

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – MAY 26, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) was called to order by President LaMar at 5:01 p.m. on May 26, 2026 at the District offices, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

Secretary Swan announced that pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953, Director Ferons will participate in the meeting remotely via teleconference. He will be participating from 1605 Royal Pine Court, Leland, North Carolina 28451. The agenda was posted at the front door of that location 72 hours in advance of the meeting for any member of the public to review and participate remotely if desired per the Affidavit of Posting from Director Ferons. Secretary Swan said that all votes this evening will be taken by a roll call vote.

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

Oral Communications: Director John Horst of Trabuco Canyon Water District introduced himself to the Board and announced he is running for the California Special Districts Association Board.

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

PRESENTATION – PROCLAMATION

General Manager Cook presented a proclamation to Diane Squyres, retired Technical Services Executive Assistant, for her years of service to the District.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Reinhart requested that Item 7 be moved to the Action Calendar. Director Swan requested that Items 9, 14, and 10 be moved to the Action Calendar in that order.

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by Reinhart, unanimously carried by a roll call vote (5-0) Ferons, Reinhart, Withers, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, ITEMS SEVEN, NINE, FOURTEEN, AND TEN WERE MOVED TO THE ACTION CALENDAR, CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 5, 6, 8, AND 11 THROUGH 13 WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

5. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the April 27, 2026 Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented.

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

6. APRIL 2026 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 April 2026 Summary of Payroll ACH payments in the total amount of \$2,898,781 and approve the April 2026 accounts payable disbursement summary of warrants 454518 through 455102, Workers' Compensation distributions, ACH payments, virtual card payments, wire transfers, payroll withholding distributions, and voided checks in the net total amount of \$21,900,467.

8. REGISTRAR OF VOTERS INFORMATION REQUEST AND CANDIDATE STATEMENT WORD LIMIT FOR THE ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the District Secretary to file the "Transmittal of Election Information" form for each general election confirming IRWD's political and division boundaries, providing the Registrar of Voters with the requested information, selecting a 200-word limit for Candidate Statements of Qualifications, and indicating that IRWD will not pay for the Statements of Qualifications.

11. FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT ADDITIONS

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the addition of the Warner Avenue Recycled Water Pipeline Replacement, Project 13560 in the amount of \$2,310,000 to the FY 2026-27 Capital Budget; authorize the addition of the Portola Springs Domestic Water Pipeline Rehabilitation, Project 13651 in the amount of \$3,778,000 to the FY 2026-27 Capital Budget; authorize the addition of the Portola Springs Recycled Water Pipeline Rehabilitation, Project 13562 in the amount of \$3,512,000 to the FY 2026-27 Capital Budget; and authorize the addition of the University Park Domestic Water Pipeline Replacement, Project 13563 in the amount of \$4,480,000 to the FY 2026-27 Capital Budget.

12. FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 GENERAL REPLACEMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS PROJECTS BUDGET INCREASES

Recommendation: That the Board authorize a budget increase for Project 12521 in the amount of \$1,417,000, from \$6,283,000 to \$7,700,000; authorize a budget increase for Project 12523 in the amount of \$497,000, from \$2,103,000 to \$2,600,000; and authorize a budget increase for Project 12525 in the amount of \$1,315,000, from \$1,785,000 to \$3,100,000, for the Fiscal Year 2025-26 General System Replacements and Modifications projects.

13. ESRI GIS ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT, AMENDMENT NO. 1

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 1 to Esri Enterprise Agreement No. 00315535.0 to add \$750,000 and extend the term by three years, from May 23, 2026 through May 22, 2029.

ACTION CALENDAR

10. 2026 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

Director Reinhart raised a question regarding *AB 2739 (Soria, D-Fresno) – Community Water Affordability Program* and *SB 1125 (Menjivar, D-San Fernando) - Water Rate Assistance Program* being similar bills. Director of Strategic Communications & Advocacy / Deputy General Counsel Compton explained that the bills would complement one another. AB 2739 would set up the funding, while SB 1125 would be related to the execution.

On MOTION by Reinhart, seconded by Withers, unanimously carried by a roll call vote (5-0) Ferons, Reinhart, Withers, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, THE BOARD ADOPTED A “WATCH” POSITION ON SB 1001 (ARCHULETA).

9. WATER EFFICIENCY TACTICAL INCENTIVE FUNDING AUTHORIZATION

Director Swan asked what the District was trying to accomplish with this item. Director of Water Resources Nye reported that the program is an annual partnership between IRWD and the Municipal Water District of Orange County to encourage customers to take advantage of tactical incentives to encourage water conservation in the region.

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Withers, unanimously carried by a roll call vote (5-0) Ferons, Reinhart, Withers, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ALLOCATE \$877,000 IN FUNDING TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 TACTICAL INCENTIVE PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE WATER CONSERVATION PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY AND IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT; AND TO EXECUTE ADDENDA TO THE AGREEMENT, AS MAY BE NECESSARY, TO ALLOCATE FUNDS TO SPECIFIC PROGRAMS AND MODIFY DEVICE INCENTIVE LEVELS BASED ON CUSTOMER PARTICIPATION RATES AND REGIONAL PROGRAM FUNDING LEVELS.

14. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INITIATION OF AN ORANGE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION PROCEEDING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF THE LOS ALISOS WATER RECYCLING PLANT AREA TO THE ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT

Director Swan questioned if the flows from Santa Margarita Water District and Trabuco Canyon Water District would be directed to IRWD or to the South Orange County Wastewater Authority.

Director Withers left the Board room at 5:21 p.m.

General Manager Cook stated that this would only address IRWD’s current service area, and by annexing the Los Alisos Water Recycling Plant Area into Orange County Sanitation District’s jurisdictional boundary and sphere of influence, flows from this area will be able to be diverted to OC San if needed in the future.

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Reinhart, and carried by a roll call vote (4-0) Ferons, Reinhart, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, and Withers absent, THE BOARD ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BY TITLE:

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 4

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT AUTHORIZING INITIATION OF PROCEEDINGS AND REQUESTING THE ORANGE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION TO UNDERTAKE PROCEEDINGS FOR THE ANNEXATION OF THE LOS ALISOS AREA INTO THE ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT

Director Withers returned to the Board room at 5:27 p.m.

10. MICHELSON WATER RECYCLING PLANT SOLIDS HANDLING IMPROVEMENTS VARIANCE AND BUDGET INCREASE

Director Swan stated that he was concerned about the biosolids dryer reliability. Executive Director of Technical Services Burton reported that Carollo Engineers, Inc. has studied the issues with the facility, identified potential causes, and developed solutions to implement and address the issues. Director Reinhart relayed that the Engineering and Operations Committee reviewed this item, and that Carollo is doing exactly what Director Swan is seeking. He added that the Committee supports the staff recommendation.

On MOTION by Reinhart, seconded by Withers, unanimously carried by a roll call vote (5-0) Feron, Reinhart, Withers, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED A BUDGET INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,670,000, FROM \$1,065,000 TO \$11,735,000, AND AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO APPROVE VARIANCE NO. 1 WITH CAROLLO ENGINEERS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$394,974 FOR ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE MICHELSON WATER RECYCLING PLANT SOLIDS HANDLING IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT 12555.

15. EAST IRVINE ZONE 3-4 PUMP STATION REHABILITATION CONSULTANT SELECTION AND BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

Director Reinhart reported that this item was reviewed by the Engineering and Operations Committee, and that the Committee supports the staff recommendation. On MOTION by Reinhart, seconded by Withers, unanimously carried by a roll call vote (5-0) Feron, Reinhart, Withers, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED A BUDGET INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,780,000, FROM \$2,500,000 TO \$6,280,000, AND AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH JACOBS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$938,942 FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE EAST IRVINE ZONE 3-4 PUMP STATION REHABILITATION, PROJECT 12565.

16. SAN JOAQUIN DAM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET INCREASE AND CONSTRUCTION AWARD

Executive Director of Technical Services Burton reported that the District contracted with JIG Consultants in 2024 to provide engineering design services to establish a long-term solution to improve the drainage of the San Joaquin Dam that was plagued with severe erosion during significant rain events requiring staff to complete multiple repairs to the embankment. He added that staff went to bid with 38 contractors, received three submissions, and that staff recommended Orion Construction Corporation.

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by Swan, unanimously carried by a roll call vote (5-0) Ferons, Reinhart, Withers, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED A BUDGET INCREASE FOR PROJECT 13166 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$853,000, FROM \$1,914,000 TO \$2,767,000, AND AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH ORION CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,947,000 FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN DAM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT 13166.

OTHER BUSINESS

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

RECEIVE ORAL UPDATE(S) FROM DISTRICT LIAISON(S) REGARDING COMMUNITIES WITHIN IRWD'S SERVICE AREA AND INTERESTS.

Mr. Newell was absent from this evening's meeting.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS AND MEETING REPORTS

Director Reinhart reported on his participation in the monthly WACO meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee meeting via teleconference; his attendance at the ACWA Spring Conference in Sacramento; his participation in the MWDOC Administration and Finance Committee meeting via teleconference; the OCWD Water Issues Committee meeting via teleconference; the OCWD Administration and Finance Issues Committee meeting via teleconference; and the MWDOC Board of Directors' Meeting via teleconference.

Director Withers reported on his attendance at ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon; his participation in the monthly WACO meeting via teleconference; the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting via teleconference; the Special NWRI Board of Directors' meeting; and the Southern California Water Coalition Quarterly Luncheon in Temecula.

Director Swan reported his participation in the February MWDOC Administration and Finance Committee Meeting via teleconference; the February WACO Planning Committee Meeting via teleconference; the February MWDOC Board Meeting via teleconference; the 2026 CASA Policy Forum in Washington, D.C.; the Urban Water Institute 2026 Spring Conference in Indian Wells; the March MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee Meeting via teleconference; the March Southern California Water Dialogue Steering Committee Meeting via teleconference; the March MWDOC Workshop Board Meeting with MWD Directors via teleconference; the May WACO Planning Committee Meeting via teleconference; and the May MWDOC Board Meeting via teleconference.

President LaMar reported on his participation in the monthly WACO meeting via teleconference and his monthly meeting with the General Manager regarding District activities.

Director Ferons reported on his participation in the monthly WACO meeting via teleconference; his attendance at the ACWA Spring Conference in Sacramento; the Southern California Water Coalition Board of Directors meeting in Temecula; and the Southern California Water Coalition Quarterly Luncheon in Temecula.

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:45 p.m., President LaMar adjourned the Board meeting.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 22nd day of June 2026.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

District Secretary,
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire Hervey Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP