

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

January 13, 2011

The Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Indian Wells Valley Water District was called to order by President Manning at 9:37 a.m. in the Board of Directors Hearing Room, 500 West Ridgecrest Boulevard, Ridgecrest, California.

**CALL TO ORDER**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: President Harold W. Manning  
Vice-President Margaret "Peggy" L. Breeden  
Director Peter E. Brown  
Director Leroy H. Corlett  
Director Donald J. Cortichiato

**ROLL CALL**

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Isaac St. Lawrence, Attorney;  
Chuck Krieger, Consulting Engineer  
Tom Mulvihill, General Manager;  
Larry DeGano, Operations Superintendent;  
Jason Lillion, Assistant Operations Superintendent;  
Jennifer Keep, Chief Financial Officer;  
Reneé Morquecho, District Engineer;  
Lucinda Crosby, Public Education and Conservation Coordinator;  
Rose Koch, Recording Secretary

**AGENDA DECLARATION**

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DECLARATION**

Recording Secretary, Rose Koch, reported that the agenda for today's Special Board Meeting Workshop was posted on Tuesday, January 11, 2011.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

**CONFLICT OF  
INTEREST**

None.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

None.

**PUBLIC  
COMMENTS**

**BOARD WORKSHOP**

**BOARD  
WORKSHOP**

President Manning introduced Charles Beesley of CBSD Consulting as the Facilitator for the Special Board Meeting Workshop.

Attached is the "Planning Workshop Report Summary" produced by CBSD Consulting, which is herein incorporated with these minutes.

Director Corlett exited the meeting at 12:07 p.m.

**BOARD COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**


**BOARD  
COMMENTS &  
FUTURE  
AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by President Manning at 2:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Rose Koch  
Recording Secretary

APPROVED: March 14, 2011

# INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT PLANNING WORKSHOP REPORT

## SUMMARY FOR BOARD MINUTES

### BACKGROUND

The Indian Wells Valley Water District (District) conducted a one-day Planning Workshop with the Board of Directors (Board) and Management of the District on January 13, 2011. The purpose of the Workshop was to develop consensus on Board and Management issues and action plans for the current year, and receive a Management report on District projects. This report summarizes the discussions and agreements reached during the Workshop.

### EXPECTATIONS/WORKSHOP ISSUES/ GOALS & PRIORITIES

Five key issues were posted on the Agenda for discussion, followed by a report on the status of the District's high priority goals for 2010. Participants identified two other topics for discussion at the Workshop. These issues are described below:

1. Ordinance No. 93: Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance;
2. Ordinance Nos. 90 and 91: Water Efficient Landscape Ordinances for New Construction;
3. Policies for Water Use Mitigation Required for New Development;
4. Ordinance No. 94: Water Sales & Service Policy Manual;
5. Board Meeting Packets;
6. General Manager Evaluation Process; and
7. Continuation of Lobbyist Services.

#### 1. ORDINANCE NO. 93: WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE ORDINANCE

ISSUE: This Ordinance was adopted by the District May 10, 2010, and to date has been enforced by the District's part-time Conservation Specialist. However, enforcement has proven more difficult to achieve in large part due to the extensive amount of time needed to respond to reported incidents and follow-up contact with reported violators. The District approved expanding the position to oversee this Ordinance from part-time to full-time beginning in the spring of 2011.

AGREEMENT: The District prefers a service-oriented, educational approach to implementing this Ordinance. Enforcement will be for repeat or excessive violators. The District will develop a new "Friendly Water Runoff Advisory Notice" that will be posted at the site of potential violators.

**2. ORDINANCE NOS. 90 AND 91: WATER EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE ORDINANCES FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION**

ISSUE: The City of Ridgecrest does not have a comparable ordinance for new development construction.

AGREEMENT: The Water Management Committee and General Manager will continue to meet with City representatives to develop compatible/interactive ordinances. District staff will draft up ordinance language to submit for discussion and consideration at the upcoming District/City meetings.

For single family residential development, allow limited grass/high water use landscape in the front yard if the owner agrees to a limitation on the entire lot including the back yard. Exclude lawns for new commercial development unless it has a functional use.

**3. DEVELOP POLICIES FOR WATER USE MITIGATION REQUIRED FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT**

ISSUE: In 2010, the District began to develop a mitigation agreement for the Solar Millennium Project. It was to serve as a water use mitigation pilot for other new developments within the District's jurisdiction. Unfortunately, Solar Millennium has withdrawn their project, leaving the District without a pilot project and uncertainty how to proceed.

AGREEMENT: This issue will be referred back to the Alternate Water Supply Committee for further review and consideration.

**4. ORDINANCE NO. 94: WATER SALES & SERVICE POLICY MANUAL**

ISSUE: Ordinance 94 became effective January 10, 2011. However, there was a question that the new built-in rate increases would have an immediate impact with a noticeable increase in the higher tiers, which may be too aggressive or too soon for some property owners.

AGREEMENT: It was the consensus of the participants that there was ample justification and considerable Board discussion at noticed public hearings prior to the adoption of the ordinance. The District does not need to revise the new, tiered-rate structure.

**5. BOARD MEETING PACKETS**

ISSUE: The Board receives meeting packets in multiple formats, which is not an efficient use of staff time.

AGREEMENT: The Board will receive meeting packets via electronic transmission. Information that is related to closed sessions will be picked up by Board members at

the District office. If members of the Board are unable to pick up closed session information, the Recording Clerk of the Board will fax the information to them.

## **6. GENERAL MANAGER EVALUATION PROCESS**

ISSUE: The Board does not conduct formal evaluations of the current General Manager. However, the Board has repeatedly expressed its satisfaction in his overall leadership and performance during public sessions. The question was asked whether this informal approach is still appropriate given the anticipated retirement of the General Manager in the near future.

AGREEMENT: This will be referred to the Administrative/Executive Committee to develop a format and evaluation process.

## **7. CONTINUATION OF LOBBYIST SERVICE**

ISSUE: The District utilized the services of a Legislative Advocate (Advocate) in 2010 and is uncertain whether to continue these services. To date, the primary value of the Advocate has been in providing assistance with writing and soliciting grants

AGREEMENT: The District will renew the Advocate's contract subject to reviewing his fees.

## **8. GENERAL MANAGER GOALS FOR 2011**

The General Manager reviewed his and staff's goals for the year.