

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 8, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) was called to order by Acting President LaMar at 5:04 p.m. on April 8, 2024 at the District offices, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

President LaMar said that prior to roll call, he asked the Secretary to make a statement.

Secretary Swan announced that Director Reinhart joined the Board meeting via teleconference pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953, and that he is participating from the Emerald Desert RV Resort located at 76000 Frank Sinatra Drive, Space 302, Palm Desert, CA 92211. In response to Secretary Swan’s inquiry, Director Reinhart said that the agenda was posted at that site 72 hours in advance for any member of the public to review and that no one wished to participate in the meeting. Secretary Swan said that all votes this evening will be taken by a roll call vote.

Directors Present: Reinhart (via teleconference), McLaughlin, Withers, Swan, and LaMar.

Director Absent: None.

Oral and Written Communications: None.

Items too late to be agendized: 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, Director of Safety and Security Choi, Director of Strategic Communication and Advocacy Compton, Director of Water Quality and Regulatory Compliance Colston, Director of Water and Recycling Operations Zepeda, General Counsel Collins (via teleconference), Secretary Swan, Consultant Newell (via teleconference), and members of the staff and public.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Withers and unanimously carried on a roll call vote (5-0, Withers, Swan, Reinhart, McLaughlin, and LaMar voting aye), CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 4 THROUGH 5 WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

4. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the March 25, 2024 Regular Board meeting be approved as presented.

5. 2024 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

Recommendation: The Board adopt a “support” position on AB 2599 (Asm. ESTM Com.) and SB 1110 (Ashby); a “watch” position on AB 2533 (Carillo), AB 3121 (Hart), SB 1185 (Niello), and SB 1330 (Archuleta); a “seek amendments” position on AB 2409 (Papan); and an “oppose unless amended” position on AB 2079 (Bennett) and AB 2592 (Grayson).

OTHER BUSINESS

6. General Manager's Report

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

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

Consultant Newell participated via teleconference, and via General Manager Cook, reported that all is well in the Canyons.

8. Directors' Comments and Meeting Reports

Director McLaughlin stated that she had nothing to report.

Director Withers reported on his participation in the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting and the WACO Monthly meeting.

Director Swan reported on his attendance for the West Basin Board Workshop meeting with the MWD Board of Directors in Carson; the MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee Meeting; the Southern California Water Dialogue Steering Committee Meeting; the MWDOC Workshop Board Meeting with MWD Directors; and the WACO Monthly Meeting.

President LaMar reported on his attendance for the CCEEB 501(c)(3) California Environmental Dialogue meeting; the Riverside County Water Task Force meeting; the ACWA Executive Committee; and the ACWA Board of Directors' meeting in Sacramento.

Director Reinhart reported on his participation in the MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee Meeting; the MWDOC Workshop Board Meeting with MWD Directors; the OCWD Communications and Legislative Liaison Committee Meeting; and the WACO Monthly Meeting.

9. CLOSED SESSION

President LaMar convened the meeting into Closed Session at 5:09 p.m. with General Legal Counsel Collins announcing the following:

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): *Graciela Montejano v. IRWD, et al.*, Case No. 30-2022-01251588-CU-OE-NJC

10. OPEN SESSION

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

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, President LaMar adjourned the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 22nd day of April 2024.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

Secretary, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire Hervey Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP