

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – September 14, 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 September 14, 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. Kelly Rowe, Mr. Bruce Newell, and members of staff and the public.

WRITTEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Orange County Water District’s Mr. Kelly Rowe, in his role as an appointed SAWPA Commissioner, presented an overview of its Watershed Weather Modification for Water Supply Feasibility Study and highlighted a cloud seeding program which he believed the District may have an interested in exploring. He further discussed potential issues in the Santiago basin including soils work needing maintenance by the County.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On MOTION by Matheis, 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 August 24, 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.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Continued)

5. SAND CANYON PROFESSIONAL CENTER – PHASE II PROJECT UPDATE AND LISTING AGREEMENT EXTENSION

Recommendation: That the Board approve a new listing agreement for the lease of the Sand Canyon Professional Office Center Phase II with the brokerage team of Cushman & Wakefield and Colliers International under previously agreed-upon commission terms and expiring February 28, 2021.

6. LAKE FOREST WELL NO. 5 DESTRUCTION FINAL ACCEPTANCE

Recommendation: That the Board accept construction of the Lake Forest Well No. 5 Destruction, authorize the General Manager to file a Notice of Completion, and authorize the payment of the retention 35 days after the date of recording the Notice of Completion for Project 11168.

7. RENEWAL OF GROUP MEDICAL, DENTAL, VISION AND TERM LIFE INSURANCE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2021

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the continuation of IRWD's health insurance coverage with CalPERS with changes in District and employee contribution rates as outlined in Exhibit "A", authorize the continuation of the District's dental insurance coverage with ACWA/JPIA with no change in premium rates, authorize the continuation of the District's vision insurance coverage with EyeMed with no change in premium rates, authorize the continuation of the District's Term Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment coverage with Reliance Standard with no change in premium rates, and authorize the continuation of voluntary Delta Dental and EyeMed buy-up plans for employee purchase.

ACTION CALENDAR

2020 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

Government Relations Officer/Deputy General Counsel Compton provided an update on the 2019-2020 legislative session and IRWD priorities. Ms. Compton said that it is the end of session, and with the impacts of COVID-19, the policy and fiscal committee deadlines were adjusted again. She said that the last day for each house to pass bills without an urgency clause this legislative year was August 31, which was the day the Final Recess began. The Governor has until September 30 to sign or veto legislation passed by the Legislature this session. The 2021-2022 Regular Legislative Session will begin on December 7, 2020.

Ms. Compton updated the Board on State Legislation, State Regulatory, and Federal Legislation along with 2021 legislation planning.

Director LaMar said that this item was reviewed by the Water Resources Policy and Communications Committee on September 3, 2020. A motion was made by LaMar and seconded by Matheis. Prior to the vote, Director LaMar reported on SB 4431 (Feinstein and Daines) Emergency Wildfire and Public Safety Act of 2020 and recommended that the District add a support position to this bill as well. He further said that this bill is a priority of

ACWA. Director LaMar said he would like to offer a substitute motion to the pending motion, to add a support position for SB443. There being no objection to this addition, an amended MOTION was made by LaMar, seconded by Matheis and unanimously carried by a roll call vote (5-0) Withers, Matheis, Reinhart, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, and 0 noes, THE BOARD ADOPTED A “SUPPORT” POSITION ON H.R. 8041 (HARDER), D S. 4530 (FEINSTEIN). AND SB 4431 (FEINSTEIN AND DAINES).

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

General Manager Cook reported that all is well and was happy to report no new cases of COVID-19 among staff.

DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS

Director Swan reported on his attendance at Kern Fan Groundwater Authority’s initial Board meeting, an ACWA Energy Committee meeting, a Southern California Dialogue Steering Committee meeting, an OCBC Government Affairs meeting, MWDOC Board and Planning meetings, a WACO meeting, and an OCWD Finance Committee meeting along with a Water Issues Committee meeting, along with other regular meetings.

Director Withers reported on his attendance at an ISDOC Executive Committee meeting, an NWRI Board meeting, and a WACO meeting.

Director LaMar reported on his attendance at a California Environmental Dialogue Session, a WACO meeting, and ACWA meetings.

Director Reinhart reported on his regular meetings including OCWD, MWDOC, a South County meeting, a Groundwater Banking Authority Board meeting, and a WACO meeting.

Director Matheis reported on her attendance at a WACO meeting. She further encouraged the Board to visit the non-profit Shadetree Partnership nursery where she attended an event last Saturday. She said that it was a wonderful effort in gathering volunteers to do nursery work. She said she is very proud of its General Manager Tom Bonkowski, and its Director Leslie Bonkowski, for their efforts, and was glad that the new Facility Manager, Victor Zamora, was in attendance as well working on the nursery’s irrigation system.

COMMUNITY UPDATES:

The District’s consultant, Mr. Bruce Newell, said there was no updates, only that the canyon is trying to get through the fire season.

CLOSED SESSION

General Counsel Collins said that the following Closed Session will be held:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — EXISTING LITIGATION – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): *Kessner, et al. v. City of Santa Clara, IRWD, et al.*, Santa Clara County Superior Court Case No. 20CV364054

OPEN SESSION

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

ADJOURNMENT

President Matheis adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 28TH day of September 2020.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

Secretary IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire Hervey Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP