

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – AUGUST 12, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) was called to order by President Reinhart at 5:00 p.m. on August 12, 2024 at the District offices, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

Directors Present: McLaughlin, Withers, Swan, LaMar, and President Reinhart.

Directors Absent: None.

Oral and Written Communications: None.

Items too late to be agendaized: None.

Also Present: General Manager Cook, Executive Director of Technical Services Burton, Executive Director of Operations Chambers, Executive Director of Finance Adly, Executive Director of Water Policy Weghorst, Director of Human Resources Mitcham, Director of Maintenance Manning, Recycling Operations Zepeda, Director of Water Resources Sanchez, Director of Information Technology Kaneshiro, Director of Water Quality and Regulatory Compliance Colston, Director of Strategic Communications and Advocacy/Deputy General Counsel Compton, Director of Financial Planning and Data Analytics Smithson, Water Efficiency Manager McNulty, and General Counsel Collins, Secretary Swan, Consultant Newell, and members of the staff and public.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Item 9 was moved to the Action Calendar at the request of President Reinhart. Prior to voting on the Consent Calendar, General Counsel Collins announced a minor title change on Exhibit “C” of agenda item 8 was requested by the City of Irvine. This desired change would not affect the content of the report or agreement, it would simply change a portion of title on the reimbursement agreement between IRWD and the City of Irvine from “Annual Street Rehabilitation and Slurry Seal” to “On-call Street Rehabilitation and Slurry Seal Contract”. On MOTION by Withers, seconded by LaMar and unanimously carried, CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 5 THROUGH 8 AND 10 WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

4. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the July 22, 2024 Regular Board meeting be approved as presented.

5. 2024 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

Recommendation: Receive and file.

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

6. RENEWAL OF GROUP MEDICAL, DENTAL, VISION, AND ANCILLARY PLAN SERVICES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2025

Recommendation: That the Board authorizes the continuation of IRWD's health insurance coverage with CalPERS with changes in District and employee contribution rates as outlined, authorize the continuation of the District's dental insurance coverage with Delta Dental, authorize the continuation of the District's vision insurance coverage with EyeMed, authorize the renewal of the District's Employee Assistance Program with REACH, authorize the term life, accidental death and dismemberment, long-term disability and employee assistance program coverage with Reliance Standard, and contract with Inspira Financial to administer the Flexible Spending Account, Lifestyle Savings Account, Health Reimbursement Arrangement, COBRA, and Commuter Benefits

7. ORANGE HEIGHTS SUPPLEMENTAL REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a supplemental Reimbursement Agreement with Irvine Community Development Company, LLC for the Orange Heights Capital Facilities.

8. REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN IRWD AND THE CITY OF IRVINE FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2024-25 AND 2025-26 ANNUAL STREET REHABILITATION AND SLURRY SEAL PROJECT

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute the Reimbursement Agreement (On-call Street Rehabilitation and Slurry Seal Contract) between IRWD and the City of Irvine for adjustment of street utilities to grade for the Fiscal Years 2024-25 and 2025-26 Annual Street Rehabilitation and Slurry Seal Project, subject to non-substantive changes.

10. UTILITY BILL PRINTING, MAILING, AND ELECTRONIC BILL PRESENTMENT SERVICES CONTRACT

Recommendation: That the Board approve a two-year renewal period effective August 16, 2024, through August 15, 2026, with Infosend, Inc. for utility bill printing, mailing, and electronic bill presentment services, totaling approximately \$1,400,000.

ACTION CALENDAR

9. SAN JOAQUIN RESERVOIR VALVE ACTUATOR PURCHASE AND BUDGET ADDITION

President Reinhart questioned the limited lifespan of the valve actuators. Executive Director of Technical Services Burton confirmed that the new actuators maintain a high-quality reputation in the water industry.

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

On MOTION by LaMar, seconded by Swan, and carried unanimously, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH SOUTHWEST VALVE & EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$366,427 FOR THE PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT VALVE ACTUATORS AND AUTHORIZED THE ADDITION OF THE SAN JOAQUIN RESERVOIR ACTUATOR REPLACEMENT, PROJECT 13111, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$982,300 TO THE FY 2024-25 CAPITAL BUDGET.

11. ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE AND METER REPLACEMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY

Using PowerPoint, Water Efficiency Manager McNulty presented an overview of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) and Meter Replacement Feasibility Study. She explained how AMI aligns with six of the District's target activities. Providing a thorough history of AMI, benefits associated with AMI systems, the study, and next steps, Water Efficiency Manager McNulty fielded questions from the Board. Director McLaughlin provided an Engineering and Operations' Committee Report, and the Committee supports the staff recommendation. The Board expressed interest in exploring the next steps of the AMI data communications technology assessment, implementation plan, and associated recommendations.

On MOTION by McLaughlin, seconded by Withers, and carried unanimously, THE BOARD APPROVED BUDGET INCREASES TO THE AMI IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE DOMESTIC AND RECYCLED SYSTEMS PROJECTS 12514 AND 12515 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$125,000 EACH, FOR A COMBINED AMOUNT OF \$250,000, TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 CAPITAL BUDGET TO BE USED IN DEVELOPING A DETAILED AMI IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.

OTHER BUSINESS

12. General Manager's Report

General Manager Cook stated that he did not have a report for the evening.

13. Receive oral update(s) from District liaison(s) regarding communities within IRWD's service area and interests.

Consultant Newell reported that the Canyons are doing well; IRWD is present due to the work being done on the reservoir; and he's looking forward to IRWD's participation in their annual community meeting

14. Directors' Comments and Meeting Reports

Director McLaughlin reported on her attendance at the WACO monthly meeting via teleconference.

Director Withers reported on his participation at the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon; the Southern California Water Coalition's Quarterly Luncheon in Downey; the monthly WACO Meeting via teleconference; the monthly ISDOC Executive Committee meeting via teleconference; and the MWDOC Board Workshop with MWD Directors: "*A Presentation on the Delta Conveyance Project Benefits & Costs*" via teleconference.

OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

14. Directors' Comments and Meeting Reports (Continued)

Director Swan reported on his participation in the Quarterly MWDOC / OCWD Joint Planning Committee Meeting; his attendance at the CASA Annual Conference in Monterey; the monthly WACO Meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Planning and Operations / Administration and Finance Combined Committee Meeting via teleconference; and the MWDOC Board Workshop with MWD Directors: "*A Presentation on the Delta Conveyance Project Benefits & Costs*" via teleconference.

Director LaMar reported on his participation at the South Orange County Agencies' Group Meeting; the Southern California Water Coalition's Board meeting in Downey; the Southern California Water Coalition's Quarterly Luncheon in Downey; the monthly WACO Meeting via teleconference; the Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations Colloquium in La Jolla; and the MWDOC Board Workshop with MWD Directors: "*A Presentation on the Delta Conveyance Project Benefits & Costs*" via teleconference.

President Reinhart reported on his participation in the Quarterly MWDOC / OCWD Joint Planning Committee Meeting; the South Orange County Agencies' Group Meeting; the Southern California Water Coalition's Quarterly Luncheon in Downey; the monthly WACO Meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Planning and Operations / Administration and Finance Combined Committee Meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Board Workshop with MWD Directors: "A Presentation on the Delta Conveyance Project Benefits & Costs" via teleconference; the OCWD Board meeting via teleconference; and the OCWD Communications and Legislative Liaison Committee meeting via teleconference.

15. CLOSED SESSION

President Reinhart convened the meeting into Closed Session at 5:58 p.m. and General Legal Counsel Collins announcing the following:

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

Property: APNs 839-150-002, 839-150-001, 821-160-010, 821-160-001, 815-180-018, 827-120-010-3, 827-130-005-0, 827-140-001-7, 830-050-004, 830-050-008, 830-050-010, 827-040-005, 827-040-004, 827-072-001, 827-072-002, 827-072-003, 827-072-004, 827-072-005, 827-072-010, 827-120-002-6, 827-120-001-5, 827-040-006-3, 827-040-003-0, 827-050-003-1, 827-050-007, 827-050-005, 827-050-001-9, 827-050-002-0, 827-120-003-7, 827-120-004-8, 827-120-007-1, 827-120-006-0, 827-120-005-9, 827-120-008-2, 827-120-009-3, 827-120-011-4, 827-130-012-6, 827-030-003-9, 827-030-003, 827-020-004-9, 827-020-018, 827-020-018-2, 827-020-002, 827-020-001, 827-020-003, 815-180-011, 815-180-006, 815-180-003, 827-040-001-8, 830-030-004

Agency Negotiators: Paul Cook, Paul Weghorst

Negotiating Parties: E&S Farming, Poole Farming, Red River Farms, Van Dyke Farms

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

16. OPEN SESSION

Following the Closed Session, the meeting was reconvened in Open Session with Directors Withers, Swan, McLaughlin, LaMar, and President Reinhart present. General Counsel Collins announced that there was no action to report.

17. Adjournment

There being no further business, President Reinhart adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 26th day of August 2024.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

Secretary, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire Hervey Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP