

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – August 10, 2020

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 Matheis on August 10, 2020 via teleconference pursuant to the provisions of the Governor’s Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 due to COVID-19. Members of the public did not attend this meeting in person.

Directors Present: Reinhart, Swan, Withers, LaMar and Matheis.

Directors Absent: None.

Also Present: General Manager Cook, Executive Director of Technical Services Burton, Executive Director of Water Policy Weghorst, Executive Director of Finance and Administration Clary, Director of Treasury and Risk Management Jacobson, Executive Director of Operations Chambers, General Counsel Collins, Director of Public Affairs Beeman, Director of Human Resources Roney, Director of Water Quality and Regulatory Compliance Colston, Director of Recycling Operations Zepeda, Director of Maintenance Mykitta, Director of Administrative Services Malone, Director of Water Resources Sanchez, Government Relations Officer/Deputy General Counsel Compton, Secretary Bonkowski, Mr. Bruce Newell, Mr. Dean Kirk, and members of staff and the public.

WRITTEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None

CONSENT CALENDAR

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by Swan, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote (5-0) Withers, Matheis, Reinhart, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, and 0 noes, CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 3 THROUGH 7 WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

3. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the July 13, 2020 Regular Board meeting be approved as presented.

4. RATIFY/APPROVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Recommendation: That the Board ratify/approve the meetings and events for Mary Aileen Matheis, Peer Swan, Doug Reinhart, Steve LaMar, and John Withers, as described.

5. IRWD STRATEGIC MEASURES

Recommendation: Receive and file.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)

6. INCREASE IN LIMIT FOR CAPITALIZATION OF ASSETS

Recommendation: That the Board increase the capitalization amount of capital assets from \$2,500 to \$10,000, effective July 1, 2020.

7. JUNE 2020 TREASURY REPORT

Recommendation: That the Board receive and file the Treasurer's Investment Summary Report, the Summary of Fixed and Variable Rate Debt, and Disclosure Report of Reimbursements to Board members and staff, approve the June 2020 Summary of Payroll ACH payments in the total amount of \$2,099,235, and approve the June 2020 accounts payable Disbursement Summary of warrants 408859 through 409797, Workers' Compensation distributions, wire transfers, payroll withholding distributions and voided checks in the total amount of \$45,217,395.

ACTION CALENDAR

2020 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

Government Relations Officer/Deputy General Counsel Compton reported on the 2019-2020 legislative session, regulatory issues, and IRWD priorities. Ms. Compton said that Policy committees now have until August 14 to hear bills in the Assembly and August 15 to hear bills in the Senate. Fiscal committees in both houses will have until August 21 to meet and report bills to the floor. The last day for each house to pass bills without an urgency clause this legislative year is August 31, which is the day the Final Recess begins.

Ms. Compton reviewed the economic recovery plan noting that the economic stimulus plan proposes to raise \$100 billion for the State by issuing future tax vouchers, securitizing current revenue streams, accelerating general obligation bonds, and borrowing from the federal government. She then reviewed three policies, including 1) Support for Small Business; 2) Protections for Working Families; and 3) Investments in Our Green Economy.

Ms. Compton further reviewed the 2020 State Legislative update including SB 414 (Caballero, D-Salinas) – Small System Water Authority Act of 2019; SB 1099 (Dodd, D-Napa/Glazer, D-Orinda) – Emergency Backup Generators; SB 1386 (Moorlach) – Local Government – Water Assessments, Fees and Charges; and State-proposed COVID-19 related legislation.

Following discussion with the Board and staff, this item was received and filed without action.

2020 VAULT REHABILITATIONS CONSTRUCTION AWARD

This project includes the rehabilitation of 11 vaults located within Irvine Boulevard and Modjeska in the Great Park Neighborhoods development and within Culver Drive in the Orchard Hills development in Irvine. In response to Director Swan's inquiry, Executive Director of Technical Services Burton said that the contractor, Ferreira Construction Co., Inc.

would stand behind its bid which is much lower than the engineer's estimate. He said that Ferreira has previously worked for IRWD and performed well on the recently completed Bake Parkway Zone 5 to 4 Fire Flow Pressure Reducing Valve and Pipeline. On MOTION by Reinhart, seconded by LaMar, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote (5-0) Withers, Matheis, Reinhart, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, and 0 noes, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH FERREIRA CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$652,026 FOR THE 2020 VAULT REHABILITATIONS, PROJECT 10542.

OTHER BUSINESS

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Cook reported that relative to the current COVID-19 activity, five employees tested positive, and all have recovered, and are back to work. Mr. Cook said that the District supplies are holding up, and we are in a good position.

Mr. Cook said that as a follow-up to the Engineering and Operations Committee meeting item where a PFAS study prepared by Carollo Engineering was discussed, the District is one of 11 agencies involved, and that staff is exploring if the City of Orange could partner on a joint facility effort. He said that concepts will be worked on, and hopefully within a few months, staff will bring back an item to the Board for discussion if deemed worthwhile.

Mr. Cook said that Ms. Christine Compton was recognized by the California Special Districts Association with the 2020 Ralph Heim Outreach and Advocacy Award, and that IRWD is very proud of her efforts.

Mr. Cook further said that he received sad news of the passing of former OPA Board Director Sonny Bryant, who contracted COVID-19. He asked that tonight's Board meeting be adjourned in his memory.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Director LaMar reported on his attendance at a virtual ACWA summer conference, a WACO meeting, and ACWA Board and Committee meetings.

Director Swan reported on his attendance at an OCBC Instructure Committee meeting, MWDOC Board and Public Affairs Committee meetings, a Regional Water Quality Control Board hearing on desalination, an ACWA-JPIA Board meeting, and a Southern California Water Coalition meeting. He said that tomorrow he will be attending a two-day CASA virtual conference, and next week an Urban Water Institute virtual conference.

Director Withers complimented staff on item No. 5 and said the Strategic Measures graphics were very well done, and in a clear and simple manner. He further complimented Director LaMar on his efforts during the recent ACWA conference as President of the organization. Mr. Withers reported on his attendance at a Southern California Water Coalition meeting on stormwater, and a WACO meeting. He announced that this Friday is the second virtual OCSD tour if the Board and/or staff has an interest as it is very well done.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS (Continued)

Director Reinhart reported that he attended MWDOC and OCWD meetings, an ACWA virtual conference, and a two-day Regional Water Quality Control Board hearing.

Director Matheis reported that she attended her standard meetings, an ACWA conference, a Headwaters tour by the Water Education Foundation, and a WACO meeting. She said that with all the virtual meetings she feels that she is missing opportunities with one-on-one conversations and are not a perfect setting to accomplish overall tasks. She said she is looking forward to when we can all be back to normal settings with each other.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

The District's consultant Bruce Newell reported on a recent Southern California Edison planned outage from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. He said that as a follow-up to his comments at the last Board meeting, he met with staff at the Modjeska Reservoir, and that staff will have a safety chain installed next week. He further reported on a recent eight-acre fire which did not threaten any residential properties. In response to Director Swan's inquiry, General Manager Cook said that staff will be bringing the reservoir up to capacity.

ADJOURNMENT

President Matheis adjourned the meeting at 5:55 p.m. in memory of Sonny Bryant, a former Orange Park Acres Board member and a good friend to many.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 24TH day of August 2020.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

Secretary IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire Hervey Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP