

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 23, 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 June 23, 2025. at the District offices, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

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

Directors Absent: Swan.

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, Executive Director of Finance and Administration Adly, 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 Strategic Communications & Advocacy Compton, Director of Maintenance Operations Manning, Water Efficiency Manager McNulty, Director of Water Quality and Regulatory Compliance Colston, Community Liaison Newell, General Counsel Collins, Secretary Swan, members of the staff, and public.

PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

President Reinhart declared this to be the time and place for the hearing on the proposed changes to the rates and charges of the Irvine Ranch Water District. He asked the Secretary to report the manner by which the Notice of the Hearing was given.

Secretary Swan said that the Notice of this hearing was noticed by mail by an independent processing firm. She then presented the affidavits of mailing for the Board to receive and file.

On MOTION by LaMar, seconded by Ferons and unanimously carried, THE AFFIDAVITS OF MAILING BY AN INDEPENDENT PROCESSING FIRM AS PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY WERE RECEIVED AND FILED.

President Reinhart asked Legal Counsel to describe the nature of the proceedings. Legal Counsel Collins said that the public hearing is held, pursuant to Proposition 218, Article XIII D of the Constitution of the State of California, for all persons interested to be heard, to present objections or protests, including any written comments submitted, concerning the imposition of property-related fees, rates and charges. President Reinhart requested the Executive Director of Finance or her designee to provide a staff report on the proposed rates and charges, and inquired whether there have been any written communications.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Director of Financial Planning and Data Analytics Smithson provided a staff report and notes the number of protests received to the implementation of the

PUBLIC HEARING (CONTINUED)

rates and charges. Mr. Smithson noted that 127,700 notices were mailed; there were separate notices for residential, non-residential (CII), landscape/agricultural, and Newport North. A response of 50% + 1 would be needed to protest the proposed rates and charges. A total of six letters were received: four protest letters, and two legal objections.

President Reinhart asked whether there was anyone present who wished to address the Board regarding the proposed changes to the rates and charges. There were none.

President Reinhart asked whether there were any comments or questions from members of the Board of Directors. There were none, and President Reinhart stated that the hearing will be closed.

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by Ferons and unanimously carried, THE HEARING WAS CLOSED AND THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY TITLE:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-14

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING A SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES
FOR WATER, SEWER, AND RECYCLED WATER SERVICE.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Prior to taking a vote, General Manager Cook reported that General Counsel Collins left the Board Room at 5:26 p.m. due to her firm's contract being up for review under Item 7 on the Consent Calendar

General Manager Cook also requested to read into the record, pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(c)(3), prior to taking final action on changes to salary schedules that include salary ranges for local agency executives, a summary of the recommended action before the Board under Item 8 is required.

He said the recommended action for the Board's consideration is adoption of a resolution revising the District's Schedule of Positions and Salary Rate Ranges for the General Unit, the non-exempt Supervisor Unit, and for Managers, Exempt Supervisors, Confidential and Exempt Employees, effective July 1, 2025, and superseding resolution No. 2024-12.

He further stated that the revision to the salary grade schedule is based on a cost-of-living adjustment of 3.0%, which was the change in the Consumer Price Index from April 2024 to April 2025 for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area.

Mr. Cook concluded that there was a typographical correction to the title of the Resolution provided as Exhibit "A" to Item 8. The Resolution will match what was provided on the agenda and in the write up.

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by LaMar and unanimously carried, CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS FIVE THROUGH TWELVE WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

5. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the June 9, 2025 Regular Board meeting be approved as presented.

6. MAY 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 May 2025 Summary of Payroll ACH payments in the total amount of \$3,938,901 and approve the May 2025 accounts payable disbursement summary of warrants 449301 through 449724, Workers' Compensation distributions, ACH payments, virtual card payments, wire transfers, payroll withholding distributions, and voided checks in the net total amount of \$30,991,593.

7. IRWD GENERAL COUNSEL CONTRACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Hanson Bridgett LLP for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 General Counsel legal services with a not-to-exceed value of \$1,485,000

8. ADOPTION OF REVISED IRWD SCHEDULE OF POSITIONS AND SALARY RATE RANGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26

Recommendation: That the Board approve the revised Salary Grade Schedule and adopt the following Resolution by title:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 – 15

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRVINE RANCH
WATER DISTRICT SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION NO. 2024-12 AND
ADOPTING A REVISED SCHEDULE OF POSITIONS AND SALARY RATE
RANGES FOR THE GENERAL UNIT, NON-EXEMPT SUPERVISOR UNIT,
AND FOR MANAGERS, EXEMPT SUPERVISORS, CONFIDENTIAL AND
EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

