

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 28, 2025

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 April 28, 2025 at the District offices, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

Directors Present: Ferons, Swan, Withers, and President Reinhart.

Directors Absent: LaMar.

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 Water Policy Weghorst, Executive Director of Operations Chambers, Director of Water Resources Sanchez, Director of Financial Planning and Data Analytics Smithson, Director of Human Resources Mitcham, Director of Recycling Operations Zepeda, Director of Information Technology Kaneshiro, Director of Accounting and Treasury Lin, Director of Safety and Security Choi, Director of Strategic Communications & Advocacy Compton, Director of Maintenance Operations Manning, General Counsel Collins, Secretary Swan, members of the staff, and public.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by Swan and unanimously carried, CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS FOUR THROUGH EIGHT WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

4. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the April 14, 2025 Regular Board meeting be approved as presented.

5. MARCH 2025 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 March 2025 Summary of Payroll ACH payments in the total amount of \$2,609,279, and approve the March 2025 accounts payable disbursement summary of warrants 448122 through 448651, Workers' Compensation distributions, ACH payments, virtual card payments, wire transfers, payroll withholding distributions, and voided checks in the net total amount of \$23,556,788.

6. GUIDING PRINCIPLES SCORECARD

Recommendation: Receive and file.

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

7. DESIGNATION OF IRWD AUTHORIZED AGENTS FOR THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

Recommendation: That the Board approve the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Form 130 (IRWD Resolution No. 2025-9), designating IRWD authorized agents for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance for any existing and future grant programs.

8. IRWD 2025 SEWER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Recommendation: That the Board approve the IRWD 2025 Sewer System Management Plan.

ACTION CALENDAR

9. IRWD NATURAL TREATMENT SYSTEM LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SERVICES CONTRACT

Executive Director of Operations Chambers provided an overview of the District's essential needs for landscape maintenance services to maintain and preserve IRWD's Natural Treatment System.

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by Swan, and unanimously carried, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE FOUR, THREE-YEAR CONTRACTS FOR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SERVICES, INCLUDING A PROVISION FOR A TWO-YEAR EXTENSION, WITH BEMUS LANDSCAPE, INC., FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$5,947,077.

10. ADOPTION OF 2025 ORANGE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Director of Safety and Security Choi reported that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requires water and wastewater agencies to maintain a current and approved Hazard Mitigation Plan to be eligible for certain federal grant programs; this plan must also be updated every five years. IRWD's plan was adopted by the Board in October 2021 and was approved by the California Office of Emergency Services and FEMA through December 2026. IRWD has partnered with the Water Emergency Response of Orange County and fourteen other water and wastewater agencies to develop the 2025 Orange County Water and Wastewater Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan to allow for multi-agency collaboration and put all agencies on the same cycle. FEMA completed their review of the Orange County Water and Wastewater Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan on April 14, 2025.

Following statements of support, on MOTION by Swan, seconded by Ferons, and unanimously carried, THE BOARD ADOPTED THE RESOLUTION BY THE FOLLOWING TITLE:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 – 10

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING THE 2025 ORANGE COUNTY WATER AND WASTEWATER
MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

11. LAKE FOREST WOODS SEWER IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET INCREASE, CONSULTANT SELECTION AND CONSTRUCTION AWARD

Executive Director of Technical Services Burton outlined the Lake Forest Woods Sewer Improvements project along with the staff recommendations. He further reported that the Homeowners Associations own the creek and have approved moving the sewers closer to the homes, away from the creek. To prevent further erosion, twelve check dams will be installed to slow runoff. Director Swan raised concerns about the excavation of the eucalyptus trees and roots. Mr. Burton relayed that 130-140 trees will be removed for the project, and the Homeowners Associations have committed to replanting all trees removed.

Following discussion by the Board and District staff, on MOTION by Feron, seconded by Withers, and unanimously carried, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED A BUDGET INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,707,000, FROM \$5,313,000 TO \$7,020,000 FOR PROJECT 11123; AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WOODARD & CURRAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$248,903 FOR CONSTRUCTION PHASE ENGINEERING SERVICES; AND AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH GCI CONSTRUCTION, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,643,784 FOR THE LAKE FOREST WOODS SEWER IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT 11123.

OTHER BUSINESS

12. General Manager's Report

General Manager Cook had nothing to report for this evening's meeting.

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

Mr. Newell reported that all is well in the Canyons.

14. Directors' Comments and Meeting Reports

Director Feron reported on his participation in the IRWD Community Tour of the Michelson Water Recycling Plant and the San Joaquin Marsh; the WACO monthly meeting; his attendance at the Southern California Water Coalition Board of Directors' meeting; and the Southern California Water Coalition's Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon in Temecula.

Director Swan reported on his participation in the WACO Planning Committee meeting; the MWDOC Board of Directors' Meeting; his attendance at the Orange County Water Association's Monthly Industry Insight meeting; and the Water Education Foundation's 2025 Central Valley Tour.

President Reinhart on his participation in the MWDOC Board of Directors' Meeting; the OCWD Board of Directors' Meeting; and the Monthly Discussion of District Activities with the General Manager.

Director Withers left the meeting at 5:20 p.m. but relayed that he attended the Orange County Water Association's Monthly Industry Insight meeting and the Southern California Water Coalition's Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon in Temecula.

OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

15. Closed Session

President Reinhart convened the meeting into Closed Session at 5:24 p.m. with General Counsel Collins announcing the following:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1).

- *BKK Working Group, et al. v. 1700 Santa Fe LTD, et al.*, Central District of California Case No. 2:18-cv-05810-MWF-PLA

16. Open Session

Following the Closed Session, the meeting was reconvened in Open Session. General Counsel announced that there was no action to report.

17. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:35 p.m., President Reinhart adjourned the Board meeting.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 12th day of May 2025.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

District Secretary,
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire Hervey Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP