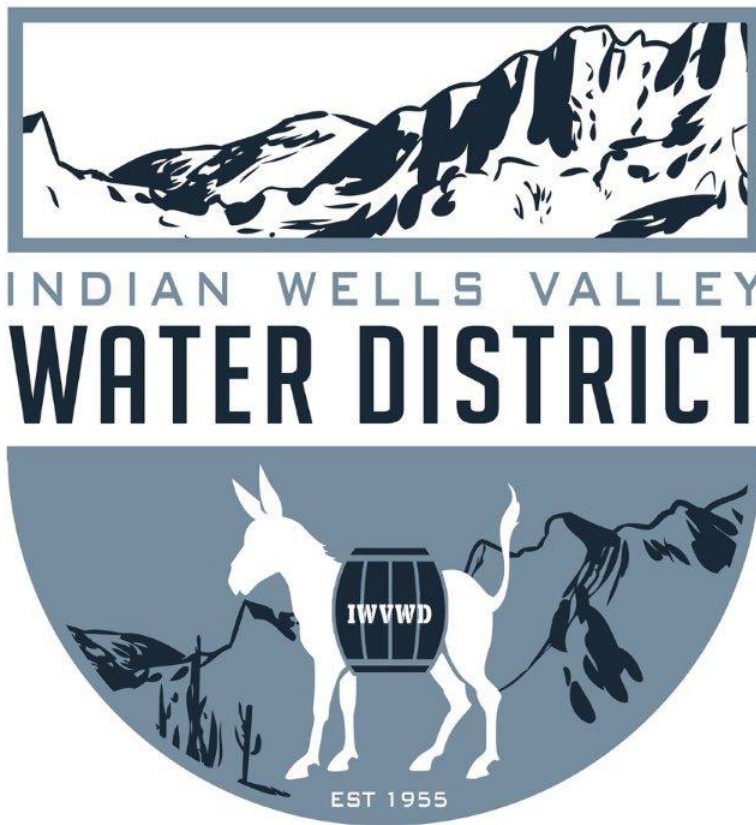


# INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting



**January 12, 2026**



# INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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

## 2026 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

### ADMINISTRATION/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (GRIFFIN/KICINSKI)

Personnel, Legal Matters, General Plan, Community Relations, Board Meeting Agendas, Ordinances, Rules, Regulations, Policies, Procedures, Customer Service, Variances, Director’s Manual. Groundwater Sustainability Act, Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, Water Management, Water Policy, Conservation, Alternative sources for water supply including Blending, Importation, Reuse, etc.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE (KICINSKI/BOYD)

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 (RAJTORA/ SAINT-AMAND)

Transmission/Distribution System, Vehicles & Equipment, Wells, Reservoirs, Real Property Management, and Telemetry, Water Quality, Urban Water Management Plan, CalWEP, Title 22 Compliance, etc.

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

**Plant & Equipment**  
**Finance**  
**Administration/Executive**

Monday before the Board Meeting at 3:00 p.m.  
Tuesday before the Board Meeting at 3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday before the Board Meeting at 3:00 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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REGULAR BOARD MEETING

AGENDA

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026  
**CLOSED SESSION - 4:30 P.M.**  
**OPEN SESSION - 6:00 P.M.**

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

**All District meetings are streamed live through Zoom**

**Join Zoom Meeting at:**  
<https://zoom.us/j/9649549487>  
**Meeting ID:** 964 954 9487

**One tap mobile:**  
669-900-9128, 9649549487# US (San Jose)  
669-444-9171, 9649549487# US  
**Dial by your location:**  
669-900-9128 US (San Jose)  
669-444-9171 US  
253-215-8782 US (Tacoma)

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*(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 Isabel Tejada 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  
*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))
  
- D. Real Property Negotiations  
District Negotiators: George Croll and Jim Worth  
Landowner Negotiator: Gary Arnold, Esq.  
Property Description: Little Lake Ranch, Inc.  
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8)
  
- E. Real Property Negotiations  
District Negotiators: George Croll and Jim Worth  
Landowner Negotiator: John Summers.  
Property Description: Butterworth Ranch.  
(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8)
  
- F. Personnel Matter  
One Position: General Manager  
Consider the appointment of the General Manager.  
(Pursuant to Governments Code Section 54957)
  
- 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 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. December 08,2025, Regular Board Meeting.
    - 2. Approval of Accounts Payable Disbursements.

- B. KP Public Affairs Contract Amendment/Extension  
**Description:** Board to discuss amendment/extension of KP Public Affairs Contract.
- C. Approval of Murphy & Evertz Legal Fees  
**Description:** The Board was notified of an increase in attorney fees effective January 1, 2026
- D. Comprehensive Groundwater Adjudication  
**Description:** Report and discussion regarding the status of the Comprehensive Groundwater Adjudication.
- E. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority  
**Description:** Report and discussion regarding meetings 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 January 14, 2026.
- F. 2026 Annual Board Workshop Agenda  
**Description:** Board to review the draft agenda for the Annual Board Workshop scheduled for January 20, 2026; at 9:00 a.m.
- G. General Manager Update (The Board will consider and may act on the following items):  
**Description:** Water District Business
1. Significant WD events, service outages, emergencies etc.
  2. Pertinent Legislative Updates
  3. Personnel safety and injury reports
  4. Updates on Committee meeting topics not covered elsewhere
  5. Public Outreach and Meeting/Conference attendance requests
- H. Engineering Update (The Board will consider and may act on the following items):  
**Description:** Engineering updates
1. Update on District consolidations
    - i. Inyokern CSD Ad-Hoc Committee Meetings
    - ii. Rademacher
    - iii. Dune 3 Mutual Water Company
    - iv. Stark Street
  2. Brady Street Transmission Pipeline Replacement
  3. Inspection and Cleaning of Water Storage Tanks
- I. Financial Update (The Board will consider and may act on the following items):  
**Description:** Report on the District's current financial status
1. Year to date water use
  2. Solar Site Security Update
  3. Financial Reports and status
  4. Water Smart notifications

5. Turn-off/Turn on monthly data
6. Meter installation update

J. Operations Update (The Board will consider and may act on the following items):

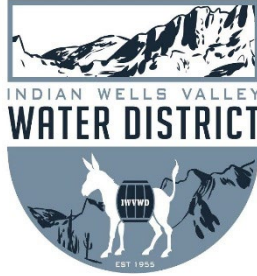
**Description:** Update on Operations

1. Arsenic Treatment Facilities
2. Work performed heat map
3. Valve exercising
4. Utility marking data (USA North and South)
5. NO-DES Flushing
6. After Hours Calls
7. Service Lateral Repairs
8. Lateral Replacements
9. Hydrants Repairs / Replacements
10. Mainline Repairs

10. Board Comments/Future Agenda Items.

11. Date of next Regular Board meeting: **February 9,2026.**

12. Adjournment.



# Committee Reports

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING

REPORT

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026 – 3:00PM  
BOARD ROOM  
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

Attendees: David Saint-Amand, Stan Rajtora, John Svika, Ty Staheli, George Croll and Renee Morquecho.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

**2. Committee/Public Comments**

Staff reported that consolidation with the Stark Street water system will be on the Board Agenda for Monday. The State is pushing for an emergency consolidation and the IWVGA has agreed to use their grant funding for the project.

**3. Water System Consolidations: Update**

- Inyokern CSD:
- Dune 3: The latest bid package was sent to the State Department of Financial Assistance and Division of Drinking Water for approval. Once approved, it will be finalized and bidding can proceed. Legal counsel has finalized the agreement between Dune 3 and the District and sent it to Dune 3 for approval.
- Rademacher Way (Phase 2): Staff are working with the IWVGA and legal counsel to obtain the last needed easements. Meanwhile, the project is on hold until the spring when the construction crew finishes with Brady Street.

**4. Brady Street: Mainline Replacement Project Status**

Construction began today for the first section between Inyokern Road and Ward Avenue.

**5. La Mirage Area Leak Repair Assistance: Update**

Staff drafted an agreement to be used when property owners in the La Mirage area are unable to afford repair of water lines that cross under the street. The property owner would agree to the District making

the repair and dividing the cost of the repair up over a maximum 12 month period. The draft agreement has been reviewed by legal counsel and a revised agreement will be sent to staff this week.

**6. Arsenic Plants: Update**

Both plants are offline for winter maintenance.

**7. Future Agenda Items**

- Tank cleaning/inspections
- Security system upgrades for solar facilities: Update
- Solar facilities repairs: Update
- La Mirage Housing Area Grant Funding
- Transmission pipeline(s) inspection and/or corrosion control installation.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 pm.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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FINANCE COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING

REPORT

TUESDAY JANUARY 7, 2026 – 3:00 PM  
BOARD ROOM  
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

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ATTENDEES: Ron Kicinski, Malory Boyd, George Croll, Ty Staheli, John Svika, and Renee Morquecho

**1. Call to Order**

The Finance Committee Meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm.

**2. Committee/Public Comments**

None.

**3. Fraud Risk Discussion**

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

The District's auditors were at the District Office in November for the FY2025 financial audit. At this time, we haven't received any findings.

Committee discussed what are examples of fraud that a district could experience and what measures the District has put in place to prevent them.

**4. GA Imported Water Costs**

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

George Croll informed the Committee that AVEK has mentioned a possible investment need of \$50 million dollars to support the proposed pipeline. There have been discussions of the need to underground the pipeline at wash crossings.

The Committee discussed the need for the GA to do a thorough financial impact assessment before proceeding with construction.

**5. Financial Statements December 31, 2025 (preliminary)**

Description: Presentation to Committee financial report depicting preliminary revenue and expense of the previous fiscal year.

Estimated year-to-date revenues as of December 31, 2025, are \$9,497,756 and expenses are \$9,166,100, therefore revenues exceeded expenditures by \$331,656, which is better than budget by \$763,264.

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

**Indian Wells Valley Water District**  
**Revenues vs. Expense**  
**Actuals & Budget through December 2025 (Preliminary)**

	2026 Budget	YTD Budget	Actuals	Δ
<b>Revenues</b>				
Total Water Sales	14,939,300	6,878,139	6,690,703	-187,436
GSA Fees	3,377,580	1,807,523	2,001,433	193,910
Total Water Service Revenue	375,900	179,417	235,814	56,397
Total Non-Operating Income	172,400	82,287	91,769	9,483
Capital Contributions	1,594,372	760,994	478,036	-282,958
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>20,459,552</b>	<b>9,708,360</b>	<b>9,497,756</b>	<b>-210,603</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Water Supply	1,907,557	977,623	840,480	-137,143
Arsenic Treatment Plants	462,519	237,041	106,154	-130,887
Transmission & Distribution	1,898,115	972,784	776,420	-196,364
Engineering	696,189	356,797	330,764	-26,033
Customer Service	566,939	290,556	212,228	-78,328
Field Services	600,408	307,709	269,286	-38,423
General & Administration	3,169,078	1,624,152	1,384,250	-239,902
Legal	1,500,000	768,750	644,042	-124,708
Legislative	107,100	54,889	54,791	-98
Depreciation	3,300,000	1,650,000	1,650,000	0
Non-Operating, Interest	1,674,379	767,142	669,907	-97,235
Non-Operating, Miscellaneous	437,500	224,219	294,692	70,473
GSA Fees	3,420,830	1,843,628	1,879,958	36,330
Non-Operating, Conservation	34,200	17,528	11,669	-5,858
Non-Operating, Alternate Water	92,000	47,150	41,459	-5,691
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>19,866,814</b>	<b>10,139,968</b>	<b>9,166,100</b>	<b>-973,868</b>
<b>Net Revenue Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>592,738</b>	<b>-431,608</b>	<b>331,656</b>	<b>763,264</b>
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>			<b>754,944</b>	
-Bond or Grant Funded			194,754	
<b>Debt Service Principle</b>			<b>562,663</b>	

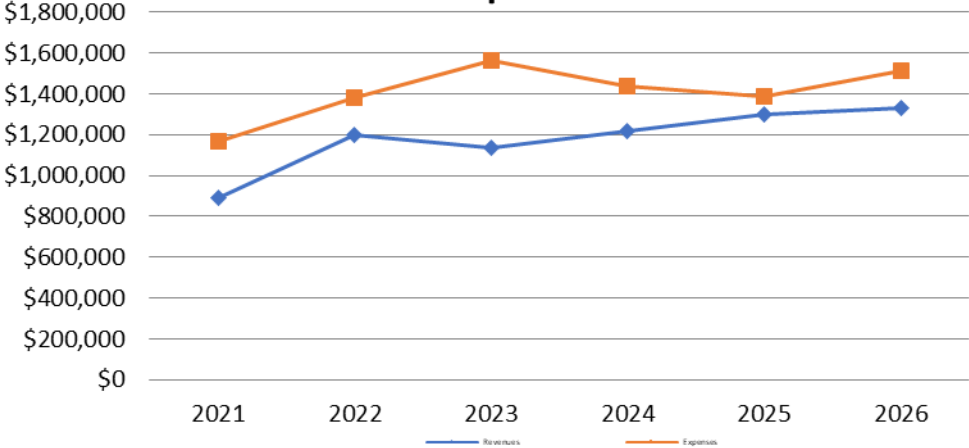
**Total GSA Extraction Fee Paid**  
**Total GSA Replenishment Fee Paid**

3,645,053  
 15,796,316  

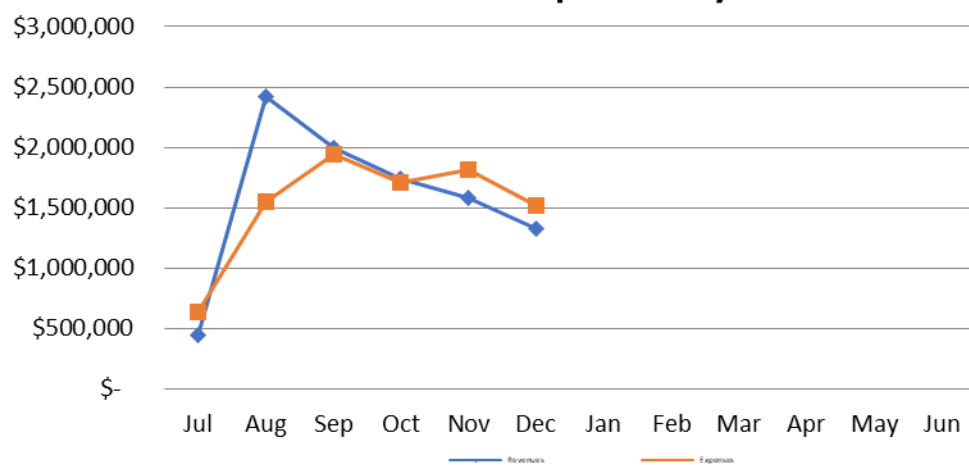

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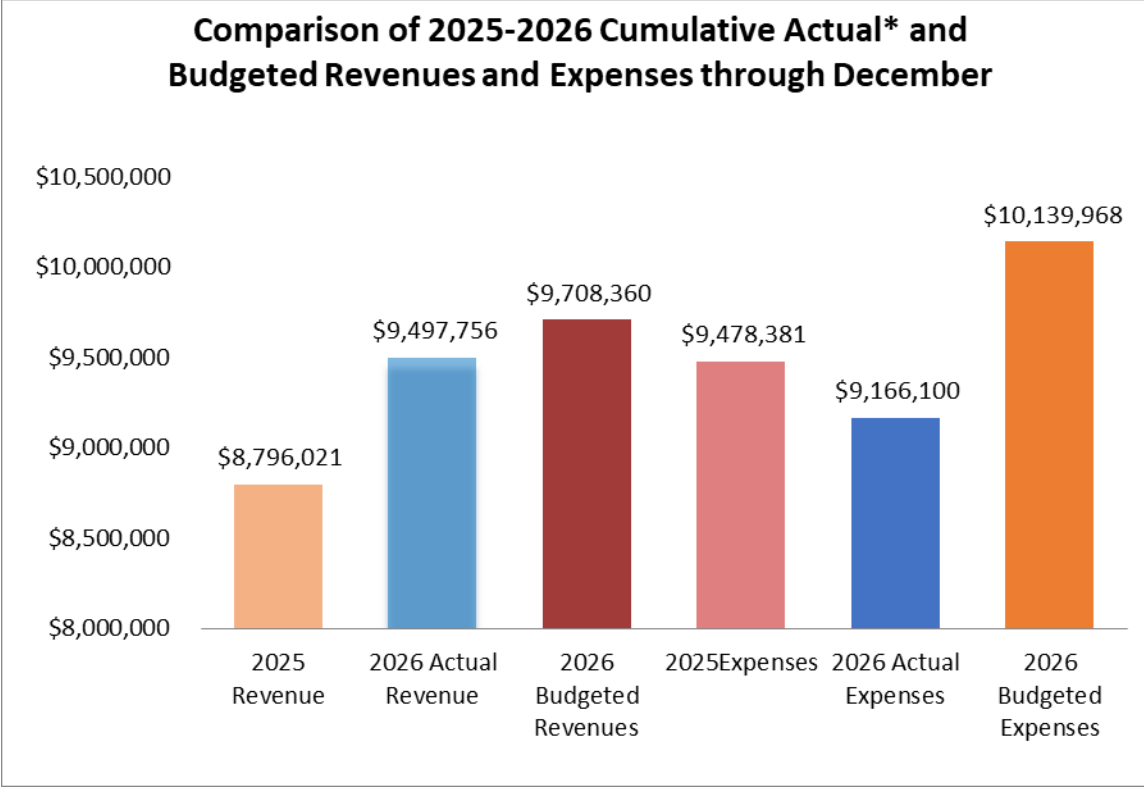
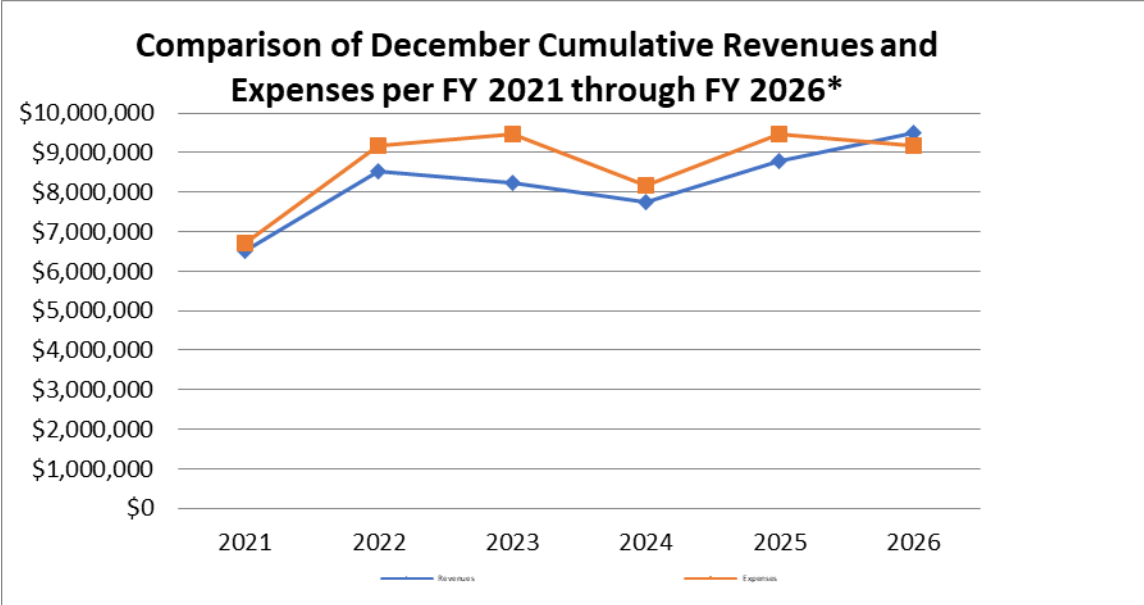
**19,441,368**

**Comparison of December Revenues and Expenses per Fiscal Year**



**Comparison of FY 2025-2026 Revenues and Expenses by Month**





\*Actual Revenues and Expenses are Estimated

**6. Accounts Payable Disbursements**

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

The Committee reviewed the accounts payable disbursements totaling \$767,787.55 as follows:

Checks through:	<u>12/04/25</u>	<u>1/18/25</u>
Prepaid	\$ 59,025.46	\$ 48,644.99
Current	<u>250,074.82</u>	<u>410,042.28</u>
Total	<u>\$ 309,100.28</u>	<u>\$ 458,687.27</u>

**7. Future Agenda Items**

- Rand Communities Water District Mutual Aid Agreement
- ICSD Plan

**8. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 3:41 pm.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

**ADMINISTRATION/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026  
3:00 PM  
BOARDROOM OR [ZOOM ROOM](#)  
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

ATTENDEES: Ron Kicinski, Chuck Griffin, George Croll, Renee Morquecho, Ty Staheli, John Svika  
and Isabel Tejada

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Committee/Public Comments**

None.

**3. Outstanding Public Record Requests (PRR)**

No outstanding PRR

**4. Conference and Training Travel**

Potential conferences were discussed, nothing scheduled at this time.

**5. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority**

Committee discuss IWVGA Agenda is not yet available. Renee Morquecho discussed Stark Street consolidation which may be on the Agenda when it becomes available. Committee discussed possibilities of a consolidation and what that would look like and the timeframe it may have to be done. Next IWVGA meeting is January 14,2026

**6. Draft Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of January 12, 2026**

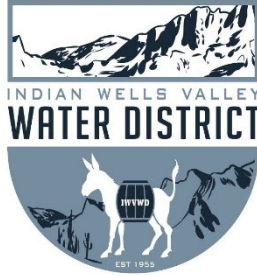
The committee reviewed Agenda and made no changes.

**7. Future Agenda Items**

None.

**8. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:29 PM



# Approval of Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

December 08, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Indian Wells Valley Water District was called to order by President Saint-Amand 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 Ron Kicinski. **PLEDGE**

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: George Croll, General Manager  
Jim Worth, Attorney  
Renée Morquecho, Chief Engineer  
Tyrell Staheli, Chief Financial Officer  
John Svika, Operations Manager  
Isabel Tejada, Recording Secretary

**AGENDA DECLARATION** **AGENDA DECLARATION**  
Recording Secretary, Isabel Tejada, reported that the agenda for today's Regular Board Meeting was posted on Thursday, December 4, 2025.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION** **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**  
None.

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

With no further Board or Public comments, President Saint-Amand 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 4:35 p.m.

Closed Session was adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened to Open Session at 6:01 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 Judie Decker, Renee Westa-Lusk and Mike Sinnott.

**General Manager Compensation**

**GENERAL  
MANAGER  
COMENSATION**

Due to recent announcement from George Croll that he will be leaving the district at the end of 2026 Jim Worth prepared a new contract rather than amending the current contract. New contract adjusts the severance package to be more in line of his one-year timeframe, there was no adjustment to the salary. Staff is requesting board approval to adopt new General Manager Contract.

MOTION: was made by Director Boyd and seconded by Director Kicinski approving the new contract for General Manager. Motion was carried unanimously, by the following roll call vote:

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

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**CONSENT  
CALENDER**

MOTION: was made by Director Kicinski and seconded by Director Rajtora approving the Minutes of the November 10, 2025, Regular Board Meeting, Minutes of the November 06, 2025, Special Board Meeting and Payment of Accounts Payable totaling \$923,499.58. Motion was carried unanimously, by the following roll call vote:

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

**PLANT & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE**

**PLANT AND  
EQUIPMENT  
COMMITTEE**

Renée Morquecho presented bids for inspection and cleaning of water tanks. The service includes divers going into the tanks to do the inspection, they can vacuum any sediment at the bottom of the tank as well as complete minor repairs to the coating. The district will be given a video as well as reports following the inspection. The district received four different bids, the committee recommended awarding the contract to Catalyst Diving for \$30,400.00.

The Board heard public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk.

MOTION: was made by Vice President Griffin and seconded by Director Boyd to approve awarding the contract to Catalyst Diving. Motion was carried unanimously, by the following roll call vote:

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

**Administration/Executive Committee**

**ADMINISTRATION  
/EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE**

Renée Morquecho presented the necessity for WaterView, a software that is used as a part of Making Conservation a California Way of Life program as well as to generate Urban Water Use Objectives report for the Department of Water Resource. Screenshots from the program were presented to the Board to provide examples of the type of data that is collected. The Board engaged in discussion regarding frustrations on legislation that requires the District to utilize WaterView. Staff requested Board approval for an extension of WaterView for a 3-year contract at \$33,000 a year. Committee recommended Board approval.

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

**MOTION:** was made by Director Boyd and seconded by Director Rajtora to approve extension of the agreement with WaterView. Motion was carried unanimously, by the following roll call vote:

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

**COMPREHENSIVE ADJUDICATION**

**COMPREHENSIVE  
ADJUDICATION**

Jim Worth reported the Phase 2 trial for the determination of the Basin’s Safe Yield - has a trial date of June 1, 2026. Participating parties are in the middle of exchanging rebuttal expert reports which will be followed by expert depositions. Depositions will most likely occur at the end of January or beginning of February.

The first Mediation session is scheduled to take place either on February 13 or February 18, 2026.

The District filed a motion to define the scope and find out what can be done with the reverse validation that was filed by Searles Valley Mineral in light of their settlement. There was an initial hearing that occurred on November 21, 2025 regarding this matter. The Judge was not ready to make ruling; he ordered supplemental briefing. Jim Worth is currently working with IWVGA to come up with briefing schedule.

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

**INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (IWVGA)**

**INDIAN WELLS  
VALLEY  
GROUNDWATER  
AUTHORITY**

David Saint-Amand reported on discussion that were had at the November 12 IWVGA meeting regarding the premature press release in the Daily Independent, that was later removed, regarding their agreement with Searles Valler Minerals.

Board discussed the items on the upcoming IWVGA Agenda.

George Croll commented on an unanticipated additional cost of \$50 million needed to enable the pipeline to work. The IWVGA does not know who will be responsible for the funding of the additional cost at the time of the last meeting. In addition, the GeoTech was completed after the pipeline design and revealed that the pipeline would have to be installed 15 feet deep along Garlock road which would dramatically increase cost of project.

The Board heard public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk, Judy Decker Mike Sinnott and Dan Tolbert.

The next IWVGA meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2025

**KP Public Affairs Contract Amendment/Extension**

**KP PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

George Croll reported on the excellent job KP Public Affairs this past year, they were able to push for amendments to AB 1466 to make it a more favorable bill. They also contributed to shut down AB 1413 however due to the possibility of AB 1413 returning in the upcoming year George Croll is asking the Board to approve and extension to the current contract so that they may continue to work on legislation. Jim Worth noted that the cost to the District for these services is \$5,000 a month. Board discussed frustrations about the cost to the ratepayers to have to fight legislation and litigation however they agree that this fight is less expensive than the proposed IWVGA pipeline.

The Board heard public comment from Dan Tolbert Renee Westa-Lusk and Judy Decker.

MOTION: was made by Director Kicinski and seconded by Director Griffin to approve extension of the contact with KP Public Affairs for another year. Motion was carried unanimously, Motion was carried, unanimously. (Ayes: Boyd, Kicinski, Rajtora, Saint-Amand and Griffin. Nays: None. Absent: None.)

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Election of Officers**

President Saint-Amand opened nominations for President, Vice President Griffin commented that due to his personal life he would not have the time to be president in the upcoming year and nominated Director Kicinski. With no other nominations for President the nomination was closed.

MOTION: was made by Vice President Griffin and seconded by Director Boyd, appointing Director Kicinski as Board President. Motion was carried, unanimously. (Ayes: Griffin, Boyd, and Saint Amand. Nays: Rajtora. Absent: None.)

President Saint-Amand opened nominations for Vice President. Director Boyd nominated President Saint-Amand, Jim Worth cautioned that there may have to be Committee adjustments to avoid Brown Act violations. With no other nominations for Vice President the nomination was closed.

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

**General Manager Update**

**GENERAL  
MANAGER**

George Croll reported on employee promotions, new hires, public outreach and employee injuries. Staff gave an update on AB 1413 and mentioned AB 707 updates to Brown Act that will be reported on in more detail at a later time.

The Board heard public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk.

**Engineering Update**

**ENGINEERING  
UPDATE**

Water Systems Consolidations:

- o Inyokern CSD: Director Boyd provided an update to the Board on the meetings he attended in Inyokern regarding the consolidation. He reported that there has not been an agendaized consolidation focused meeting. The 6 month voluntary consolidation period ends December 12,2025 and by December 22,2025 the District must submit a report to the State Board as to the process to date. Jim worth will draft the letter for Director Boyd and Director Griffin to review. The State may want a public meeting to happen potentially in April.
- o Rademacher Way: Staff is working with legal counsel to obtain the last needed easements. Meanwhile, the project is on hold until the spring when the construction crew finishes with Brady Street.
- o Dune 3: Staff is moving forward with changes to the bidding package, may be completed by January. Also waiting for legal to finalize agreement between the District and Dune 3.

Renee Morquecho reported that an internal construction inspector that was hired. The Associate Engineer and construction inspector attended training last week with Krieger and Stewart. Construction to begin next week and then continue after the holidays.

**BRADY STREET**

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

**Financial Update**

**FINANCIAL  
UPDATE**

Ty Staheli reported on billable consumption through November of the fiscal year. Also gave an update to the solar site security, staff has installed the tower bases on sites and waiting on camera hardware to finish installation in mid-January.

Ty Staheli reported through November 2025 actual revenue is \$8.17 million which is slightly below budget due to reduction in consumption and some capital contributions. Expenditures to date is \$7.65 million, which brings the net to a positive \$519,000 which is better than anticipated. IWVGA fees paid to date are \$3.6 million to extraction fee and \$15 million to replenishment fees.

Staff also provided an update on meter installations; delinquent account turn offs and WaterSmart alerts.

**Operations Update**

**OPERATIONS  
UPDATE**

John Svika reported staff finished pumping Arsenic Plant 2 which produced a little over 7 million gallons. All water samples have been finished and staff will now move forward with general maintenance on plant.

For the last month there were 55 valves exercised which brings the total to date 457. 174 USA North tickets which totals 1589 for the year, 8 tickets for USA South which brings total for the year to 45. There was no NO-DES flushing, 15 after hour callouts, 15 service

lateral repairs, 13 service later replacements and one hydrant repair which will be leading into a replacement. One mainline repair on 100 block or Yorktown.

John Svika gave an update on Inyo County property clean up; the project is mostly complete with just some tires on the property that are pending removal at this time.

**Jesse Dhaliwal Retirement**

Staff thanked Jesse Dhaliwal for service and drafted a letter to wish him well, board will be signing the letter.

**JESSE  
DHALIWAL  
RETIREMENT**

**BOARD COMMENTS/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Board wished staff a Happy Holidays and thanked everyone for their hard work.

**BOARD  
COMMENTS**

**DATE OF NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

The date of the next Special Board Meeting is Monday, January 12, 2026.

**DATE OF NEXT  
BOARD MEETING**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Isabel Tejeda  
Recording Secretary

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_



**9.C.**

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January 8, 2026

40188.00001

**VIA E-MAIL**

Indian Wells Valley Water District Board of Directors  
c/o George D. Croll, PE ([george.croll@iwwvd.com](mailto:george.croll@iwwvd.com))  
c/o James A. Worth, Esq. ([jim@mhwslegal.com](mailto:jim@mhwslegal.com))

*Re: Attorney Fee Schedule (Effective February 1, 2026)*

Dear George and Jim:

Please be advised that rising costs of operation require this office to increase its attorney fee schedule effective February 1, 2026. Our existing rates took effect over five years ago, in 2019. The existing rates and new rates are shown below (fees are billed in 1/10 hour increments). As always, we have made every effort to reduce or absorb costs prior to resorting to a rate increase.

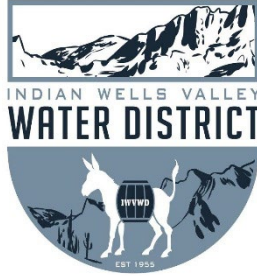
<u>Title</u>	<u>Existing Hourly Rate</u>	<u>New Hourly Rate</u>
Senior Partner (e.g., Douglas Evertz)	\$450/hour	\$495/hour
Junior Partner (e.g., Emily Madueno)	\$395/hour	\$450/hour
Associate	\$325/hour	\$410/hour
Paralegal	\$180/hour	\$260/hour

We believe the revised schedule is consistent with or less than fees currently charged by others for similar services. Please note that no additional charge is made for mileage, telephone, xerox copies, clerical help, etc.

Best regards,



Douglas J. Evertz of  
MURPHY & EVERTZ LLP



**9.F.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

WORKSHOP AGENDA

TUESDAY JANUARY 20,2026 – 9:00 A.M.

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

**All District meetings are streamed live through Zoom**

**Join Zoom Meeting at:**  
<https://zoom.us/j/9649549487>  
**Meeting ID:** 964 954 9487

**One tap mobile:**  
669-900-9128, 9649549487# US (San Jose)  
669-444-9171, 9649549487# US  
**Dial by your location:**  
669-900-9128 US (San Jose)  
669-444-9171 US  
253-215-8782 US (Tacoma)

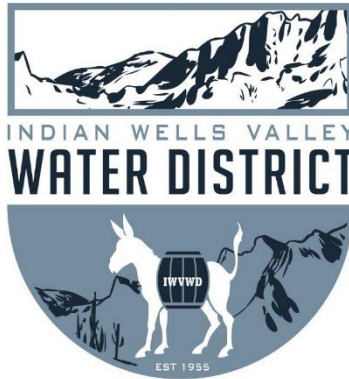
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*(In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact Isabel Tejada at (760) 384-5502. Requests must be 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

*(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).*

7. **Board Workshop**  
*(This meeting is a planning session for the IWV Water District Board of Directors and the Water District Staff to discuss, consider, and prioritize present and/or future operations and projects for the year, which may also include but not be limited to matters relating to finances, management, and those items listed below. The intent of this meeting is to set forth a plan and a schedule to keep all of us on track. The goal is to have the agreed upon projects assigned to the appropriate committee with an assigned chairperson).*
  - A. **Workshop Issues, Goals, and Priorities**
    1. Discussion of a histogram that represents the yearly water use by residential  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch metered users.
    2. Report on annual Water Audit, detailing pumping and usage
  - B. **Board of Director Goals**  
**Description:** Discussion on any Board of Director Goals.
  - C. **Review any Outstanding Issues**  
**Description:** Review and Discussion on Outstanding Issues.
8. **Board Comments/Future Agenda Items**
9. **Adjournment**



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**