

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

JANUARY 12, 2024

The Special Board Meeting Workshop of the Board of Directors of the Indian Wells Valley Water District was called to order by President Kicinski at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Directors Hearing Room, 500 West Ridgecrest Boulevard, Ridgecrest, California. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by David Saint-Amand. **PLEDGE**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: President Ronald R. Kicinski
Vice President David C.H. Saint-Amand
Director Charles D. Griffin
Director Stan G. Rajtora **ROLL CALL**

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Director Mallory J. Boyd

STAFF PRESENT: George Croll, General Manager
Jim Worth, Attorney
Tim Parker, Consulting Hydrogeologist
Jason Lillion, Operations Manager
Renée Morquecho, Chief Engineer
Tyrell Staheli, Chief Financial Officer
Lauren Smith, Recording Secretary

AGENDA DECLARATION

Recording Secretary, Lauren Smith, reported that the agenda for today's Special Board Meeting Workshop was posted on Tuesday, January 9, 2024. **AGENDA DECLARATION**

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Director Saint-Amand stated his opinions shared during this meeting are his own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of his employer, nor the Board. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

None. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

AWARD OF PURCHASE OF ARSENIC PLANT REPLACEMENT MEDIA

Staff presented quotes from Pureflow and Filtronics for Board Consideration for the purchase of replacement media for the arsenic plant filters. **AWARD OF PURCHASE**

MOTION: was made by Director Griffin and seconded by Vice President Saint-Amand approving Award of Purchase to Pureflow and Filtronics for the replacement media for the arsenic plant filters. Motion was carried by the following roll call vote:

President Kicinski:	Aye
Director Boyd:	Absent
Director Griffin:	Aye
Director Rajtora:	Aye
Vice President Saint-Amand:	Aye

BOARD WORKSHOP

The Board reviewed the list included in the Board Workshop packet. It was unanimously decided to have the Board and the Potential Strategic Planning Effort Ad-Hoc Committee review and prioritize the list, and update at upcoming Board meetings.

**BOARD
WORKSHOP
POTENTIAL
STRATEGIC
PLANNING
EFFORT**

The Board agreed to review previous cost estimates and recalculate to current costs and present to the Board for discussion. Staff to reengage with the City to discuss possible avenues of a cooperative wastewater treatment plant. Krieger & Stewart (K&S) to update previous wastewater study costs and plans.

WASTEWATER

The Board heard public comment from Judie Decker and Mike Neel.

The Board chose to discuss this topic under agenda item # 8.A.6.

**ALT WATER
SOURCES**

Board directed George Croll to work with President Kicinski, engineering, and other necessary staff and consultants to review previous Request For Proposals (RFPs) from LADWP, and supporting documentation, and establish a conversation with Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Updates to be provided to the Board as necessary.

**CAPTURE LADWP
WATER
OVERFLOW**

The Board heard public comment from Judie Decker and Mike Neel.

The Board discussed the reports they would like to receive from the General Manager on a regular basis. The reports to include the monthly production, with yearly totals. Monthly report on conservation results, safety reports, Senate and Assembly Bill updates pertinent to the District, etc.

**GM/STAFF
REPORTS**

The Board reviewed the list of projects and prioritized them as follows:

1. Injection wells and/or percolation ponds
2. Wastewater reuse
3. El Paso Basin study/usage
4. Supplemental water

**PROJECT
PRIORITY
BASED ON FY24
FUNDING**

Staff to review the prioritized list and provide estimated costs to the Board.

The Board heard public comment from Mike Neel and Judie Decker.

The Board recessed the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 11:37 a.m.

Updated 2023 District Goals and Accomplishments and 2024 Goals were presented by staff. **2023/2024 GOALS**

Director Griffin expressed his concerns with the list of projects being postponed due to budget constraints. He commented on the potential need to review the budget, considering the increase in water conservation and high fees paid to the IWVGA. He would like staff to have peace of mind that their job is secure, even with the budgetary constraints. **BOARD GOALS**

Director Rajtora reiterated that staff shouldn't be stressed because of money issues, as it is the Board's job to do so.

Vice President Saint-Amand commented on the overpayment of fees to the IWVGA. He also commented on the recent Rate Structure that took effect on January 1st, and increase in revenue, which could help with funding upcoming projects. His priority zero is maintenance, and the magnitude of putting it off.

President Kicinski concurred with previous comments regarding the importance of finances.

None to address.

REVIEW OUTS. ISSUES

BOARD COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board collectively thanked the staff for their continued hard work.

BOARD COMMENTS

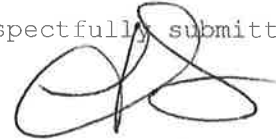
Staff to present an update on the deferred maintenance list at the next Board Meeting for discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,



Lauren Smith
Recording Secretary

APPROVED: February 12, 2024