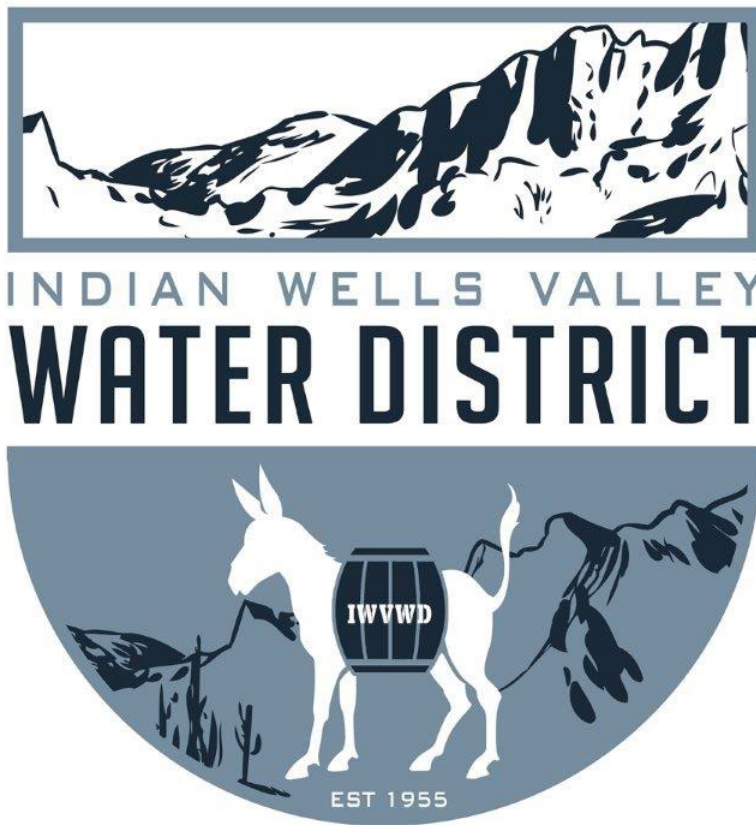


INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting



October 10, 2023



INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Mallory J. Boyd, President
Ronald R. Kicinski, Vice President
Charles D. Griffin
Stanley G. Rajtora
David C. H. Saint-Amand

George D. Croll
General Manager
Krieger & Stewart, Incorporated
Engineers
McMurtrey, Hartsock, Worth & St. Lawrence
Attorneys-at-Law

2023 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

ADMINISTRATION/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 (BOYD/KICINSKI)

Personnel, Legal Matters, General Plan, Community Relations, Board Meeting Agendas, Ordinances, Rules, Regulations, Policies, Procedures, Customer Service, Variances, Director’s Manual, etc.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
 (RAJTORA/SAINT-AMAND)

Rates, Cost-of-Service, Budget, Audits, Cost Allocation, Investments, Financial Services, Insurance, Loans/Grants, Water Sales & Service Policy Manual, Accounting, Assessment Districts, Billing, etc.

PLANT & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE
 (GRIFFIN/RAJTORA)

Transmission/Distribution System, Vehicles & Equipment, Wells, Reservoirs, Real Property Management, Telemetry, etc.

WATER MANAGEMENT
 (GRIFFIN/KICINSKI)

Groundwater Sustainability Act, Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, Water Management, Water Policy, Water Quality, Conservation, Urban Water Management Plan, California Urban Water Conservation Council, Title 22 Compliance, Alternative sources for water supply including Blending, Importation, Reuse, etc.

Committee Meetings are generally scheduled on a regular day and time.
 Committee Meetings are subject to change.

Administration/Executive
Finance
Plant & Equipment
Water Management

Wednesday before the Board Meeting at 3:00 p.m.
 Tuesday before the Board Meeting at 2:30 p.m.
 Tuesday before the Board Meeting at 2:00 p.m.
 Last Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

AGENDA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023
CLOSED SESSION - 4:30 P.M.
OPEN SESSION - 6:00 P.M.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' HEARING ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

➤ **Watch meetings on-line:**

All District meetings are streamed live on the District's YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@IWVWD>

Recordings will be available for viewing after the meeting on the District's YouTube page.

➤ **Call in for public comments:**

To make a public comment, please call: (760) 375-7548.

Callers will be placed in a queue and answered in the order they were received. If a member of the public wishes to comment on multiple items, they will need to call in as each item is presented to the Board.

(In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact Lauren Smith at (760) 384-5502. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting. Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, any materials relating to an open session item on this agenda, distributed to the Board of Directors after the distribution of the agenda packet, will be made available for public inspection at the time of distribution at the following location: Indian Wells Valley Water District, 500 W. Ridgecrest Blvd., Ridgecrest, CA.)

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Posting of Agenda Declaration
5. Conflict of Interest Declaration
6. Public Questions and Comments on Closed Session
7. Closed Session
 - A. Potential Litigation
 - Conference with Legal Counsel
 - 2 Matters
 - (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)(4))

- B. Existing Litigation
Conference with Legal Counsel
Mojave Pistachios, LLC v Indian Wells Valley Water District, et al.
Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2021-01187275-CU-OR-CJC
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1))

- C. Existing Litigation
Conference with Legal Counsel
Mojave Pistachios, LLC v Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, et al.
Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2021-01187589-CU-WM-CXC
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1))

- D. Existing Litigation
Conference with Legal Counsel
Searles Valley Minerals Inc., v Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, et al.
Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2021-01188089-CU-WM-CXC
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1))

- E. Conference with Labor Negotiators
District Representatives: George Croll and Jim Worth
Employee Organization: General District Employees
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 & 54957.6)

- 8. Public Questions and Comments
(This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons desiring to address the Board on any matter not on the agenda and over which the Board has jurisdiction. However, no action may be taken by the Board of Directors on any item not appearing on the agenda. Non-agenda speakers are asked to limit their presentation to five minutes. Public questions and comments on items listed on the agenda will be accepted at any time the item is brought forth for consideration by the Board. When you are recognized by the chairperson, please state your name and address for the record.)

- 9. Current Business/Committee Reports
 - A. Consent Calendar
Description: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes and Accounts Payable Disbursements.
 - 1. Approval of Minutes:
 - i. September 11, 2023, Regular Board Meeting
 - 2. Approval of Accounts Payable Disbursements

 - B. Plant & Equipment Committee
 - 1. Sierra Sands Unified School District: Richmond Elementary School Connection Fee Appeal
Description: Discuss SSUSD's appeal of capital facility, distribution, and plan review/inspection fees.
Committee Recommends the Following: Committee decided to review the background information and discuss further with the entire Board during the meeting next week.

- C. Administration/Executive Committee
1. Letter of Support for Community Solar Project
Description: Committee to review and consider signing a letter of support for a Community Solar Project off US-395 and West Inyokern Road.
Committee Recommends the Following: Defer to the Board for further discussion and consideration.
- D. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
- Description:** Report and discussion regarding the September 13, 2023, meeting of the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA). Including, Board discussion and consideration of issues of importance requiring action by the IWVGA. Next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2023.
- E. Comprehensive Adjudication
- Description:** Report and discussion regarding the status of the Comprehensive Adjudication.
- F. General Manager and Staff Update (The Board will consider and may act on the following items):
1. Water Production, New Services, and Personnel Safety Record
Description: Water produced from all District wells, report of the new services installed in the District, and personnel safety record for the preceding month.
 2. Public Outreach
Description: Public Outreach Report.
 3. July 25, 2023, Special Board Workshop
Description: Updates on the items below assigned at the July 25, 2023, Special Board Workshop:
 - ✓ Potential Strategic Planning Effort Ad-Hoc Committee
 - ✓ Variance for Evaporative Coolers
 - ✓ Letter to the IWVGA regarding potential sites for monitoring wells in the El Paso area to be drafted by Tim Parker
 4. Booster Stations and Tanks Projects
Description: Update on these Capital Projects.
 5. Financial Status
Description: Report on the District's current financial status.
 6. Conservation
Description: Update on the Conservation Program and discussion on water conservation related items.
 7. Inyokern Road Transmission Line
Description: Update on the failure of the 30-inch transmission main.

8. Arsenic Treatment Facilities

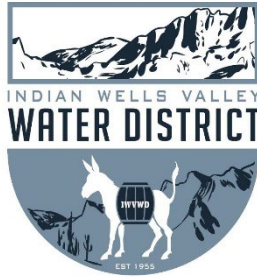
Description: Staff will update Committee on maintenance issues and production.

9. Operations

Description: Staff report on operations.

10. Board Comments/Future Agenda Items

11. Adjournment



Committee Reports

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 – 2:00 P.M.

BOARD ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

Attendees: Stan Rajtora, Ron Kicinski, George Croll, Jason Lillion, Justin Thompson, and Ty Staheli

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Committee/Public Comments

None.

3. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)

Director Griffin was not present to give an update on the last IWVGA Board meeting

The committee discussed the IWVGA's Shallow Well Mitigation Program and the public perception of using the District's rate payers money to drill new wells for others who have had their private wells fail. Discussion was also had on what should be paid for if and when a private well goes dry.

District staff is scheduled to meet with both Stetson and Provost & Pritchard next week to go over the pipeline project costs.

a. Discuss feasible alternatives to the pipeline project.

The District staff has been looking at different options and the true amount of water that the District would require from the pipeline project. To this date the District has conserved so much that it is almost reached the level of sustainability for this basin.

Director Kicinski brought up alternatives such as: the Navy base building a desalinization plant for the Brackish water, is Searles Valley Minerals is looking at to treat their brackish water, is there a way to get water from the District wells that are in Inyo County, does Kern County permit the use of grey water for irrigation.

4. Change of Committee Meeting Time

Committee agreed to change the meeting time of future Water Management Committee Meetings from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm on the last working Thursday of each month.

5. Future LADWP Aqueduct Water Release

Committee wants to continue working on a long-term project for the capture of future LADWP Aqueduct releases. Mr. Croll has plans to meet with LADWP to talk about the

options that the District has for capturing the released water. Staff has been asked to come up with preliminary rough cost estimates for drilling a simple gravity fed injection well. There could be benefits for both the District and LADWP if we can provide an area for the water to be released and used instead of just dumping water into the desert.

6. Potential Impact of Recycled Water on District's Need for Imported Water

The committee discussed what would need to be done to move forward with the recycled water project and the state's requirements for what can be done with the waste water. Mr. Croll has met with the City of Ridgecrest and believes that investing in the recycled water could help with meeting the District's water allocation goals. The IWVGA has expressed a lack of interest in this project and the committee feels that the District should focus on working with the City to find a reasonable use for the water.

7. Brackish Water Study

The committee discussed the need to meet with the Navy to discuss the advantages and challenges of moving forward with this study. The majority of the brackish water is believed to be under the Navy Base and to this point the Navy has not permitted drilling or sampling of that water for this study. The committee feels that the basin as a whole could benefit from the treatment and use of this groundwater. The first step of the study is about to come to a conclusion and the District is hopeful that the Navy will work with the Brackish Water Group to continue the study.

8. Alternate Water Sources

There is nothing new to report on this subject.

a. Exploration of sub-basins within the valley

Tim Parker is working with DWR to find funding for test wells to be drilled in the El Paso region.

9. Future Agenda Items

None

10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

REPORT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2023 – 2:00 PM
BOARD ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

Attendees: Stan Rajtora, Chuck Griffin, George Croll, Ty Staheli, Jason Lillion, Justin Thompson and Renee Morquecho.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

2. Committee/Public Comments

None.

3. Sierra Sands Unified School District: Richmond Elementary School Connection Fee Appeal

Staff presented an Agenda Item Sheet with background information on this project along with current District Policy. SSUSD submitted a request to waive certain fees. After some discussion the Committee decided they wanted to review the background information and discuss further with the entire Board during the meeting next week.

4. Inyokern Rd Transmission Pipeline Repair: Update

Staff met with Underground Solutions about their fusible PVC pipe. Staff was impressed with the technology and quality of the pipe. It can be slip-lined into the existing CMCL pipe. The cost for the project using fusible PVC is not final yet, but appears to be \$4.5 to \$5.0M. For this price, Underground Solutions would provide the pipe and fusing and District forces would pull the pipe through the existing pipe. The District has signed an agreement with CalMuni to assist in securing financing for this project. They recommended pursuing a grant or low interest loan with USDA and are negotiating that option on behalf of the District.

5. Booster Station and Tanks Project: Update

This week is pump testing/pre-startup/field testing and electrical inspections. Once complete, the contractor will be re-disinfecting all the pump cans, pumps and suction & discharge piping for bacteriological testing. At this time this project is scheduled to complete the first week of December.

At the College tank site, the new tank is online and the floor of the old tank was inspected/repared by J. Colon Coatings last week. Staff will be scheduling disinfection and filling of the old tank. This project is scheduled to be completed by the end of this month.

6. Arsenic Treatment Facilities: Update

The shaker has been built and staff is in the process of sifting media from the filtration tanks in preparation for Plant 1 next season. Meanwhile, Plant 2 is still online and will most likely come off line the end of this month.

7. Cost/Operations Impact of Receiving Imported Water: Discussion Only

General Manager Croll provided an update on recent meetings with Groundwater Authority (GA) staff and consulting engineers. Other options for the imported water were discussed and staff will continue communicating with the GA. Future meetings are planned to discuss alternative projects.

8. Future Agenda Items

- La Mirage area infrastructure
- Springer Ave pipeline

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 pm.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

FINANCE COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

REPORT

TUESDAY OCTOBER 3, 2023 – 2:30 PM
BOARD ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

ATTENDEES: Ron Kicinski, Stan Rajtora, George Croll, Ty Staheli, Jason Lillion, and Renee Morquecho

1. Call to Order

The Finance Committee Meeting was called to order at 2:32 pm.

2. Committee/Public Comments

None.

3. Fraud Risk Discussion

Description: Discuss potential or actual fraud risks within the organization.

None to report.

4. State Revolving Fund Loan Program

Description: Discussion on State Revolving Fund Loan Program

Staff reported continued engagement with the ACWA SRF working group and continued push to address timelines. Staff also attended a webinar hosted by CSDA and presented by DWR. The SRF program has allotted \$300 million for low interest loans for this cycle and has received applications for \$2.5 billion. DWR is using a ranking system to prioritize the funding approvals. Currently, the District's projects would rank low on the list.

Regardless of the rankings, the District will look at mainline replacements in the La Mirage area for future SRF loan funding.

Director Rajtora requested Staff to continue reaching out to the elected representatives, especially, Representative McCarthy to ensure California was using the SRF funds appropriately.

5. Inyokern Road Transmission Line Funding

Description: Discussion on funding for the replacement of the Inyokern Road Transmission Line.

Staff reported that agreements with CalMuni partners for seeking funding for the Line replacements have been executed and the team is currently in talks with USDA regarding the ability to skip the pre-application process. Should this project be fully funded through USDA, funding from the State could be shifted for the Springer pipeline project.

6. GA Imported Water Costs

Description: Discuss imported water costs and potential impact to customers' bills

Staff has met with GA staff and Provost & Prichard to discuss project options and costs.

Staff continues to work on developing an accurate cost matrix inclusive of all associated costs to estimate impacts on customers. Additional information has been taken from the GA's released project reports and added to the matrix.

Staff also discussed additional options for the imported water project including, deep well injection, connection to other pumpers, option to determine when the District receives water, and how to appropriately allocate costs.

7. Tuition Reimbursement

Description: Discuss District's Policy on tuition reimbursement

Mr. Croll asked the committee to consider an increase in tuition reimbursement, in the amount of \$6,000, for an employee in light of the benefit the education has on district operations and security. Current policy covers \$3,000 in reimbursement per year. The increase is to cover most of the expenses for the final 2 semesters.

The Committee recommends bringing a policy revision back to committee for review.

8. Financial Statements September 30, 2023 (preliminary)

Description: Presentation to Committee financial reports and graphs depicting current revenue and expense trends compared to budget and previous fiscal year actuals.

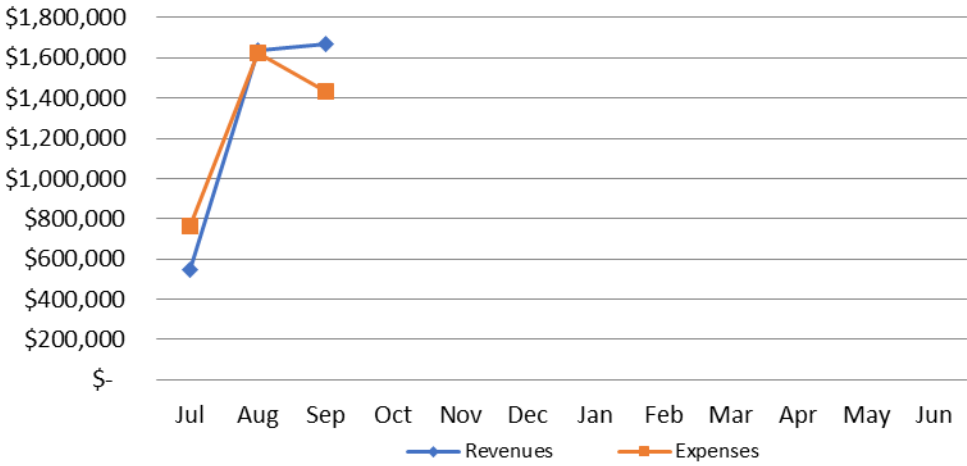
Estimated year-to-date revenues as of September 30, 2023, are \$3,854,242 and expenses are \$3,826,232, therefore revenues exceeded expenditures by \$28,010, which is better than budget by \$384,968.

Staff presented the following spreadsheet, which compares September year-to-date actual to budgeted revenues and expenses by category:

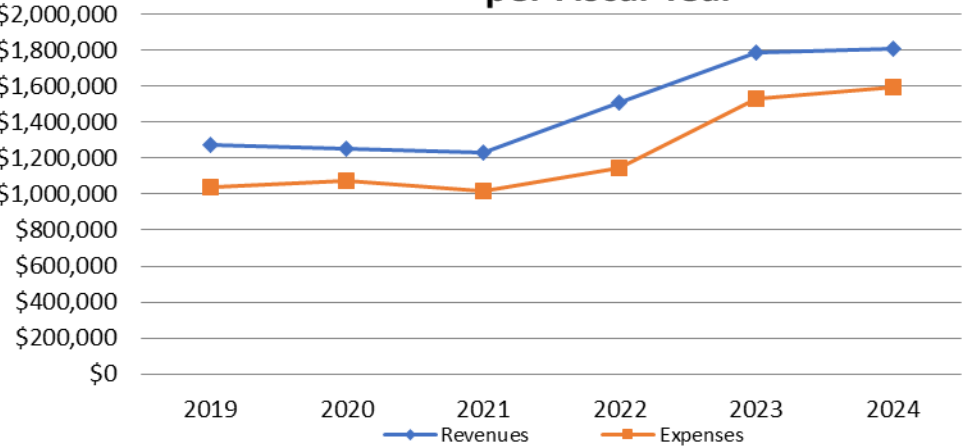
Indian Wells Valley Water District
Revenues vs. Expense
Actuals & Budget through September 2023 (Preliminary)

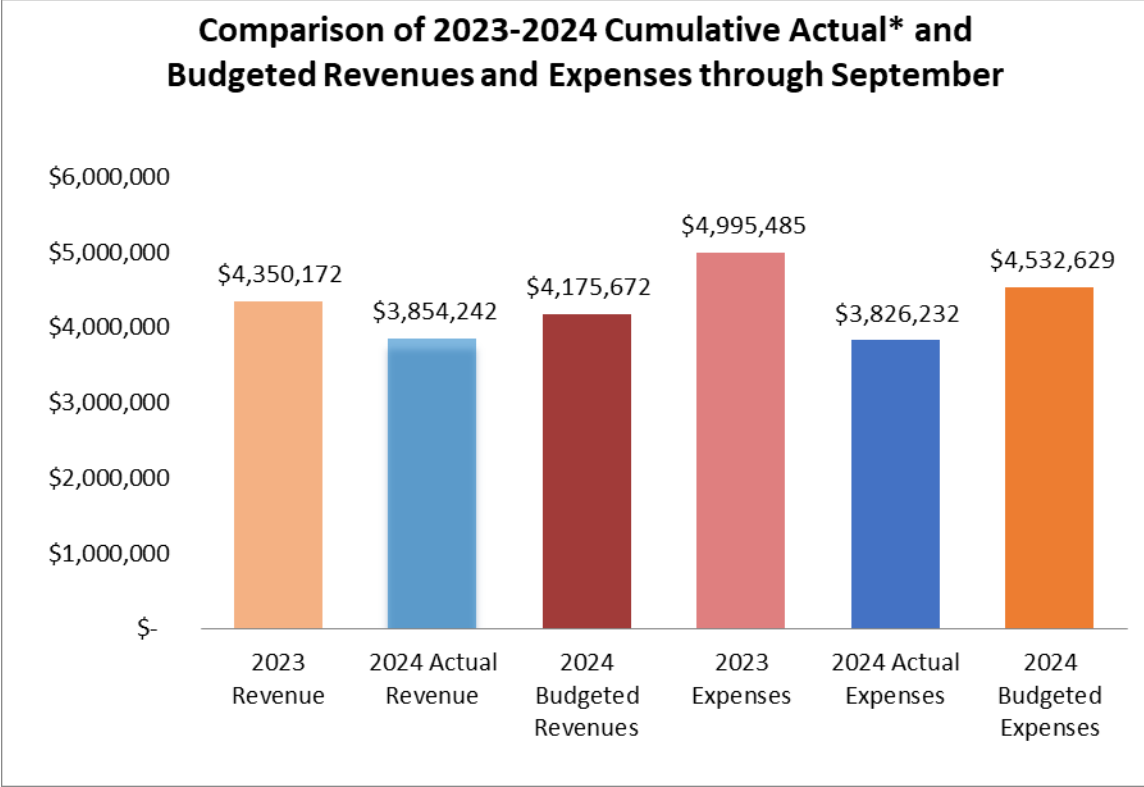
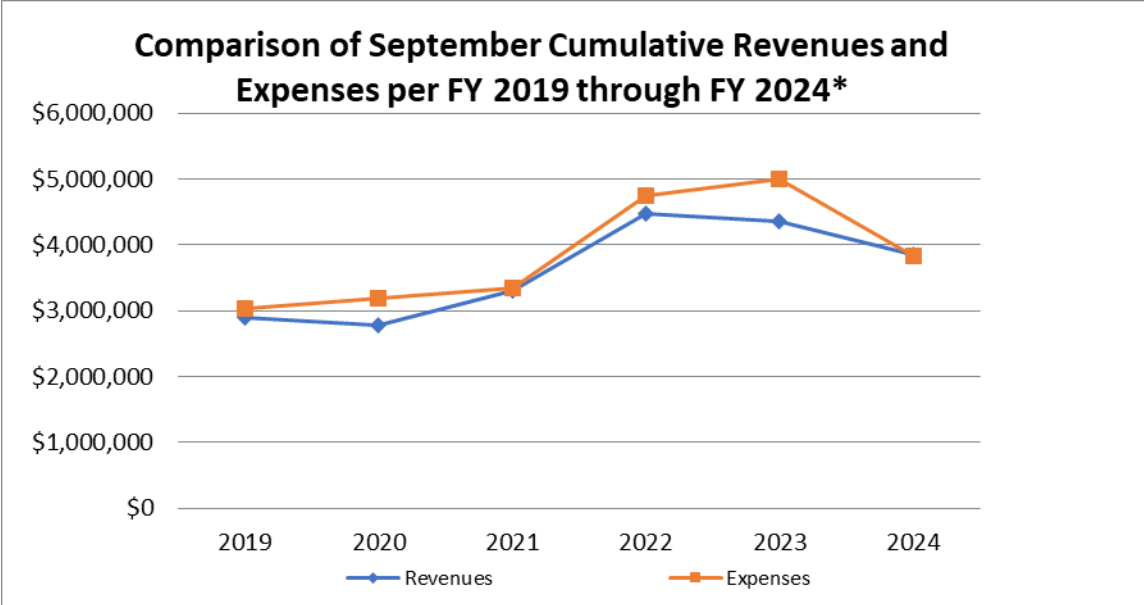
	Budget	Actuals	Δ
Revenues			
Total Water Sales	3,026,168	2,723,122	-303,045
GSA Fees	947,507	1,002,919	55,411
Total Water Service Revenue	92,283	94,608	2,325
Total Non-Operating Income	67,390	10,257	-57,133
Capital Contributions	42,324	23,337	-18,987
Total Revenues	4,175,672	3,854,242	-321,430
Expenses			
Water Supply	315,033	267,121	-47,912
Arsenic Treatment Plants	107,551	98,390	-9,162
Transmission & Distribution	536,508	300,518	-235,990
Engineering	129,192	113,201	-15,991
Customer Service	126,122	87,448	-38,674
Field Services	134,537	65,687	-68,850
General & Administration	885,431	485,114	-400,317
Legislative	24,918	19,941	-4,977
Depreciation	825,000	825,000	0
Non-Operating, Interest	342,808	342,808	0
Non-Operating, Miscellaneous	70,227	318,441	248,214
GSA Fees	1,024,014	881,428	-142,585
Non-Operating, Conservation	8,895	3,876	-5,020
Non-Operating, Alternate Water	2,393	17,260	14,867
Total Expenses	4,532,629	3,826,232	-706,397
Net Revenue Increase (Decrease)	-356,957	28,010	384,968
Capital Expenditures		549,679	
Debt Service Principle		277,916	

Comparison of FY 2023-2024 Revenues and Expenses by Month



Comparison of September Revenues and Expenses per Fiscal Year





*Actual Revenues and Expenses are Estimated

9. Accounts Payable Disbursements

Description: Presentation to Committee of Accounts Payable Disbursements reports for Board approval.

The Committee recommended approval of accounts payable disbursements totaling \$1,229,850.36 as follows:

Checks through:	<u>9/14/23</u>	<u>9/28/23</u>
Prepaid	\$ 46,854.74	\$ 474,207.32
Current	<u>588,088.24</u>	<u>120,700.06</u>
Total	<u>\$ 634,942.98</u>	<u>\$ 594,907.38</u>

10. Future Agenda Items

None

11. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 3:16 pm.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATION/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2023 – 3:00 P.M.

BOARD ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

Attendees: Mallory Boyd, Ron Kicinski, Ty Staheli, Justin Thompson, and Jason Lillion

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Committee/Public Comments

None.

3. Letter of Support for Community Solar Project

The Committee reviewed the letter of support for a Community Solar Project off US-395 and West Inyokern Road. In order for PowerMarket to start construction, Southern California Edison (SCE) requires they show “community interest” by getting letters of support signed. PowerMarket has already obtained letters of support from City of Ridgecrest, Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce, Ridgecrest Regional Hospital, Sierra Sands Unified School District, and many others.

The Committee deferred to the Board for further discussion and consideration.

4. Discussion on Senate Bill (SB) 606 and Assembly Bill (AB) 1668

Jason Lillion commented that current usage meets the 2035 standards set by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

Staff will continue to remain current on the requirements set forth by SWRCB.

5. Draft Agenda for the Special Board Meeting of October 10, 2023

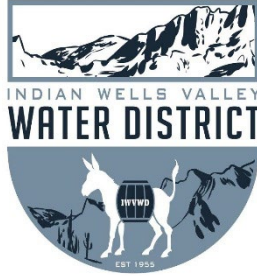
The Committee reviewed the agenda and made no changes.

6. Future Agenda Items

None.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.



Approval of Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Indian Wells Valley Water District was called to order by Vice President Kicinski at 4:32 p.m. in the Board of Directors Hearing Room, 500 West Ridgecrest Boulevard, Ridgecrest, California. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by George Croll, followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of 9/11. **PLEDGE**

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: President Mallory J. Boyd

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

AGENDA DECLARATION **AGENDA**
Recording Secretary, Lauren Smith, reported that the agenda for today's **DECLARATION**
Regular Board Meeting was posted on Friday, September 8, 2023.

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

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION **PUBLIC**
None. **COMMENTS**

With no further Board or Public comments, Vice President Kicinski recessed the meeting and adjourned to Closed Session at 4:34 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION **CLOSED**
The meeting was reconvened in Closed Session at 4:36 p.m. **SESSION**

Closed Session was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened to Open Session at 6:07 p.m.

No action was taken which would require disclosure under the Brown Act.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

**PUBLIC
COMMENTS**

The Board heard public comment from David Doremus with Western Water Project, Renee Westa-Lusk, and Travis Reed, Deputy City Manager of Ridgecrest, presenting a plaque to the District recognizing the staff's efforts and help during Storm Hillary.

CONSENT CALENDAR

**CONSENT
CALENDAR**

MOTION: was made by Director Saint-Amand and seconded by Director Rajtora approving the Minutes of the August 14, 2023, Regular Board Meeting, and Payment of Accounts Payable totaling \$1,848,647.73. Motion was carried, unanimously. (Ayes: Griffin, Kicinski, Rajtora, Saint-Amand. Nays: None. Absent: Boyd.)

ADMINISTRATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**ADMIN/EXEC
WATERSMART
RENEWAL**

The Board reviewed the 5-year renewal with WaterSmart and the cost differences between the different year options. The 5-year renewal option guarantees the presented yearly costs over the 5-year contract.

MOTION: was made by Director Saint-Amand and seconded by Vice President Kicinski approving the renewal with WaterSmart for the 5-year contract. (Ayes: Griffin, Kicinski, Rajtora, Saint-Amand. Nays: None. Absent: Boyd.)

The Board reviewed the draft Funding Agreement with DWR. The funding of \$3M would go to the Northwest transmission mainline replacement. Staff is awaiting final wording to include in the agreement. The Committee recommends the Board approve Resolution No. 23-05.

**AB 102 BUDGET
ACT OF 2023**

The Board heard public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk and Judie Decker.

MOTION: was made by Director Griffin and seconded by Director Saint-Amand approving the Resolution No. 23:05: Agreement with the State of California Department of Water Resources to receive funds for the Northwest transmission mainline replacement project and authorizing the General Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the IWVWD. Motion was carried, unanimously by the following roll call vote:

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

Director Griffin provided a brief overview of the two different projects the IWVGA is proposing. One project is an Environmental Infrastructure Project and the other is a Water Resources Project.

**IMPRTED WTR/
AVEK PIPELINE**

The Board expressed their stance on the funding path for the Imported Water/AVEK Pipeline, which is on the IWVGA's agenda for discussion and possible approval this week.

Jim Worth provided an explanation of funding for both projects.

The Board heard public comment from Judie Decker.

INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (IWVGA)

IWVGA

Director Griffin discussed action items of the August 23, 2023, IWVGA meeting, including:

- Next IWVGA meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2023
- Multiple change orders for the Imported Water Pipeline were approved with a vote of 4-1
- Status report on funding recycled water - postponed to the September meeting

The Board discussed the possibility of staff working directly with the City of Ridgecrest to use the waste water for local events. Mr. Croll to follow up with City staff.

COMPREHENSIVE ADJUDICATION

COMPREHENSIVE ADJUDICATION

Jim Worth reported that Judge Claster has been assigned for all purposes. Mr. Worth commented on the Case Management Conference held on September 1, 2023.

The next Case Management Conference is scheduled for November 3, 2023.

GENERAL MANAGER AND STAFF UPDATE

GENERAL MANAGER AND STAFF UPDATE SAFETY, PRODUCTION & NEW SERVICES

George Croll reported as of today, employees at the Water District have worked 250 days since the last recordable injury.

Metered production at the wells for the month of August was about 2.3M gallons.

Comparing the August conservation results to the 2013 baseline year, consumption is 33.5% lower.

Staff continues to work with Providence Strategic Consulting to promote WaterSmart on social media.

Mr. Croll will be setting up a monthly outreach event at a local coffee shop/diner on a non-flex Friday, where the public is invited to come and express their concerns or issues, ask questions, etc. This month the meeting will be held at Kristy's Family Restaurant on Friday, September 22nd at 9:00 a.m. He hopes a Board member could also join him.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The following updates were given on items assigned at the July 25, 2023, Special Board Workshop:

BOARD WORKSHOP UPDATES

- **Potential Strategic Planning Efforts**

The Committee plans to meet soon.

- **Variance for Evaporative Coolers**

Requirements and mandates are still being reviewed. Updates will be provided as appropriate.

- **Letter to the IWVGA regarding potential sites for monitoring wells in the El Paso area to be drafted by Tim Parker**

Once the letter is drafted it will be provided to the Board prior to distribution to the IWVGA.

BOOSTER STATIONS & TNKS

The motor control center ("MCC") for the Booster Station was delivered at the end of August. Electrical installation is currently happening. The connection piping was chlorinated last week, flushing was done

today, and bacteriological testing is scheduled for tomorrow.

At the College tank, the pipe modifications were completed for the old tank. The piping was disinfected, flushed, and sampled for bacteriological analysis. Staff received the results and staff will work with the contractor to get the tank back online.

Best Drilling & Pump finished their installation and startup the second week of August. Staff has since disinfected and flushed the week in preparation for bacteriological testing. WELL 33
UPDATE

The estimated year-to-date revenues as of August 31, 2023, are \$2,187,750 and expenses are \$2,065,725. Revenues exceeded expenditures by \$122,025, which is better than budget by \$1,085,428. FINANCIAL STATUS

Mr. Staheli reported on the following conservation items: CONSERVATION
State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Water Waster Report - Thus far in 2023, there have been a total of 61 water waste reports received with 61 contacts made. There has been 23 formal Second Notices and seven penalties issued

The District is currently looking at the most economical and efficient possible method to replace the Inyokern transmission pipeline. Replacing the pipeline with HDPE is estimated at 25-30 weeks with a cost of \$4.65M, staff is still waiting for a cost estimate for the fusible PVC. Rough estimates to perform the pipeline replacement with 24" bell and spigot PVC would be an estimated 35-40 weeks at a cost of \$5.1M. INYOKERN RD TRANSM. MAIN

The final draft Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) is being reviewed by staff and consultants. The Board was notified the Public Hearing to adopt the updated WSCP will be tentatively schedule to coincide with the December Board meeting. Staff will take the appropriate measures to notify the newspaper and other agencies of the Public Hearing. The draft WSCP will be distributed in accordance with state requirements. WSCP

For the month of August, Plant 2 treated 49,572,000 gallons. Staff continues to work on sifting the treatment media, construction of a shaker began today. ARSENIC TREATMENT

Mr. Lillion reported for the month of August, 15 services were repaired and 35 were replaced. The NO-DES truck made two runs in August, filtering 30,030 gallons. Since inception, the NO-DES truck has filtered 8,977,305 gallons. 34 valves were exercised. OPERATIONS

BOARD COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Saint-Amand urged the public to follow emergency standards and have a stock of canned goods to last at least a month in case of an emergency.

Director Griffin thanked the Board for recognizing and remembering 9/11.

Vice President Kicinski thanked the City of Ridgecrest for the recognition plaque and thanked staff for assisting the City during the storm.

ADJOURNMENT

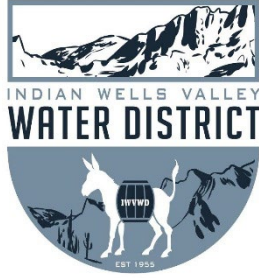
ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED: _____

Lauren Smith
Recording Secretary



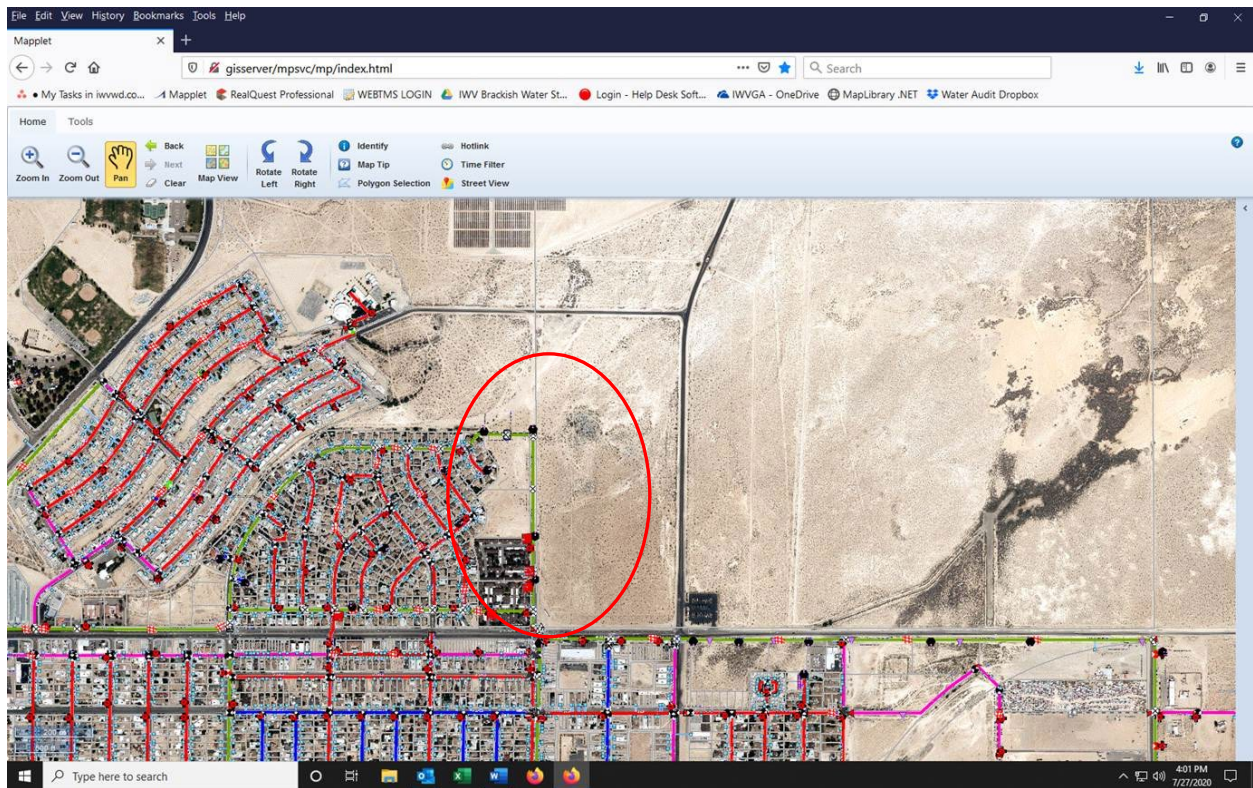
9.B.1.

Request for Fee Waiver

Respectfully submitted September 27, 2023 by Dr. April Moore, Sierra Sands Unified School District Superintendent

Summary of Issue

July 27, 2020 – IBI requested documentation showing the existing water main that the site would connect to and the associated fee structure for cost estimating purposes. Renee Morquecho (RM) sent the following graphic (the green line indicates water main) and referred the district to page 24-25 of the Sales and Service Policy Manual (Attachment 1). The map shows the water main extending down the length of Gateway to the end of the housing tract west of Gateway in green.



11/14/2022 – Site plan showing connection to the water main approved by the IWWWD (Attachment 2).

1/23/2023 - District awards site utilities contract to Sierra Construction and Excavation, Inc.

7/31/2023 – Site utility contractor sends the following RFI to the CM:

Question

It does not appear the 12" water main extends down the Western side of the project in future Gateway Boulevard as the site civil drawings show. There is a blow just past the edge of pavement off of Gateway Boulevard. The USA markings all resemble the same findings. I have attached 2 photos showing the location of the blow off. Please advise on the POC for the water.

8/1/2023 – Discussions between SSUSD and IWVWD determined that the line was not installed as depicted in the as-builts and design documents. Options are to change the site plumbing to connect at the corner of Gateway and Ridgecrest Blvd or to extend the 12" main approximately 900' north along Gateway to connect as planned. Since the site utilities were in progress, it was determined that it would be less expensive to extend the main.

9/5/2023 – Per RM, will need to run the main to the POC originally planned. We will connect to a 12" AC. That pipe ends with a blind flange and 2" blowoff that will have to be removed for connection once the new line is in place, disinfected and pressure tested. Will require a gate valve at the point of connection and 2 fire hydrants.

Financial Summary

8/15/2023 – IWVWD increased their rates; sent Colombo a \$5000 change order for water usage during construction.

The original construction meter monthly charge was \$206.65 per month plus \$4.71 per HCF; New rates were changed to \$59.87 per month plus \$7.31 per HCF.

SSUSD has paid the following fees to date:

Plan review (2% of const. cost estimate): **\$1,698.23.**

Inspection fees of 3% of cost estimate: **\$2,547.34.**

There was a "one time" hydrology calculation: **\$592.00.**

SSUSD will have to pay additional **review** fees of 2% of the new water line plus the 2 fire hydrants. The ROM for the fire hydrants would be about \$7K each and the water line will approach \$100K....2% of 114K is about **\$2,280**

SSUSD will have to pay additional **inspection** fees of 3% of the new water line plus the 2 fire hydrants. 3% of 114K is about **\$3,420.**

Renee indicated (and we are carrying) these fees: "The Capital Facility Fee is **\$54,072.00** and the Distribution System Fee is **\$39,719.00** for a total of **\$93,791.00.**"

SSUSD would like to request a waiver for the added review and inspection fees plus the other 2 fees; total of **\$99,491.**

Tyce Daily (at our previous meeting) indicated he would and could approve the waiver for the **\$39,719.00** Distribution System Fee. Other waivers would have to come from the IWVWD Board.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

AGENDA ITEM: **Connection Fee Appeal: Sierra Sands Unified School District (Richmond Elementary)**

Committee: **Plant & Equipment Committee (October 3, 2023)**

Background:

The District was contacted in 2021 by the architect for Sierra Sands Unified School District (SSUSD) regarding building a new Richmond Elementary School on government property on the northeast corner of E. Ridgecrest and N. Gateway Blvds. District records indicated a 12-inch pipeline in N. Gateway Blvd and as-built plans to that effect were sent to the architect. A fire-flow analysis using the District’s hydraulic model was performed in September of 2021 to be sure the required fire flow could be provided at the tie-in point. Plans were submitted in April 2022 and plan check/inspection/fire flow analysis fees were paid. Final plans were approved October 2022.

Plans for the school indicated a 3-inch domestic meter would be needed. Connection fees for a 3-inch meter to an existing pipeline are \$54,072.00 Capital Facility Fee and \$39,719.00 Distribution Fee for a total of \$93,791.00.

Once construction commenced, the contractor potholed utility connections and could not locate the tie-in point to water. It was then discovered that the water line in Gateway did not extend as far north as indicated in the plans.

The District met with SSUSD to discuss options. One option was to relocate the tie-in point to water further south and the second to extend the 12-inch pipeline north to the original tie-in point. SSUSD decided to extend the pipeline north to the original tie-in point.

Because SSUSD is extending the pipeline, they will be eligible for a Refund Agreement.

Policy or Current/Previous Practice:

- Plan Check Fees/Inspection Deposits are paid to cover District review of plans and submittals and inspection of new facilities:

Ordinance Number 107 Concept/Plan Check Fees/Inspection Deposits

The Plan Check Fee is a percentage of the cost for each proposed water system improvement project based on the Engineer’s Cost Estimate. For projects that cost \$0 - \$200,000, the Fee is 2% (minimum \$500); for projects that cost over \$200,000 the Fee is 1% (minimum \$4,000).

The Construction Inspection Fee is a 3% deposit of the actual construction cost of the water system improvement work. Inspections are charged on an actual time basis. Any refund of

the unused portion (if any) of the deposit is granted once the water system improvements have been completed and dedicated to the District.

- Capital Facility Fees are based on meter size:

Ordinance Number 107 Capital Facility Fee

“All residential, commercial, public, industrial and agricultural connections shall be levied a Capital Facility Fee based upon their meter size.”

- *Ordinance Number 107: Distribution System Fees* are based on meter size but can only be charged “where a water main abuts an applicant’s benefited parcel...the applicant shall be exempted from such Distribution System Fee whenever water service is provided from a water main constructed and install at the sole cost of said applicant or the applicant’s predecessor-in-interest”.

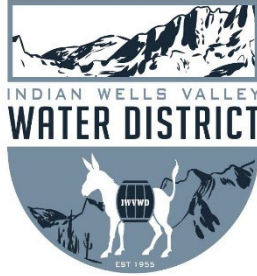
Options and Fiscal Impact:

1. Do nothing and SSUSD will be required to pay the Capital Facility Fee of \$54,072.00 and additional Plan Check/Construction Inspection Fees. Distribution Fees are not charged when the applicant has constructed the water main.

THIS IS NOT A VARIANCE

2. Do not require payment of the Capital Facility Fee of \$54,072.00 or additional Plan Check/Construction Inspection Fees.

THIS IS A VARIANCE



9.C.1.

From: george.croll@iwwwd.com
To: lduffy@iwwwd.com
Subject: FW: Inyokern Solar Project
Date: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 10:36:37 AM
Attachments: [Inyokern 1203 Community Renewables Program Expression of Interest \(IWV WD\).pdf](#)

Lauren

Here is the original request. Sample letters to follow.

George

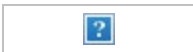
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:55 PM
To: george.croll@iwwwd.com
[REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Inyokern Solar Project

Rebecca - Thank you for the introduction.

George - It's great to connect with you. As Rebecca mentioned, we are working on a community solar project off US-395 and W. Inyokern Road in Inyokern/Ridgecrest. For us to start construction, SCE requires that we show "community interest" by getting letters of support signed. We have had tremendous support from the Ridgecrest community having received these signed expression of interest forms signed by the City of Ridgecrest, Ridgecrest Chamber of Commerce (thanks Rebecca!), Ridgecrest Regional Hospital, Sierra Sands Unified School District, Indian Wells Valley Economic Development Corp., among many others. We'd love to have the Indian Wells Valley Water District join them in support and have you similarly sign the attached form. If you have any questions, please let me know and would be happy to jump on a call this week to chat further. Truly appreciate your support.

Best,
Jason

Jason Kaplan
Chief Operating Officer
powermarket.io
(c) 516-330-4599





Community Renewables Program

Expression of Interest

(Please print legibly)

Current Energy Service Provider (to be completed by account holder or authorized representative only)	
SCE	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If no, provide name below.
Energy Service Provider or Community Choice Aggregator :	
Note: Direct Access and Community Choice Aggregator customers are not eligible to participate.	
Project Information (to be completed by developer)	
Developer Name	Dimension Renewable Energy
Developer's Authorized Agent	PowerMarket
Title of Authorized Agent	Subscription partner
Phone Number	(800) 253-4333
Email Address	info@powermarket.io
Project Name	Inyokern 1203 (RB Inyokern Solar WDAT 1203 LLC)
Project Address	US-395 & W. Inyokern Rd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555
Project Size	27.44 MWdc
Customer Information (to be completed by account holder or authorized representative only)	
First Name	
Last Name	
Company/Institution	Indian Wells Valley Water District
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Street Address	
City	
ZIP Code	
Subscription Level	N/A
Service Account #	
Customer Account #	

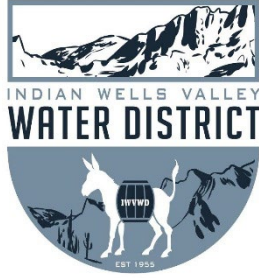
I, _____, confirm that I am the account holder or authorized representative of the account holder for the account listed above and am expressing interest in the project owned by Dimension Renewable Energy, per the details above.

Customer Signature

Date

Authorized Agent Signature

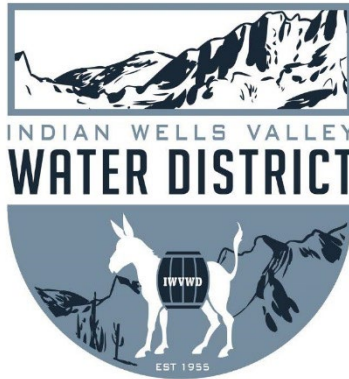
Date



9.F.6.

SWRCB Water Waster Report

	# of water waste reports received	# of contacts made (written or verbal)	# of formal warning actions	# of penalties issued
Jan-23	14	14	5	1
Feb-23	6	6	4	1
Mar-23	8	8	2	2
Apr-23	11	11	8	3
May-23	7	7	1	0
Jun-23	10	10	2	0
Jul-23	4	4	1	0
Aug-23	1	1	0	0
Sep-23	0	0	0	0
Oct-23				
Nov-23				
Dec-23				
SUBTOTAL 2015	378	376	40	10
SUBTOTAL 2016	406	399	28	3
SUBTOTAL 2017	70	68	10	4
SUBTOTAL 2018	60	58	7	4
SUBTOTAL 2019	56	56	8	1
SUBTOTAL 2020	42	42	8	2
SUBTOTAL 2021	131	131	12	4
SUBTOTAL 2022	106	106	6	0
SUBTOTAL 2023	61	61	23	7
TOTAL	1310	1297	142	35
TOTAL PENALTIES BILLED				\$3,350
TOTAL PENALTIES COLLECTED				\$3,050



The Mission of the

Indian Wells Valley Water District

is to deliver the highest quality water at the best possible price while continuing to serve as respectful stewards of the environment.

The Vision of the

Indian Wells Valley Water District

is to provide for self-sustaining water resources now and for generations to come.

Board of Directors