

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

JANUARY 23, 2025

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Krieger. **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  
Chuck Krieger, Consulting Engineer  
Jason Lillion, Operations Manager  
Renée Morquecho, Chief Engineer  
Tyrell Staheli, Chief Financial Officer  
Lauren Smith, Recording Secretary

**AGENDA DECLARATION** **AGENDA DECLARATION**  
Recording Secretary, Lauren Smith, reported that the agenda for today's Special Board Meeting Workshop was posted on Tuesday, January 21, 2025.

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

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** **PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
None.

**BOARD WORKSHOP** **BOARD WORKSHOP**  
Ty Staheli provided the monthly budget review to the Board. (Included in PowerPoint on District website.) The Budget covered 15 different categories, and provided an overview on the 2025 budget, Year-to-Date expenses, and if the program was over/under. **BUDGET REVIEW**

The Board asked for this review to be presented on a quarterly basis to the Finance Committee, as well as an update on the July Workshop.

The Board recessed the meeting at 9:56 a.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 10:01 a.m.

Jason Lillion provided a presentation of how the new GIS system and Work Order Processing program work. GIS SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Renee Morquecho provided a summary on the Conservation as a California Way of Life report submitted on January 1<sup>st</sup>. At this time, there is not an Evaporative Cooler Variance available. CONSERVATION AS A WAY OF LIFE

Mr. Staheli presented an update on the Meter Replacement Program, and associated costs. Cost per meter is \$450, yearly required capital contribution is \$270,000, and the FY 2025 budget is \$100,000. METER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

Each department reported on their goals for 2025. The Board asked staff to provide employee and operational related posts, such as employee recognition and acknowledgement of achievements. STAFF GOALS

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

The meeting was reconvened at 11:18 a.m.

Vice President Griffin commented he would like to have a better relationship with the IWVGA, and the City regarding the Recycled Water Program. He further spoke of the importance for staff to be well taken care of, and have the things they need in order to get their job done. He would like staff and legal to research options for a fund to be created to contribute to District celebrations, such as a Christmas or retirement party. BOARD OF DIRECTOR GOALS

Director Boyd echoed Griffin's comments about a better relationship with the IWVGA and City of Ridgecrest. He also expressed the importance of Recycled Water for the Valley's water security.

Director Rajtora also hopes for a relationship with the City of Ridgecrest. He also asked for the Budget Review to happen quarterly, to ensure a thorough understanding of the current budget standing.

Director Kicinski also commented on the need for a better relationship with the City of Ridgecrest, as well as more employee and operational media posts.

President Saint-Amand agreed with his fellow Board member's comments. He also added the need for more communications with the State and follow up with legislature.

Any outstanding issues or follow up action already discussed throughout the meeting. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

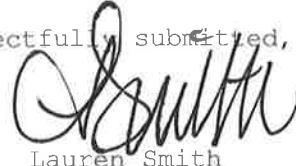
Director Kicinski asked for staff to provide options for a fund for awards ceremonies and staff celebrations. BOARD COMMENTS

#### ADJOURNMENT

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With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lauren Smith

Recording Secretary

APPROVED: February 10, 2025