

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 22, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) was called to order by President LaMar at 5:00 p.m. on June 22, 2026 at the District offices, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

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

Oral Communications: None.

Written Communications: None.

Items too late to be agendized: None.

Also Present: General Manager Cook, Executive Director of Technical Services Burton, Executive Director of Finance and Administration Adly, 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 Maintenance Operations Manning, Director of Financial Planning and Data Analytics Smithson, Director of Accounting Lin, Senior Water Resources Planner Palacio, Water Efficiency Analyst Mroczek, Community Liaison Newell, MWDOC Director Randy Crane, General Counsel Collins, Secretary Swan, members of the staff, and public.

PRESENTATION – PROCLAMATION

General Manager Cook presented a proclamation to James “Jimmy” Dowling, retired Senior Maintenance Mechanic, for his thirty years of service to the District.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

SEWER CHARGES IN IRWD’S NEWPORT NORTH AREA

President LaMar declared this to be the time and place for a hearing on the sewer charge report for the Newport North area and declare the hearing open. He asked the Secretary how the hearing was noticed. Secretary Swan said that the report was filed with her on May 7, 2026, and notice of the filing of the report and the time and place of this hearing was published in the Daily Pilot on June 7, 2026 and June 14, 2026. She said that a notice was also posted in the District office and on the District’s Web site on June 1, 2026.

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Ferons, and unanimously carried (5-0), THE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING AND THE PROOF OF PUBLICATION PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY WAS RECEIVED AND FILED.

President LaMar asked Legal Counsel to describe the nature of the proceedings. Legal Counsel Collins said that the public hearing on the sewer charge report is an annual requirement of the Health and Safety Code, § 5473, in order to collect the sewer charges on the tax roll.

President LaMar asked the Secretary whether there have been any written communications. She said there had been none.

President LaMar asked whether there is anyone present who wished to address the Board regarding the proposed collection of sewer charges on the tax roll. There were none.

PUBLIC HEARINGS (CONTINUED)

President LaMar asked whether there were any comments or questions from members of the Board of Directors. There were none.

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Reinhart, and unanimously carried (5-0), THE HEARING WAS CLOSED, AND THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY TITLE:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 5

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT ADOPTING THE
SEWER CHARGE REPORT AND AUTHORIZING COLLECTION OF SEWER CHARGES
ON THE TAX ROLL FOR IRWD’S NEWPORT NORTH AREA

IRWD’S WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

President LaMar declared this to be the time and place for a hearing on the report relative to the IRWD’s Water Shortage Contingency Plan and declared the hearing open. He asked the Secretary how the hearing was noticed.

Secretary Swan said that the report was filed with her on June 1, 2026 and notice of the filing of the report and the time and place of this hearing was published in the Orange County Register on June 7, 2026, and June 14, 2026. She said additionally that a notice of the hearing was also posted at the District office and on the District’s Web site on June 1, 2026.

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Ferons and unanimously carried (5-0), THE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING AND THE PROOF OF PUBLICATION PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY WAS RECEIVED AND FILED.

President LaMar asked Legal Counsel to describe the nature of the proceedings. Legal Counsel Collins said that IRWD prepared the IRWD 2025 Water Shortage Plan pursuant to the requirements of Water Code § 10632 and the public hearing provides members of the public and other interested entities with the opportunity to be heard in connection with proposed Plan.

President LaMar asked the Secretary whether there have been any written communications. Secretary Swan said that there were none.

President LaMar inquired whether there is anyone present who wished to address the Board concerning the IRWD 2025 Water Shortage Plan. There were none.

President LaMar asked Water Efficiency Analyst Mroczek to present to the Board. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Mroczek provided the Board an overview of the 2025 Water Shortage Contingency Plan. He highlighted the purpose, key sections, shortage levels and response measures, and the use of the IRWD Water Bank supplies.

President LaMar asked whether there are any comments or questions from members of the Board of Directors. There were none.

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Withers, and unanimously carried (5-0), THE HEARING WAS CLOSED AND THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY TITLE:

PUBLIC HEARINGS (CONTINUED)

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 6

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2021 – 11 AND ADOPTING THE
2025 WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

IRWD’S 2025 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

President LaMar declared this to be the time and place for a hearing on the report relative to an addendum to the IRWD’s 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and declared the hearing open. He asked the Secretary how the hearing was noticed.

Secretary Swan said that the report was filed with her on June 1, 2026 and notice of the filing of the report and the time and place of this hearing was published in the Orange County Register on June 7, 2026, and June 14, 2026. She said that a notice of the hearing was also posted in the District office and on the District’s Web site on June 1, 2026.

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Reinhart and unanimously carried (5-0), THE AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING AND THE PROOF OF PUBLICATION PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY WAS RECEIVED AND FILED.

President LaMar asked Legal Counsel to describe the nature of the proceedings. Legal Counsel Collins said that IRWD prepared the IRWD 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and pursuant to Water Code § 10621, it provides an opportunity for all persons interested to be heard concerning any matter set forth in the UWMP.

President LaMar asked the Secretary whether there have been any written communications. Secretary Swan said that there were none.

President LaMar inquired whether there is anyone present who wished to address the Board concerning the IRWD 2025 Urban Water Management Plan. There were none.

President LaMar asked Senior Water Resources Planner Palacio to present to the Board. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Palacio shared the purpose of the Urban Water Management Plan, the 2025 general updates, regional coordination with the Municipal Water District of Orange County and the Metropolitan Water District, and summary of the plans findings—the water resource portfolio, the water supply reliability, the drought risk assessment, water use efficiency, emergency preparedness, water banking, water quality, water shortage contingency plan, and Delta Reliance.

President LaMar asked whether there are any comments or questions from members of the Board of Directors. Director Reinhart asked if the plan was based on the current and available storage of the water bank, and what was the assumption under the various stages as to accessibility of getting the water down to the South? General Manager Cook confirmed that it was based on the current availability and following the rules of the Coordinated Operating Agreement.

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS (CONTINUED)

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 7

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 2021 – 12 AND ADOPTING THE
2025 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Swan requested that Items 9, 11, 14, 17, and 20 be moved to the Action Calendar.

Prior to taking a vote, General Manager Cook reported that General Counsel Collins left the Board Room at 5:31 p.m. due to her firm's contract being up for review under Item 16 on the Consent Calendar.

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by Ferons, unanimously carried (5-0), ITEMS 9, 11, 14, 17, and 20 WERE MOVED TO THE ACTION CALENDAR, CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, AND 21 WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

8. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the May 26, 2026 Regular Board meeting be approved as presented.

10. 2026 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

Recommendation: Receive and file.

12. DISTRICT-WIDE LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE SERVICES
FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT AWARD

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a five-year landscape and irrigation maintenance services contract, with two additional one-year extension options, with Bemus Landscape, Inc. for \$5,903,802.

13. SAN JOAQUIN RESERVOIR VALVE ACTUATOR REPLACEMENT BID
REJECTION

Recommendation: That the Board reject the received bids and authorize staff to re-bid the San Joaquin Reservoir Valve Actuator Replacement, Project 13111, without the participation of Greene & Greene Corporation.

15. CAPITAL BUDGET INCREASE FOR WATER QUALITY LABORATORY
EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Recommendation: That the Board authorize a budget increase in the amount of \$125,000, from \$179,000 to \$304,000, for the General Plant Department 600 Fiscal Year 2025-26, Project 13235.

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

16. IRWD GENERAL COUNSEL CONTRACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Hanson Brigett LLP for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 general counsel legal services with a not-to-exceed value of \$1,600,000.

18. MASTER SEWER SERVICE AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

Recommendation: That the Board approve the addition of Addendum No. 10 to the application for service and agreement with the Irvine Ranch Water District.

19. IRWD/OC SAN REVENUE COLLECTION AGREEMENT

Recommendation: That the Board approve the Implementation Agreement included as Exhibit "A".

21. PARTICIPATION IN VOLUNTARY FALLOWING PROGRAM

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a letter agreement with Metropolitan Water District, for each of the five IRWD Fallowing Program Contracts, to voluntarily fallow additional lands within Palo Verde Irrigation District for the period August 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

General Counsel Collins returned to the Board Room upon approval of the Consent Calendar at 5:33 p.m.

ACTION CALENDAR

Prior to taking action on each item, the Board established that they would vote on all items selected by Director Swan that were moved from the Consent to Action Calendar following his questions and/or comments on each item.

9. MAY 2026 TREASURY REPORT

Director Swan expressed his concerns with the frequent changes in the market, and that the District should carefully monitor its investments.

Director Withers left the Board room at 5:34 p.m.

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

11. ADOPTION OF REVISED IRWD SCHEDULE OF POSITIONS AND SALARY RATE RANGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

Director Swan stated that he would like to see the exact dollar amount listed under the “Fiscal Impact” section of the writeup going forward.

General Manager Cook requested to read into the record, pursuant to Government Code § 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 11 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 all positions, effective July 4, 2026, and superseding resolution No. 2026-2.

He further stated that the revision to the salary grade schedule is based on a cost-of-living adjustment of 3.7%, which was the change in the Consumer Price Index from April 2025 to April 2026 for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area.

Director Withers returned to the Board room at 5:37 p.m.

14. PROPOSED 2026 DEBT REFUNDING AND REISSUANCE

Director Swan reported that he no longer had a question regarding item fourteen.

17. AGREEMENT WITH ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT MOOTING DEFUNCT PRIOR CONTRACTS AND TERMINATING SURVIVAL PROVISIONS

Director Swan asked for what the agreement was with Orange County Sanitation District regarding the connection fees for the Newport Coast, and that the Newport Coast would not be mooted out. General Manager Cook stated that only the twenty-four agreements listed in the Exhibit of the agreement would be mooted.

General Counsel Collins reported that this mooting agreement was carefully reviewed by both Districts and their Legal Counsels to ensure that only the agreements that were no longer valid were included to avoid duplication and confusion in the future.

Executive Director of Technical Services Burton stated that the connection fees are not documented in the new Flow Exchange agreement as it was part of the financial calculation that was paid to Orange County Sanitation District. Going forward, future connections would be paid directly to Orange County Sanitation District.

20. SETTING CONNECTION FEES WITHIN THE ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT FLOW EXCHANGE AGREEMENT AREA

Director Swan stated that his question regarding Item 20 was answered while discussing Item 17.

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Withers, and unanimously carried (5-0), ITEMS 9, 11, 14, 17, AND 20 WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

9. MAY 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 May 2026 Summary of Payroll ACH payments in the total amount of \$4,475,582 and approve the May 2026 accounts payable disbursement summary of warrants 455103 through 455545, Workers' Compensation distributions, ACH payments, wire transfers, payroll withholding distributions, and voided checks in the net total amount of \$30,222,375.

11. ADOPTION OF REVISED IRWD SCHEDULE OF POSITIONS AND SALARY RATE RANGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

Recommendation: That the Board approve the revised salary grade schedule and adopt the following resolution by title:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 8

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION NO. 2026-2 AND ADOPTING A REVISED SCHEDULE OF POSITIONS AND SALARY RATE RANGES

14. PROPOSED 2026 DEBT REFUNDING AND REISSUANCE

Recommendation: That the Board adopt the following resolution by title:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 9

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
DECLARING INTENTION TO ISSUE
CONSOLIDATED BONDS OF IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
(CONSOLIDATED SERIES 2026A AND CONSOLIDATED SERIES 2026B)

17. AGREEMENT WITH ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT MOOTING DEFUNCT PRIOR CONTRACTS AND TERMINATING SURVIVAL PROVISIONS

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement with Orange County Sanitation District mooted defunct prior contracts and terminating survival provisions between Orange County Sanitation District and IRWD.

20. SETTING CONNECTION FEES WITHIN THE ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT FLOW EXCHANGE AGREEMENT AREA

Recommendation: That the Board approve proposed connection fees and adopt the following resolution by title:

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 11

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT ADOPTING CHANGES TO CONNECTION FEES AS SET FORTH IN THE SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES IN EXHIBIT “B” TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT FOR WATER, SEWER, RECYCLED WATER, AND NATURAL TREATMENT SYSTEM SERVICE

22. ORANGE COUNTY GREAT PARK CONNECTION FEE UPDATE

Director of Financial Planning and Data Analytics Smithson reported that the City of Irvine’s Great Park requires a custom recycled water connection fee due to the significant recycled water infrastructure needs to serve the area. Initially the City paid for a portion of the connection fees at \$37,101 per acre, but several hundred acres were not identified in the original calculations. A lot has changed since 2017, and in 2025 District staff worked closely with the City staff to refine the revised land use and recycled water demand projections. The cost per acre now is calculated at \$68,716.

Director Feronis stated that this was reviewed by the Finance and Personnel Committee very carefully and supports the staff recommendation.

On MOTION by Feronis, seconded by Withers, unanimously carried (5-0), Feronis, Reinhart, Withers, Swan, and LaMar voting aye, THE BOARD APPROVED THE PROPOSED RECYCLED WATER CONNECTION FEE AMOUNT FOR \$25.9 MILLION, OR \$68,716 PER ACRE, THAT WILL BE PAID FOR BY THE CITY OF IRVINE.

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 relayed that he had nothing to report for the evening.

DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS AND MEETING REPORTS

Director Reinhart reported on his participation in the South Orange County Agencies Group Meeting in Rancho Santa Margarita; the MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Workshop Board meeting with the MWD Directors via teleconference; the OCWD Board meeting via teleconference; the OCWD Communications and Legislative Liaison Committee Meeting via teleconference; the monthly WACO meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Administration and Finance Committee meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner in Costa Mesa; the MWDOC Board of Directors’ Meeting via teleconference; and the OCWD Board meeting via teleconference.

OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

Director Withers reported on his attendance at ISDOC Executive Committee meeting via teleconference; his participation in the monthly WACO meeting via teleconference; the NWRI Board of Directors' meeting; and the Santiago Aqueduct Commission Meeting.

Director Swan reported his participation in the MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee meeting via teleconference; Southern California Water Dialogue Steering Committee Meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Workshop Board meeting with the MWD Directors via teleconference; the IRWD Community Tour Presentation Walk Through with District Staff; the monthly WACO meeting via teleconference; the IRWD Community Tour; the MWDOC Administration and Finance Committee meeting via teleconference; and the MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner in Costa Mesa.

Director Feron reported on his participation in the monthly WACO meeting via teleconference and the MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner in Costa Mesa.

President LaMar reported on his participation in the Natural Communities Coalition Executive Committee Meeting; the South Orange County Agencies Group Meeting in Rancho Santa Margarita; the MWDOC Workshop Board meeting with the MWD Directors via teleconference; the monthly WACO meeting via teleconference; the Natural Communities Coalition Boundary Committee meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner in Costa Mesa; the Natural Communities Coalition Annual Field Trip; the Natural Communities Coalition Board meeting; and his monthly meeting with the General Manager regarding District activities.

CLOSED SESSION

President LaMar convened the meeting into Closed Session at 5:53 p.m. with General Counsel Collins announcing the following items to be discussed:

- A. CLOSED SESSION CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — EXISTING LITIGATION — Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): *Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District and Irvine Ranch Water District v. The Dow Chemical Company, et al.*, Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-22-100041.
- B. CLOSED SESSION CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — EXISTING LITIGATION — Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): *Constantino Silva v. Irvine Ranch Water District*, WCAB Case Number ADJ18314799.

OPEN SESSION

Following the Closed Session, the meeting was reconvened in Open Session with Directors Reinhart, Withers, Swan, Feron, and LaMar present. General Counsel Collins announced that with respect to Closed Session Item A, the Board unanimously approved a dismissal and time defense limitation agreement; and with respect to Closed Session Item B, the Board unanimously approved a settlement.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:14 p.m., President LaMar adjourned the Board meeting.

OTHERS BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

APPROVED and SIGNED this 13th day of July 2026.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

District Secretary,
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire Hervey Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP