

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – JULY 13, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) was called to order by Acting President Ferons at 5:00 p.m. on July 13, 2026 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 Board Room in the Williams Welcome Center, at the Mount Hermon Camp and Conference Center located at 37 Conference Drive, Felton, CA 95018. 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 Cindy Ritchie, and witnessed by Bryan Hayes. Secretary Swan said that all votes this evening will be taken by a roll call vote.

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

Directors Absent: LaMar.

Oral Communications: None.

Written Communications: An email from Yasmin Fletcher with OC Anglers was received regarding the group's support of the Santiago Creek Dam Improvement Project, and their desire to see boat access restored at Irvine Lake following the completion of the project.

Items too late to be agendized: None.

Also Present: General Manager Cook, Executive Director of Operations Chambers, Executive Director of Finance and Administration Adly, Executive Director of Water Policy Weghorst, Director of Strategic Communications & Advocacy/ Deputy General Counsel Compton, Director of Human Resources Mitcham, Director of Water & Recycling Operations Zepeda, Director of Financial Planning and Data Analytics Smithson, Director of Accounting Lin, Treasury Manager Davis, Director of Water Quality & Regulatory Compliance Colston, Director of Information Technology Kaneshiro, Community Liaison Newell, General Counsel Collins, Secretary Swan, members of the staff, and public.

PUBLIC HEARING

2026 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ISSUANCE

President Ferons declared this to be the time and place for a hearing on the proposed Resolution of Issuance of Consolidated Bonds for Improvement District Nos. 112, 113, 125, 153, 185, 188, 212, 213, 225, 240, 253, 285, and 288 in an amount up to \$175 million, and declared the hearing open. He asked the Secretary how the hearing was noticed. Secretary Swan said that Resolution No. 2026-9, declaring the Board's intention to issue bonds, was published for two successive weeks in the Orange County Register on June 28, 2026 and July 5, 2026, and posted at the District office and website on June 25, 2026. Additionally, on June 24, 2026 and June 25, 2026 this resolution was posted in three public places within each Improvement District. The Proof of Publication and Affidavit of Posting were presented to be received and filed.

PUBLIC HEARING (CONTINUED)

On MOTION by Swan, seconded by Reinhart, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote (4-0), THE PROOF OF PUBLICATION AND AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY WAS RECEIVED AND FILED.

President Ferons asked Legal Counsel to describe the nature of the proceedings. Legal Counsel Collins said that the public hearing needs a simple majority of the quorum in attendance to adopt the resolutions before the Board this evening.

President Ferons asked Executive Director of Finance Adly to provide a summary of the proposed bond issue and requested findings. Ms. Adly reported that \$175.0 million General Obligation bond sale will refund the Series 2016 General Obligation Bonds with an outstanding par amount of approximately \$91.5 million and reimburse the Capital Fund for approximately \$75.0 million of eligible expenditures that have occurred during the three years prior to the bond issuance. The underwriter fees, expenses, and cost of issuance, including legal, rating agencies, trustee, and printing expenses are estimated at \$902,000. Based on current economic conditions, the refunding of the 2016 General Obligation Bonds may potentially generate the net present value savings to IRWD of approximately \$15.0 million. The exact amount will be known at the time of closing.

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

President Ferons asked whether there was anyone present who wished to address the Board concerning the matter. There were none.

President Ferons asked whether there were any comments or questions from members of the Board of Directors. Director Swan asked how much in each of the Improvement Districts would be left over for issuance. Director of Financial Planning and Data Analytics Smithson reported that he would send that information to Director Swan, as it's available in the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

On MOTION by Reinhart, seconded by Withers, and carried by a majority roll call vote (3-1) with Withers, Reinhart, and Ferons voting aye, and Swan voting nay, THE HEARING WAS CLOSED, AND THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY TITLE:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 11

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
MAKING FINDINGS RELATIVE TO CONSOLIDATED BONDS
(CONSOLIDATED SERIES 2026A AND CONSOLIDATED SERIES 2026B)

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 12

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OF IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
CONSOLIDATED SERIES 2026A AND BONDS OF IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
CONSOLIDATED SERIES 2026B, APPROVING THE FORMS AND AUTHORIZING THE
EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ONE OR MORE PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL
STATEMENTS AND OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, ONE OR MORE CONTRACTS OF

PUBLIC HEARING (CONTINUED)

PURCHASE, ONE OR MORE INDENTURES OF TRUST, ONE OR MORE CONTINUING DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATES, ONE OR MORE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENTS, AND AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING CERTAIN ACTIONS
(CONSOLIDATED SERIES 2026A AND CONSOLIDATED SERIES 2026B)

CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Swan requested that Items 10 and 12 be moved to the Action Calendar.

On MOTION by Withers, seconded by Swan, unanimously carried by a roll call vote (4-0), ITEMS 10 and 12 WERE MOVED TO THE ACTION CALENDAR, AND CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS FIVE THROUGH NINE, AND 11 WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

5. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Recommendation: That the minutes of the June 22, 2026 Regular Board of Directors meeting be approved as presented.

6. 2026 LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

Recommendation: Receive and file.

7. 2025-2026 ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT RESPONSE TO “PFAS AND PUBLIC AWARENESS- A CLOSER LOOK AT ORANGE COUNTY DRINKING WATER”

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to provide the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court with the proposed response to Findings F2, F4, F6, and F8 and Recommendations R2, R4, and R5 of the 2025-2026 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled “*PFAS and Public Awareness- A Closer Look at Orange County Drinking Water.*”

8. RENEWAL OF GENERAL AND EXCESS LIABILITY, EXCESS WORKERS’ COMPENSATION, AND PROPERTY INSURANCE PROGRAMS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

Recommendation: That the Board authorize the General Manager to continue IRWD’s participation in PRISM’s General and Excess Liability, Excess Workers’ Compensation, and Property Insurance Programs for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, including approval of the insurance premiums as shown in Exhibits “A” and “B”.

9. FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 OPERATING BUDGET VENDOR EXPENDITURE COMMITMENTS GREATER THAN \$200,000

Recommendation: That the Board approve the list of vendor commitments greater than \$200,000 based on approved Fiscal Year 2026-2027 operating budget expenditures.

11. PROPERTY TAX RESOLUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

Recommendation: That the Board adopt resolutions authorizing the annual tax assessments:

CONSENT (CONTINUED)

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 13

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
ESTABLISHING AD VALOREM TAX REVENUES FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 14

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT AMENDING
ALLOCATION OF AD VALOREM PROPERTY
TAXES TO DEBT SERVICE, SUBJECT TO PLEDGE

ACTION CALENDAR

Prior to taking action on each item, Director Swan requested that items 10 and 12 be voted on together following his questions to staff. The Board agreed to a consolidated vote on both items selected by Director Swan that were moved from the Consent to Action Calendar following his questions and/or comments on each item.

Director Swan asked if item twelve was included in the mid-cycle operating and non-operating budget update. Director of Financial Planning and Data Analytics Smithson answered that it was. General Manager Cook reported that Director Swan's question also ties into item 14 and is outlined in the Fiscal Impacts section.

Director Swan asked if this was consistent with the policy adopted two years ago, and Director of Financial Planning and Data Analytics Smithson indicated that it was.

Following additional comments from Director Swan, on MOTION by Reinhart, seconded by Withers, unanimously carried by a roll call vote (4-0), ITEMS 10 and 12 WERE APPROVED AS FOLLOWS:

10. MID-CYCLE OPERATING AND NON-OPERATING BUDGET UPDATE FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

Recommendation: That the Board receive and file the mid-cycle operating and non-operating budget update for Fiscal Year 2026-27, including the review of budget assumptions, financial projections, and potential rate impacts, and find the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 connection fee increase is consistent with the rates previously approved by the Board.

12. IRWD SECTION 115 PENSION BENEFITS TRUST STRATEGY

Recommendation: That the Board of Directors receive and file the update on the IRWD Section 115 Pension Benefits Trust, including the projected trust balances and the recommend Fiscal Year 2026-27 employer Unfunded Accrued Liability contribution of \$9,757,983 to the California Public Employees' Retirement System, to be funded by the IRWD Section 115 Pension Benefits Trust.

ACTION CALENDAR (CONTINUED)

13. 2026 CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION ISSUANCE AND REFUNDING OF THE 2016 REVENUE CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

Finance Manager Davis reported in March, the Board authorized staff to cause the issuance of fixed and / or variable Certificates of Participation in an amount sufficient to refund the 2016 Certificates of Participation and to reimburse the Capital Fund for replacement-related projects.

A \$250 million Certificates of Participation sale will refund the Series 2016 Certificates of Participation with an outstanding par amount of approximately \$92.0 million and reimburse the Capital Fund for approximately \$122.0 million of eligible expenditures that have occurred during the three years prior to the bond issuance. Based on current economic conditions, the refunding of the 2016 General Obligation Bonds may potentially generate the net present value savings to IRWD of approximately \$11.0 million.

Following questions from the Board, on MOTION by Withers, seconded by Reinart, with a roll call vote of Withers, Reinhart, and Ferons voting aye, and Swan abstaining, (3-0-1) the BOARD ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION BY TITLE:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026 – 15

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT
APPROVING INSTALLMENT
SALE AGREEMENT, TRUST AGREEMENT AND OTHER
DOCUMENTS AND APPROVING CERTAIN ACTIONS
RELATING TO REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION, IRVINE RANCH
WATER DISTRICT, SERIES 2026

14. LUMP SUM PAYMENT OPTION FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 TO THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEE'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Director Reinhart reported that item 14 had been sufficiently covered in the evening's meeting, and further discussion was not necessary.

On MOTION by Reinhart, seconded by Withers, unanimously carried by a roll call vote (4-0), THE BOARD APPROVED THE LUMP-SUM PAYMENT FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM BY MAKING A ONE-TIME CONTRIBUTION OF \$9,757,983 FOR IRWD'S FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 EMPLOYER UNFUNDED ACCRUED LIABILITY CONTRIBUTION, TO BE FUNDED BY THE IRWD SECTION 115 PENSION BENEFITS TRUST.

OTHER BUSINESS

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Cook announced that the launch of the new District website would be Thursday morning.

OTHER BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

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

Mr. Newell relayed that he is enjoying working with Director of Water & Recycling Operations Zepeda and his team on the OCFA training on the water system in the Canyons and the coordination of draining Irvine Lake.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS AND MEETING REPORTS

Director Withers reported on his participation in the OCWD Water Webinar, "Santa Ana River's Essential Role in Orange County's Water Supply"; the ISDOC Executive Meeting via teleconference; the NWRI Board of Directors meeting in Fountain Valley; and the WACO Monthly meeting via teleconference.

Director Reinhart reported on his participation in the Santa Margarita Water District Coordination 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 MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee meeting via teleconference; the MWDOC Administration and Finance Committee meeting via teleconference; and the WACO Monthly meeting via teleconference.

Director Swan reported on his participation in the MWDOC Workshop Board meeting with the MWD Directors via teleconference; the MWDOC Planning and Operations Committee meeting via teleconference; the Southern California Water Dialogue Steering Committee via teleconference; the MWDOC Administration and Finance Committee meeting via teleconference; the Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce Monthly WAKE UP Newport meeting featuring the OC Fair General Manager and CEO, James Canfield; and the WACO Monthly meeting via teleconference.

Director Feron reported on his participation in the Santa Margarita Water District Coordination meeting via teleconference; the discussion of District Activities with the General Manager; and the WACO Monthly meeting via teleconference.

17:40 President Feron recessed the Board meeting to hold the Special Meeting of the Irvine Ranch Water District Water Service Corporation at 5:40 p.m.

At 5:42 p.m., President Feron reconvened the Board meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

President Feron convened the meeting into Closed Session at 5:42 p.m. with General Counsel Collins announcing the following items to be discussed:

- A. CLOSED SESSION 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 claim is included in the agenda packet.)

OTHERS BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

B. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS – *Pursuant to
Government Code Section: 54956.8*

Property: *32003 Dove Canyon Dr., Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679,
APN: 804-542-27*

Agency Negotiator: *Paul Cook – IRWD General Manager*

Negotiating Parties: *Trabuco Canyon Water District*

Under Negotiation: *Price and Terms of Payment*

OPEN SESSION

Following the Closed Session, the meeting was reconvened in Open Session with Directors Withers, Reinhart, Swan, and Ferons present. General Counsel Collins announced that there was nothing to report on either item.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:25 p.m., President Ferons adjourned the Board meeting.

APPROVED and SIGNED this 10th day of August 2026.

President, IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

District Secretary,
IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Claire Hervey Collins, General Counsel
Hanson Bridgett LLP