

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2024 – 3:00 P.M.

BOARD ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

Attendees: Mallory Boyd, Ron Kicinski, George Croll, Jason Lillion, Tyrell Staheli, and Renee Morquecho

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m.

2. Committee/Public Comments

None.

3. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)

Director Kicinski reported on the last IWVGA Board Meeting, held on March 29th. At that meeting the IWVGA Board voted on 2 separate Shallow Well Mitigation claims. The claims stated that the declining water levels and damage from the 2019 earthquake caused damage to the wells their failure, not that the wells went dry. Director Griffin pointed out that the IWVGA consultant, Stetson Engineering, has shown that the water levels in the area of those wells has actually been rising over the last 2 decades. Both claims were granted reimbursement with 4 to 1 votes, with Director Griffin being the only one opposed.

The IWVGA board also discussed and voted on adding an additional 10 miles of pipeline the Imported Water Project. The committee discussed the possible financial impacts and the technicality of the project.

The next IWVGA Board meeting will be held next Wednesday, April 10th.

a. Discuss feasible alternatives to the pipeline project.

There are no updates to report at this time.

4. Future LADWP Aqueduct Water Release

Committee discussed the importance of working with LADWP to contain some of the water that will likely be released from the nearby aqueduct in the future. Director Kicinski believes that it is very important for the District to make contact with someone at LADWP that can help answer the District's questions and discuss possibilities. Committee will continue speaking with consultants about possible projects (i.e. reservoirs, injection wells) so that the District can be prepared for any releases in the future.

The committee would like to discuss the possibility of water banking through LADPW with legal counsel during closed session at the next regular board meeting.

- 5. Potential Impact of Recycled Water on District’s Need for Imported Water**
George Croll stated that there is a district in El Paso, TX that has begun using injection wells at their facilities to make use of their recycled water. He would like for us to have further communication with that district to discuss the technical and financial aspects of their project.
- 6. Alternate Water Sources**
Committee discussed the Brackish Water study that has recently concluded and they are eager to see Wade Majors’ presentation regarding his data and findings. If the data supports the use and treatment of Brackish Water, it could be a possible solution to Searles Valley Minerals water issues.
 - a. Exploration of sub-basins within the valley**
There are no updates to report at this time.
- 7. Future Agenda Items**
None.
- 8. Adjournment**
Meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.