9. LIVE SCAN FINGERPRINTING FOR EMPLOYMENT, VOLUNTEER, AND
CONTRACT WORKER BACKGROUND CHECKS

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the following resolution authorizing the Irvine Ranch Water District to utilize Live Scan fingerprinting for employment, volunteer, and contract worker background checks.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 – 16

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF IRVINE RANCH
WATER DISTRICT, AUTHORIZING THE USE OF LIVE SCAN
FINGERPRINTING FOR EMPLOYMENT, VOLUNTEER, AND CONTRACT
WORKER BACKGROUND CHECKS

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

10. DISTRICT-WIDE LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE SERVICES
ONE-YEAR CONTRACT EXTENSION

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a one-year extension for District-wide landscape and irrigation maintenance services with Landcare LLC for \$794,869.

11. MICHELSON WATER RECYCLING PLANT BIOSOLIDS LIFT STATION AND
SEWER PIPELINE BID REJECTION

Recommendation: That the Board reject the bid received and authorize staff to re-bid the Michelson Water Recycling Plant Biosolids Lift Station and Sewer Pipeline, Project 12541.

12. PLANNING AREA 31 DISCOVERY PARK CAPITAL SANITARY SEWER
IMPROVEMENTS

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to accept Irvine Community Development Company's construction contract with L&S Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$702,635, and authorize the addition of Project 13302 in the amount of \$900,000 to the FY 2025-26 Capital Budget for the Planning Area 31 Discovery Park Capital Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project.

ACTION CALENDAR

13. PROPOSED 2025 DEBT ISSUANCE FOR REFUNDING OF THE 2010 BUILD
AMERICA BONDS

Executive Director of Finance and Administration Adly introduced the District's municipal financial advisor, Mr. Darren Hodge, Managing Director of Public Financial Management. Mr. Hodge provided an overview of IRWD's 2010 Build America Bonds and the proposed plan.

Following discussion from the Board and staff, Director LaMar reported that while he was not present for the February 3, 2025 Finance and Personnel Committee meeting, this has been a topic that has been discussed at previous meetings, and that the Committee supports the staff recommendation. On MOTION by LaMar, seconded by Withers, and unanimously carried, THE BOARD ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BY TITLE:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-17

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT APPROVING THE FORMS AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ONE OR MORE PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENTS AND OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, ONE OR MORE CONTRACTS OF PURCHASE, ONE OR MORE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATES, ONE OR MORE INDENTURES OF TRUST, ONE OR MORE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENTS, ONE OR MORE FEE AGREEMENTS, AND THE ISSUANCE OF ONE OR MORE SERIES OF BONDS OF IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT, CONSOLIDATED REFUNDING SERIES, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ALL RELATED DOCUMENTS

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

14. CONSULTANT SELECTION FOR ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Water Efficiency Manager McNulty walked the Board through the objectives of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure and Meter Replacement Feasibility Study and schedule of implementation. President Reinhart asked for confirmation that the budget increase was for phases one and two only. Ms. McNulty confirmed that he was correct, and that staff would return to the Board for approval of the selected AMI solution and a Phase 3 Scope of Work and Budget.

Director Feron reported that this item was reviewed by the Engineering and Operations Committee, and that the Committee supports the staff recommendation. On MOTION by Feron, seconded by Withers, and unanimously carried, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO INCREASE THE CAPITAL BUDGET PROJECTS 12514 AND 12515 EACH BY \$170,000 FOR A TOTAL OF \$340,000; AND TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ARCADIS U.S., INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$432,930 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DETAILED ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND PROVIDING PROCUREMENT ASSISTANCE.

OTHER BUSINESS

15. General Manager's Report

General Manager Cook announced that he had nothing to report for the evening.

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

Mr. Newell reported that it is great to see the pump station and reservoir projects come to completion in the canyons.

17. Directors' Comments and Meeting Reports

Director Feron reported on his attendance at the NCC Board of Directors meeting and field trip to the Irvine Ranch Conservatory Native Seed Farm.

Director Withers reported on his attendance at the NWRI Board of Directors meeting and the Santiago Aqueduct Commission.

Director LaMar reported on his attendance at the NCC Board of Directors meeting and field trip to the Irvine Ranch Conservatory Native Seed Farm; the Southern California Edison Advisory Committee for Public Safety meeting; and the ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting via teleconference.

President Reinhart on his participation in the MWDOC Administration and Finance Committee Meeting via teleconference; the OCWD Administration / Finance Issues Committee Meeting via teleconference; and the MWDOC Board Meeting via teleconference

18. ADJOURNMENT

OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

At 6:11 p.m., President Reinhart adjourned the Board meeting.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 14th day of July 2025.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

District Secretary,
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Paul J. Beck, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP