

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 9, 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 February 9, 2026 at the District offices, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.

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

Directors Absent: None.

Also Present: General Manager Cook, Executive Director of Water Policy Weghorst, Executive Director of Operations Chambers, Executive Director of Technical Services Burton, Executive Director of Finance and Administration Adly, Director of Water Quality & Regulatory Compliance Colston, Director of Human Resources Mitcham, Director of Information Technology Kaneshiro, Director of Safety and Security Choi, Director of Water and Recycling Operations Zepeda, Director of Maintenance Operations Manning, Director of Water Resources Nye, General Counsel Collins, Secretary Swan, members of the staff, and public.

Oral and Written Communications: None.

Items too late to be agendaized: None.

### CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Swan requested that item number five be moved to the Action Calendar.

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by Ferons, CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS FOUR, AND SIX THROUGH ELEVEN FIVE WERE APPROVED 5 – 0, AS FOLLOWS:

4. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the January 12, 2026 Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented.

6. FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 IRWD GUIDING PRINCIPLES SCORECARD

Recommendation: Receive and file.

7. 2026 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

Recommendation: That the Board adopt a “support” position on the Association of California Water Agencies Wildfire Proposal, a “support” position on the Water Supply Assessment Proposal, and an “oppose unless amended” position on Assemblymember Steve Bennet’s Wildfire Proposal.

8. WATER SUPPLY ASSESSMENT VERIFICATION FOR THE ORANGE HEIGHTS PLANNED COMMUNITY PROJECT

Recommendation: That the Board approve the Water Supply Assessment, and contingent upon approval of the Water Supply Assessment, approve the Water Supply Verification for the Orange Heights Planned Community Project.

CONSENT CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

9. SAN JOAQUIN HILLS ROAD RECYCLED WATER PIPELINE REPLACEMENT CONSULTANT SELECTION

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with MKN in the amount of \$349,552 for engineering design services for the San Joaquin Hills Road Recycled Water Pipeline Replacement, Project 13113.

10. SAND CANYON DAM SEEPAGE IMPROVEMENTS BUDGET ADDITION

Recommendation: That the Board authorizes a budget addition of \$720,000 for engineering design and construction of the Sand Canyon Dam Seepage Improvements, Project 13232.

11. CLAIM SETTLEMENT

Recommendation: That the Board approve a settlement with Lakeshore Landlessee PT, LLC, for a payment of \$125,000 in exchange for a full release in connection with the February 21, 2024, mainline break.

ACTION CALENDAR

5. DECEMBER 2025 TREASURY REPORT

Director Swan stated that he objects to the District's new Investment Policy, has concerns about municipal bonds and their liquidity, and that any future changes of the investment portfolio be agendized for review by the entire Board.

President LaMar said that while this was a very large item and that he found the report helpful, he requested a report from the Finance and Personnel Committee.

Director Ferons reported that the Committee was comfortable with the presentation at the meeting.

On **MOTION** by Ferons, seconded by Reinhart, and carried by a vote of 4-0-1 with Swan abstaining, **THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED 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, APPROVED THE DECEMBER 2025 SUMMARY OF PAYROLL ACH PAYMENTS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$2,830,430 AND APPROVED THE DECEMBER 2025 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE DISBURSEMENT SUMMARY OF WARRANTS 452627 THROUGH 453086, WORKERS' COMPENSATION DISTRIBUTIONS, ACH PAYMENTS, WIRE TRANSFERS, PAYROLL WITHHOLDING DISTRIBUTIONS, AND VOIDED CHECKS IN THE NET TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$20,565,918.**

## ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

### 12. COASTAL ZONES B & D AND COASTAL ZONE OC-63 TO ZONE 4 PUMP STATIONS BUDGET INCREASE, BUDGET ADDITION AND CONSULTANT SELECTION

Executive Director of Technical Services Burton presented an overview of rehabilitation needed to address the issues plaguing the subject pump stations.

Following an Engineering and Operations Committee Report from Director Ferons and questions from the Board, on MOTION by Reinhart, seconded by Swan and unanimously carried, THE BOARD AUTHORIZED A BUDGET INCREASE TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 CAPITAL BUDGET FOR PROJECT 11568 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,556,000, FROM \$2,237,000 TO \$6,793,000; AUTHORIZED THE ADDITION OF PROJECT 13506 TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 CAPITAL BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,613,000; AND AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CAROLLO ENGINEERS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$980,381 FOR ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE COASTAL ZONES B & D AND COASTAL ZONE OC-63 TO ZONE 4 PUMP STATIONS, PROJECTS 11568 AND 13506.

## OTHER BUSINESS

### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Cook reported that the District made an addition to the District's Real Estate investment portfolio with the purchase of 1211 Edinger, the warehouse next to Wells 21/22. He thanked Adly, Davis, and Thatcher for their help in supporting the purchase.

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

Mr. Newell stated that he did not have anything of concern to report from the canyons but it is nice to see the new reservoirs being filled up.

### DIRECTORS' COMMENTS AND MEETING REPORTS

Director Withers reported on his participation in the OCWA monthly Industry Insight Meeting and Luncheon; the Southern California Water Coalition Quarterly Luncheon in Arcadia; the MWDOC Water Policy Forum and Dinner in Costa Mesa; ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon in Fountain Valley; the Form 700 Workshop in Fountain Valley; the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting via teleconference; and the monthly WACO meeting.

Director Reinhart reported on his attendance at the MWDOC Administration and Finance Committee meeting; the OCWD Water Issues Committee meeting; the OCWD Administration / Finance Issues Committee meeting; the MWDOC Board Meeting; the OCWD Board Meeting; the South Orange County Agencies' Group meeting; the MWDOC Water Policy Forum and Dinner in Costa Mesa; 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; and the WACO Monthly meeting via teleconference.

Director Swan reported on his attendance at the CASA Winter Conference in Indian Wells; the MWDOC Administration and Finance Committee meeting; the WACO Planning Committee

OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

meeting via teleconference; the WaterUCI Colloquium Series featuring Plastic Pollution via teleconference; the MWDOC Board Meeting; the Southern California Water Coalition Quarterly Luncheon in Arcadia; the MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee meeting via teleconference; the Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority Board meeting; the Southern California Water Dialogue Steering Committee via teleconference; the MWDOC Workshop Board meeting with the MWD Directors via teleconference; and the WACO Monthly meeting via teleconference.

Vice President Ferons reported on his briefing with staff regarding Water Banking and Kern Fan; his attendance at the MWDOC Water Policy Forum and Dinner in Costa Mesa, and the Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority Board meeting.

President LaMar reported on his participation in the ACWA Board of Directors' Meeting regarding the Executive Director Hiring via teleconference; the California Water Commission Meeting regarding SB 72 Implementation via teleconference; the COAST meeting via teleconference; the South Orange County Agencies' Group meeting; the Southern California Water Coalition Quarterly Board of Directors' meeting; the Southern California Water Coalition Quarterly Luncheon in Arcadia; the MWDOC Water Policy Forum and Dinner in Costa Mesa; the Natural Communities Coalition Executive Committee Meeting; the Colorado River Draft Environmental Impact Statement Public Meeting 1 via teleconference; the ACWA Board of Directors' meeting via teleconference; and the CFEE Energy Conference in Napa.

CLOSED SESSION

General Manager Cook announced that the Closed Session would no longer be needed for the evening's meeting as it was related to agenda item eleven.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION – Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2): significant exposure to litigation. (One potential case; the publicly disclosable claims are included in the agenda packet.)

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:26 p.m., President LaMar adjourned the Board meeting.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026.

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President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

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District Secretary,  
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Claire H. Collins, General Counsel  
Hanson Bridgett LLP