

Director McLaughlin reported on her attendance at an IRWD community tour, and complimented staff on their efforts.

OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

12. CLOSED SESSION

Assistant General Counsel Paul Beck announced that the following Closed Session would be held this evening:

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8:

Property: Storage Rights and other District Real Property at Santiago Reservoir (Irvine Lake), adjacent to 4621 Santiago Canyon Road, Silverado Canyon, CA 92676.

Agency negotiator: Paul Cook

Negotiating parties: Serrano Water District

Under negotiation: Price and Terms

13. OPEN SESSION

Following the Closed Session, the meeting was reconvened with Directors LaMar, Reinhart, and McLaughlin present. No action was reported.

14. ADJOURNMENT

President McLaughlin adjourned the meeting in memory of Mr. Jim Goodrich.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 10TH day of April 2023.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

Secretary, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire Hervey Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP