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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING Business Session Friday, October 3, 2025

William R. Condit Auditorium
1285 Broadway Avenue
El Centro, CA 92243

Division 1—Alex Cardenas

Division 2—JB Hamby, *Vice Chairman*

Division 3—Gina Dockstader, *Chairwoman*

Division 4—Lewis Pacheco

Division 5—Karin Eugenio

Jamie L. Asbury, *General Manager*

Geoffrey Holbrook, *General Counsel*

Raquel Najera, *Secretary to the Board*

CALL TO ORDER— 11:02 a.m.

All directors were present in the El Centro Boardroom.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The invocation was led by Pastor Jonathan Hawk of the Christ Community Church in El Centro, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Cardenas.

PRESENTATIONS

- Presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation by Meadows School District

Tracy Canalez, Principal of Meadows Union School District, thanked the Board for IID's quick response in restoring power to their school after the recent storm. She introduced the President and Vice President of the Associated Student Body (ASB), who spoke and presented a plaque to IID in appreciation of their efforts. Additionally, Ms. Canalez gave General Counsel Holbrook thank-you notes and pictures from the school's third-grade class.

Director Eugenio thanked the principal and ASB representatives of Meadows Union School for attending the board meeting, as well as the Power Department staff for visiting the school during Career Day.

- Service Awards were presented to 13 employees for a total of 280 worker-years.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Director Cardenas, seconded by Vice Chairman Hamby, that the board approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried, 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Stacey Amparano from IID's Public Affairs Department highlighted that October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month, which honors the 6,000 babies born with Down syndrome each year in the U.S. To raise awareness, she handed out awareness ribbons to the Board in honor of her son and all children and adults with Down syndrome.
- Peter Rodriguez of El Centro praised IID's leadership and response during recent storms, along with IID's storm-related articles published in the paper.
- Jim Turner, President of Control Thermal Resources (CTR), provided a brief update on CTR's recent developments, including a significant agreement and issues related to the California Environmental Quality Act.
- General Manager Asbury read a comment letter from Jose Leon of NSDL Corporation, dated October 2, 2025. Mr. Leon commended the Imperial Irrigation District staff for their outstanding professionalism during the storm-related emergencies in August and September 2025.

CONSENT

None.

ACTION

1. Adopt Cal OES Resolution for IID's Designated Authorized Agents and Title Changes

Sabrina Barber, the manager of Distribution Services and Maintenance Operations, explained that this issue involves approving the designation of Authorized Agents on the Cal OES Form 130. The most recent updates were made on June 4, 2024, and the revised resolution reflects the recent title changes. This ensures IID's compliance with Cal OES requirements while also facilitating cost recovery and grant applications.

Moved by Director Pacheco, seconded by Vice Chairman Hamby, that the board adopt the Cal OES Resolution reflecting the following titled changes for IID's designated authorized agents.

- Matthew Smelser, Power Manager
- Sabrina Barber, Manager of Distribution Services and Maintenance Operations
- IID Board of Directors, Chairwoman Gina N. Dockstader and Vice Chairman John Brooks Hamby

Motion carried, 5-0.

2. Adopt Resolution Approving the Imperial Irrigation District Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

Sabrina Barber, manager of Distribution Services and Maintenance Operations, highlighted that the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) is essential for reducing risks, enhancing emergency preparedness, and increasing IID's operational resilience. It positions IID for future federal funding and is necessary for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs. After the board's acknowledgment in May 2025, the plan was submitted to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and then to FEMA, which issued its final approval. The next step is to present it to the board for formal adoption.

Director Eugenio praised Sabrina Barber and her team for their work in fixing the wire hanging on Highway 111 in Calexico.

Director Cardenas discussed the FEMA Act H.R. 4669, which is designed to reform and improve FEMA while enhancing disaster management across the United States. He highlighted the need to incorporate updated technical language regarding debris cleanup. Additionally, he encouraged the district to continue monitoring the agendas of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

At Vice Chairman Hamby's request, a copy of the plan will be given to the board. Ms. Barber also mentioned that the plan has been posted on IID's website.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Eugenio, that the board adopt Resolution 29-2025 adopting the Proclamation of Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Motion carried, 5-0.

3. Authorize Submission of the Trifolium 11 Reservoir Feasibility Study to U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Justina Gamboa-Arce, senior water resources planner, presented the Trifolium 11 Reservoir Feasibility Study for review and consideration in support of one of IID's System Conservation Plan projects and for submission to Reclamation.

Ms. Gamboa-Arce reported that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is now accepting feasibility studies. This is the third and final funding opportunity under the Small Storage Program, with a submission deadline of six months. As a result, the staff has been working diligently on this study. She acknowledged the Water Department staff, Andres Miramontes, Engineer II, and Vince Brooke, Superintendent General of the Efficiency Conservation Program, for their significant technical assistance. There was no financial impact for the writing, as all work was completed internally. Staff recommends opening it up for public comments, as this is a required step for submission to the Bureau of Reclamation.

In response to Director Pacheco's question, Justina Gamboa-Arce outlined the steps for submitting the feasibility study to the Bureau of Reclamation, which, if approved, could make the project eligible for up to \$5.2 million.

Moved by Chairwoman Dockstader, seconded by Vice Chairman Hamby, that the board approve extending the opportunity for public comments on the Trifolium 11 Reservoir Feasibility Study and authorize its submission to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Motion carried, 5-0.

4. Approval of General Counsel Employment Agreement

General Manager Jamie Asbury reported that the Board of Directors appointed Wayne Strumpfer to fill the recently vacated General Counsel position for the Imperial Irrigation District. General Manager Asbury provided an oral report on his compensation. As directed by the Board, the General Manager negotiated an employment agreement with Mr. Strumpfer, effective October 20, 2025. Mr. Strumpfer has prior experience as General Counsel for the District, making him the most qualified candidate for the role.

Mr. Strumpfer shared a few words and is thankful for the opportunity to work with the IID.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Eugenio, that the board approve the General Counsel Employment Agreement with Mr. Wayne Strumpfer.

Motion carried, 5-0.

INFORMATION

5. 2025 Electric Refunding Revenue Bonds Financing

Belen Valenzuela, the chief financial officer, provided an update on the financing of the 2025 Electric Refunding Revenue Bonds. The Finance Department plans to issue long-term, tax-exempt bonds to take out the IID's outstanding commercial paper and to refund outstanding callable bonds. The finance team, working with Stradling, PFM, Truist Securities, Inc., and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, has prepared the necessary financing documents for this proposed refunding. At the upcoming board meeting scheduled for October 21, 2025, the Finance Department will recommend adopting the Twelfth Supplemental Resolution, which authorizes the issuance of Electric System Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2025, along with the approval of the related financing documents.

A brief discussion ensued regarding debt financing and the Water Department's budget. Ms. Valenzuela explained that the Water Department's funds are designated for water conservation programs.

Public Comment

Ms. Mary Helen McCombs from El Centro rescinded her public comment.

6. GP-5: Election of the Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

General Manager Jamie Asbury stated that a request was made during the September 16, 2025, meeting to discuss Board Policy GP-5: Election of the Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for additional guidance.

Chairwoman Dockstader began the discussion, with Director Eugenio expressing a desire to review the voting process to determine if there was consensus among the Board on whether these positions should be filled by a simple majority vote of four or more directors or by a three-fifths majority.

A discussion was held about the matter, during which the Board shared its opinions. No objections were raised against the vote of four or more directors in favor. It was proposed that this issue, along with revisions to several other policies, be reviewed during the work session in October or November.

POLICY MONITORING

7. SD-2: Customer Relations, Outreach, and Communications

The joint presentation was conducted by Chief Financial Officer Belen Valenzuela and Senior Public Affairs Coordinator Stella Jimenez.

Ms. Valenzuela highlighted Policy SD-2, stressing a customer-first culture within the organization. Key points included the Universal Agent—bilingual and adaptable—along with Timely Response, Call Queuing by Type for 2024, Respectful Customer Interactions, Efficient District Services, IID Customer Connect Portal, Outbound Dialer, and Dunning 2024 Process.

Ms. Jimenez described the Public Affairs Department's outreach efforts for customers and the community, including programs like the Residential Energy Assistance Program, Energy Assistance for Special Equipment, Senior Health and Income Energy Lifeline Discount, and budget billing, along with collaborations with cities, counties, special districts, tribes, governments, and community organizations.

Director Cardenas asked about the possibility of staff contacting ratepayers who may be eligible for IID's programs. General Manager Asbury noted that the high volume of calls makes this challenging, but staff will review the metrics.

Director Eugenio suggested that collaborating with local nonprofits, such as the Food Bank, and other areas where they are pre-qualified for services, could be a more effective way to spread the word.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Eugenio, that the board accept the policy monitoring report and find that the District is substantially in compliance with Policy SD-2: Customer Relations, Outreach, and Communications

Motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS

8. Water Department

Water Manager Tina Shields reported on the following matters:

- The 2025 Deficit Irrigation Program was completed this week, with payments scheduled to be made by the end of October.
- The 2024 On-Farm Efficiency Conservation Program is mostly finished, with additional payments going out this week.
- She spoke at a conference in San Diego regarding the On-Farm Efficiency Conservation Program and the post-2026 ongoing session.
- Reclamation released the August 24-month study for 2025 and, as expected, established a Tier 1 operating condition for 2026.

Water Manager Mike Pacheco reported on the following matters:

- Last weekend, a storm caused significant flooding in the Bard area near Imperial Dam. Repairs are underway for affected washes, though the dam itself remains undamaged. Some residents experienced flooding in their homes, and efforts are being made to address these issues.
- Mr. Pacheco shared images of the Central Main Canal, which is once again facing moss problems. Starting Monday, heavy equipment will be used to remove the excess moss, as the water capacity has decreased by one hundred feet. The plan includes reinforcing the banks and thoroughly cleaning out the moss.
- A tour of IID's water system is scheduled for October 6 and 7 for members of the Central Arizona Project.

9. Power Department

Power Manager Matthew Smelser reported on the following matters:

- The collaboration and mutual support between IID and the Centro Nacional de Control de Energía, where IID provided CENACE with additional capacity during peak energy demand periods, ended on October 1, 2025.
- Mr. Smelser reported that on October 2, 2025, the Power Department received notification from the Department of Energy regarding a reduction of approximately \$8 billion in grant funding. This cut has impacted the Advanced Distribution Management System.
- Mr. Smelser provided a general update on the powerful storm event of September 18, 2025, that hit the Imperial Valley. He shared some images of the damage, including a customer, distribution, and transmission outage summary, as well as a call volume report for the Call Center, SOC, and DOC.

He noted that just under 7,000 customers were affected by the initial outages, with a total of 134 wood poles damaged.

The Board of Directors thanked the Power Department for doing an excellent job managing the storm situations.

10. Support Departments

Chief Information Officer Tony Allegranza presented a video that showcased telecommunications towers and included footage of the District's telecommunications technicians replacing antennas during upgrades to the microwave system.

11. General Manager

General Manager Jamie Asbury stated that she has spent the past couple of weeks primarily addressing storm-related issues on both the water and power sides.

Ms. Asbury attended and participated in the following meetings:

- Merlon Kidwell's 50th anniversary and retirement luncheon.
- Meeting with Congressman Ruiz and the County of Imperial, as well as two IID directors, to discuss storm damage.
- Meeting with the Cook Street Substation participants, including the County of Riverside, the City of Palm Desert, Rancho Mirage, and the City of La Quinta, to discuss the Berger Foundation.
- Emergency Management Systems postmortem.
- CVP meeting on Monday, September 29, 2025.

Director Cardenas reminded General Manager Asbury about the FEMA Act, H.R. 4669, and the possibility that the Federal Legislative Committee might consider supporting it or pass a resolution in favor of it. He also mentioned considering a resolution in support of the SPEED Act. He asked that these two items be considered and addressed during the APPA Fly-In in Washington, DC, in February 2026.

CONVENE CLOSED SESSION— 12:47 p.m.

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(Cal. Gov. Code sec. 54956.9(d)(2) & (e)(1))
(three items)

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION— 2:06 p.m.

REPORT ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION, IF ANY

The General Counsel reported that Chairwoman Dockstader recused herself and left the room during an anticipated litigation item discussion. However, there are no reportable actions on any of the three closed session items.

ADJOURNMENT— 2:07 p.m.

(The meeting was livestreamed and is available for public viewing on the IID website for those who wish to access a full recording of the proceedings.)