

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – JULY 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 July 28, 2025 at the District offices, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

Secretary Swan announced that pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953, Director Withers will participate in the meeting remotely via teleconference. He will be participating from the Tokoriki Island Resort, Nadi, Fiji. The agenda was posted in the resort's lobby 72-hours in advance for any member of the public to review and participate remotely if desired per the Affidavit of Posting from Director Withers. Secretary Swan said that all votes this evening will be taken by a roll call vote.

Directors Present: Withers (via teleconference), Feronis, 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 Water Policy Weghorst, Executive Director of Finance and Administration Adly, Executive Director of Operations Chambers, 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 Safety and Security Choi, Director of Maintenance Operations Manning, Director of Water Quality and Regulatory Compliance Colston, Director of Accounting and Treasury Lin, Director of Water Resources Nye, General Counsel Collins, Secretary Swan, members of the staff, and public.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On MOTION by LaMar, seconded by Feronis and carried by a roll call vote, LaMar, Feronis, Withers, and Reinhart voting aye, zero noes, and Swan abstaining for voting on item four, CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS FOUR THROUGH SIX WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

4. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

5. FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 IRWD GUIDING PRINCIPLES SCORECARD

Recommendation: Receive and file.

6. IRVINE DESALTER PROJECT PRINCIPAL AQUIFER PLANT AND SHALLOW GROUNDWATER UNIT OPTIMIZATION FOR PFAS TREATMENT FINAL ACCEPTANCE

Recommendation: That the Board accept construction of the Irvine Desalter Project Principal Aquifer Plant and Shallow Groundwater Unit Optimization for PFAS

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

Treatment; authorize the General Manager to file a Notice of Completion; authorize the payment of the retention 35 days after the date of recording the Notice of Completion for Projects 11171 and 11834.

ACTION CALENDAR

7. SYPHON RESERVOIR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CONSULTANT SELECTION FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SERVICES

General Manager Cook reported that Engineering Manager Moeder would provide an overall update on the Syphon Reservoir Improvement Project, where the project is headed, and staff's recommendation to retain a consultant for construction management and inspection services.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Engineering Manager Moeder shared highlights of the project to date, including the recent construction of a four-way intersection and an access road to the reservoir. He further introduced the layout of the project to orient the audience on the location of the various elements of the project and the project timeline.

Director Swan questioned if grout injection was included in the project; Mr. Moeder said yes, and that there are known joints underneath the dam. Once the bedrock is exposed, these will be filled in.

President Reinhart questioned if there was enough room at the staging site. Mr. Moeder stated that a constructability review had been conducted and that staging on site is feasible, but it will ultimately be up to the contractor to determine how best to utilize the site – within the stipulated site limitations.

Director Swan asked where the project materials would be stored. Mr. Moeder explained that materials would be stored in the area that is currently the “bottom” of the existing Syphon Reservoir.

Mr. Moeder reported on the current schedule of the project. The Division of Safety of Dams is currently on their last review of the project and have started to work on the approval letter for authorization to the construct the dam. He added that if all goes well with the Environmental Impact Reports, IRWD's solicitation for construction bids could begin in January 2026.

Vice President LaMar questioned mitigation for Crotch's bumblebee and the impacts to the project. Director of Water Resources Nye reported that this mitigation is being addressed utilizing the District's recently-acquired Irvine Lake North property.

Mr. Moeder detailed the construction management team procurement process, the proposed project team, and the key differences that impacted the cost proposals.

Director Swan questioned if Crean Lutheran's use of the athletic fields would be negatively impacted with traffic, exhaust, and dust. Mr. Moeder explained that dust control and cleaning the tennis courts have been included in the project scope. Staff also plans to maintain close coordination with Crean Lutheran to ensure its concerns are addressed. Director Swan emphasized that it's very important that the project does not create unacceptable offsite impacts.

Mr. Moeder provided a detailed summary of the proposed Construction Management Team. Following questions from the Board regarding the different companies that will be working

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

together on the recommended Construction Management Team, Director Ferons reported that this item was reviewed extensively by the Engineering and Operations Committee on July 15 and on July 17. The Committee was able to develop a thorough understanding of the COWI / Gannett Fleming team's previous experience, emphasis on safety, and project management; the Committee expressed its full support of the staff recommendation. Director Swan relayed that he does not support this project, and while he's not against the concept of having a construction management team on the project, he will vote against it.

Following discussion with the Board, on MOTION by Ferons, seconded by Withers and carried by a roll call vote (4-1) LaMar, Ferons, Withers, and Reinhart voting aye, and Swan voting nay, **THE BOARD AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE COWI AND GANNETT FLEMING JOINT VENTURE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,402,073 FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE SYPHON RESERVOIR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.**

OTHER BUSINESS

8. General Manager's Report

General Manager Cook reported that Community Liaison Newell was unable to attend the evening's meeting, but that all is well in the canyons.

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

As reported by General Manager Cook.

10. Directors' Comments and Meeting Reports

Director Withers reported on his attendance at the OCWA Monthly Industry Insight Meeting and Luncheon in Irvine, and the Southern California Water Coalition Quarterly Meeting and Luncheon in Simi Valley.

Director Ferons reported on his attendance at the OC SAN Board of Directors' Meeting.

Director Swan reported on his attendance at the ACWA Spring Conference in Monterey; the May 19, Groundwater Banking JPA Special Board Meeting; the May 20, WACO Planning Committee Meeting via teleconference; the May 21, MWDOC Board Meeting: IRWD Member Agency Spotlight; the May 28, Southern California Water Dialogue Meeting: The Next Chapter for Southern California Water Storage via teleconference; and the July 23, Quarterly MWDOC / OCWD Joint Planning Committee Meeting.

Director LaMar reported on his attendance at the CCEEB Summer Issues Seminar in the Olympic Valley; the OCBC Business Connections – Emergency Response System Program Discussion in Silverado; and the NCC Executive Committee Meeting.

President Reinhart reported on his participation in the MWDOC Planning & Operations Committee meeting via teleconference; MWDOC Board of Directors Meeting via teleconference; OCWD Board of Directors Meeting via teleconference; the Quarterly MWDOC /

OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

OCWD Joint Planning Committee Meeting; and the Southern Orange County Agencies' Group Meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:08 p.m., President Reinhart adjourned the Board meeting.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 11th day of August 2025.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

District Secretary,
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire H. Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP