MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

July 13,2026

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Indian Wells Valley Water District was called to order by President Kicinski at 4:30 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 John Svika.

PLEDGE

DIRECTORS PRESENT: President Ronald R. Kicinski
Vice President David C.H. Saint-Amand
Director Charles D. Griffin
Director Mallory J. Boyd

ROLL CALL

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Director Stan G. Rajtora

STAFF PRESENT: Renée Morquecho, General Manager
Jim Worth, Attorney
Justin Thompson, Chief Engineer
Tyrell Staheli, Chief Financial Officer
John Svika, Operations Manager
Isabel Tejeda, Recording Secretary

STAFF ATTENDING REMOTELY: George Croll, Special Projects Coordinator

AGENDA DECLARATION

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Recording Secretary, Isabel Tejeda, reported that the agenda for today's Regular Board Meeting was posted on Thursday, July 09,2026.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

None.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

With no further Board or Public comments, President Kicinski recessed the meeting and adjourned to Closed Session at 4:31 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was reconvened in Closed Session at 4:34 p.m.

Closed Session was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened to Open Session at 6:08 p.m.

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

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board heard public comment from Mike Neel and Mike Sinnott.

CONSENT CALENDAR

CONSENT CALENDER

MOTION: was made by Director Boyd and seconded by Director Griffin approving the Minutes of the June 08,2026, Regular Board Meeting, June 11,2026, Special Board Meeting and Payment of Accounts Payable totaling $1,065,929.31. Motion was carried, unanimously. (Ayes: Kicinski, Saint-Amand, Griffin, Boyd. Nays: None. Absent: Rajtora.)

PLANT & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE

DEDICATION OF FACILITIES

Justin Thompson reported that contractor JSS Construction installed a new water pipelines for Tract 6221 and presented a map for the Board to review. The contractor completed construction all necessary pressure tests and disinfection. The dedication has been signed by the contractor with the following contingencies: (1) completing the remaining service laterals, and (2) providing as-builts to the District. The total amount on the dedication was $152,130,000.

MOTION: was made by Vice President Saint-Amand and seconded by Director Griffin approving the Dedication of Tract 9554 Unit C 8" PVC Pipeline. Motion was carried, unanimously. (Ayes: Kicinski, Saint-Amand, Griffin, Boyd. Nays: None. Absent: Rajtora.)

ADMINISTRATION/ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SALARY SURVEY

Isabel Tejeda informed the Board there were two positions that were not included in the salary survey that was approved by the Board in June. Both entry level salaries for the Field Services Representative 1 and Maintenance Repair Construction 1 need to be increased and the maximum salary for the MRC 1 should be increased.

The Board heard public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk.

MOTION: was made by Director Boyd and seconded by Vice President Saint-Amand approving the Salary Survey as presented. Motion was carried, unanimously. (Ayes: Kicinski, Saint-Amand, Griffin, Boyd. Nays: None. Absent: Rajtora.)

RB Inyokern Data Center Intervener Status

RB INYOKERN DATA CENTER INTERVENER STATUS

Jim Worth reported there are two different types of intervener status that are generally available and presented the difference between the two. Mr. Worth explained the RB Inyokern Data Center submitted an application for a small powerplant exemption which would limit the actions that agencies with intervener status can take. If the exemption is granted the permitting and regulatory process would be passed from the California Energy Commission (CEC) to local agencies. Mr. Worth recommended the Board direct Staff to draft a letter of concern to the CEC.

The Board heard public comment from Lindsey Stephens, Kathy Russel, Mike Neel, Mike Sinnott, Renee Westa-Lusk and Bonnie Derosa.

MOTION: was made by Vice President Saint-Amand and seconded by Director Boyd directing Staff to draft a letter of concern to the CEC. Motion was carried unanimously, by the following roll call vote:

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

COMPREHENSIVE ADJUDICATION

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Jim Worth reported the Phase 2 trial ended on June 29,2026 it was a 10-day trial. The Judge decided to have a Special Master appointed, this person would go through the trial transcripts and all other evidence that was admissible during the trial and come up with their own opinion on the safe yield. Mr. Worth explained the judge would not be bound to the Special Masters' opinion, he is looking for assistance in a very technical trial.

The Board heard public comment from Lindsey Stephens, Renee Westa-Lusk and Mike Sinnott.

INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (IWVGA)

IWVGA

Vice President Saint-Amand gave a summary of the GA meeting, there was a new representative for the Navy, discussion on the RB Inyokern Data Center and it was reported that the design for the pipeline should be completed by the end of the calendar year. The next GA meeting is August 12,2026.

The Board heard public comment from Mike Neel, Lindsey Stephens, Kathy Russell, Renee Westa-Lusk and Mike Sinnott.

General Manager Update

GENERAL MANAGER UPDATE

Renee Morquecho reported there is no significant events to report on for the month of June however due to the warmer weather there has been an increase in leaks that the maintenance and construction crews have been very busy. The District is currently tracking Advanced Clean Fleet Regulations as well as the following bills: SB 1125, AB 2739, AB 2469 and AB 2619. There was nothing significant to report in regards to personal safety or injuries.

Vice President Saint-Amand gave a brief summary on AB 2469 and AB 2619, both are attempts at regulating Data Centers. Mr. Saint-Amand directed Staff to further look into the bills and draft a letter of support from the District.

Engineering Update/Water Supply Update

ENGINEERING UPDATE

Water Systems Consolidations:

- Inyokern CSD: nothing to report at this time.
- Rademacher Way/Gordon St: Staff is working with legal to review the easement deeds.
- Dune 3: The Budget was approved by the State on July 2, 2026. Contract documents are under review by Legal. The General Contractor GHD will be providing their performance bond and insurance to Legal for review. Staff is still waiting for the date that they will begin construction.
- Stark Street: Staff submitted comments on the 95% drawings and is waiting on Krieger & Stewart for final design. The IWVGA and their consultant will be working on the needed easements.

WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

Justin Thompson reported that Arsenic Plant 1 is up and running, he gave thanks to the District's construction crew for replacing a valve that was needed. Water Supply department is performing maintenance on Arsenic Plant 2 so it is ready to go in case it is needed. Currently Water Supply department is still working on preparing sites for additional cameras.

Mr. Thompson gave an update on the Northwest Transmission Line replacement; Nicholas construction should have the pipe disposed of completely in the next 2 weeks.

The Board heard public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

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Ty Staheli reported total billed consumption for the month of June was 442 acre-feet which brings the total for the year to 5,143 acre-feet. Mr. Staheli reported year-to-date current revenues are $18.5 million which is $1.8 million below budget. Mr. Staheli reported expenditures are at $18 million which is $1.8 million below budget. The District's net to date is $571,000 which is close to the anticipated amount. Capital expenditures spent to date is $2.8 million of that $1.7 million is funded by grant or bond funding. The District has paid $19,989,658 to the IWVGA in replenishment and extraction fees. Staff also provided an update on meter installations; delinquent account turn offs and WaterSmart alerts.

The Board heard public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk and Mike Sinnott.

Operations Update

OPERATIONS UPDATE

John Svika reported there were 4 valves exercised which puts the year-to-date total to 532 valves. There were 345 USA North locates and 4 for USA South. Mr.Svika reported there were 0 flushes therefore the total water saved by the NO-DES truck remains just under 10 million gallons. Staff reported 20 after-hour calls which resulted in 12 lateral repairs. For the month there were 32 service lateral repairs, 14 lateral replacements, 1 hydrant replacement, and 1 valve repair.

BOARD COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

BOARD COMMENTS

Director Boyd thanked staff for all their hard work.

Vice President Saint-Amand reminded the public of recent earthquakes and urged everyone to reflect on earthquake and disaster preparedness.

President Kicinski thanked the staff and Board for their commitment to transparency.

DATE OF NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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The date of the next Regular Board Meeting is Monday, August 10,2026.

ADJOURNMENT

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With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Isabel Tejeda
Recording Secretary

APPROVED: **August 10,2026**