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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Business Session

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

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
Division 4—Lewis Pacheco
Division 5—Karin Eugenio, *Chairwoman*

Jamie L. Asbury, *General Manager*
Wayne K. Strumpfer, *General Counsel*
Raquel Najera, *Secretary to the Board*

CALL TO ORDER— 1:00 p.m.

All directors were present in the El Centro Boardroom.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Father Pedro Lucia of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Calexico led the invocation. Director Dockstader led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Cardenas called for a moment of silence to honor the recent passing of IID employee and retiree, Billy Wayne Reed.

PRESENTATIONS

- Service Awards were presented to 9 employees for a total of 185 years of work.
- Team of the Month for January 2026:
Dylon Mohamed, Justina Gamboa-Arce, and Ross Wilson were recognized as the Colorado River Water Users Association (CRWUA) Team of the Month for January 2026 for their active engagement with representatives of the seven Basin States, water districts, state and federal resource agencies, and a wide variety of Colorado River water users at the 2025 CRWUA annual conference.
- Special Presentation:
Chairwoman Eugenio presented Director Dockstader with a gavel plaque in recognition of her distinguished service as Chairwoman of the Imperial Irrigation District in 2025.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Director Cardenas, seconded by Director Dockstader, that the board approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried, 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Eddie Yopez of Chelsea Investment Corporation spoke on behalf of the 6th Street Seniors Project in Coachella, regarding IID's Will-Serve Letter and process notification, and asked the Board about the need to expedite this matter.
- Lawrence Cox of Cox Farms in Brawley shared his opinion on Action Item No. 3: 2026 Deficit Irrigation Program Description and Agreement, and his recommendation to increase the DIP program for 2026.

CONSENT

Moved by Director Cardenas, seconded by Director Pacheco, that the board approve the consent agenda as presented (Nos. 1 and 2).

Motion carried, 5-0.

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - December 22, 2025, regular/work session
 - January 6, 2026, regular/work session
2. Approval of Statement of Investment Policy for 2026
Board approval of the 2026 statement of investment policy, with no changes as presented.

CONSENT ITEMS ADDED TO ACTION AGENDA

None.

ACTION

3. Approval of 2026 Deficit Irrigation Program (DIP) Description and Agreement
Discussion of this item began with public comments from audience members who shared their opinions and insights on this agenda item and referenced the Imperial County Farm Bureau's (ICFB) letter to IID, which included recommendations for the 2026 DIP program.
 - Paula Pangle, President of the Imperial County Farm Bureau
 - Andrew Leimgruber, Holtville Farmer
 - Ron Leimgruber, Holtville Farmer
 - Mark McBroom, Calipatria Farmer

Water Manager Tina Shields provided an update on the proposed changes to the DIP program, primarily modifying Section 1.5 (Program Selection). The changes eliminate the field-selection lottery and introduce a proration method for farm-unit participation. The Imperial County Farm Bureau suggested a minimum threshold of 300 acre-feet, but the board could also establish a minimum if needed. She presented two items for consideration: 1) the program changes outlined in the redline document in the agenda packet, and 2) the possibility of the board setting a minimum threshold to assist smaller growers, especially those with insufficient fields to meet the new criteria, if a probation were enacted.

There was a discussion regarding the proposed changes to the DIP, the letter received from the Imperial County Farm Bureau, the intent to establish a minimum threshold, and the proration of the remaining balance.

In response to a question from Director Cardenas, Water Manager Shields explained that contract modifications were made to establish a minimum threshold and to prorate the balance. If the board does not set a minimum threshold, the balance will be prorated at 100 percent of the program capacity.

Director Cardenas commented on the inflation index referenced in the ICFB letter, as well as the potential reseeding costs and additional water labor expenses. He asked about the DIP program's actual costs and potential savings. General Manager Asbury responded that the staff can provide a financial assessment of the DIP program at a later date, but emphasized that today's request focuses on modifying the program and its supporting agreement.

Director Dockstader expressed support for ICFB's proposal to increase the inflationary index by \$33.62 per acre-foot in the program's final year. She reiterated that the IID is eliminating the lottery system and asked whether a vote on the 300-acre-foot minimum threshold was necessary today. Water Manager Shields confirmed that having this information today would be helpful.

Vice Chairman Hamby appreciated the comments and noted that the Board had voted on this in November 2025. He clarified that the focus is on the program description and agreement, not pricing, and expressed concern about making a quick financial decision. He is ready to proceed with the staff's recommendation and added that any further discussion can occur at a future meeting, if needed.

Discussion followed regarding the recommendation for the DIP program and its potential financial implications. General Manager Asbury emphasized the need for clarity on the board's direction, noting that the contract must be deployed soon and that pricing could be revisited at the next meeting.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Cardenas, that the Board approve the staff recommendation. However, a discussion followed because the materials presented were for the DIP description and agreement, not pricing, and the Board would have to set the threshold.

Water Manager Shields requested clarification and noted that it would be at the Board's discretion to set a minimum threshold or to consider the Imperial County Farm Bureau's recommendation of 300 acre-feet.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Cardenas, that the Board approve the changes to the 2026 DIP program description and agreement as presented and revisit the Imperial County Farm Bureau's recommendations on the 2026 DIP payment/program limit elements. Additionally, delegate authority to the General Manager to finalize and implement the 2026 DIP consistent with the program description, remain within environmental and funding program limits, and subject to any agency coordination requirements.

Chairwoman Eugenio thanked the farming community for attending the board meeting.

INFORMATION

4. Renewable Portfolio Standard Program

Tim Hamilton, assistant manager of Power Supply and Trading Administration, provided an update on the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) Program. California's RPS requires retail sellers to maintain a balanced portfolio of Renewable Energy Credits from a diverse mix of resources. His PowerPoint presentation outlined RPS compliance periods and targets, provided examples of the three primary Portfolio Content Categories (1, 2, and 3), and included a brief review of long-term contracts, non-compliance penalties, and the RPS's current position.

After the presentation, Director Cardenas offered comments on the topic.

5. Utilicast Energy Imbalance Market update

Paul Rodriguez, the Deputy Power Manager, referenced Amendment No. 2 to Major Work Authorization No. 2.00367, approved by the Board in May 2025. This amendment pertains to the implementation phase of the Energy Imbalance Market and Extended Day-Ahead Market initiative, specifically phase three. He noted that the staff has been working diligently to keep the project on track, collaborating closely with IID support units and their consultant, Michael Bulloch of UtiliCast. Mr. Bulloch then provided an update on the project's current status, including timelines and key factors, with a go-live date of October 2028

After the presentation, the Board offered comments on the topic, and Paul Rodriguez and Power Manager Matthew Smelser were thanked for advancing this project to phase three.

POLICY MONITORING

6. BL-13: Delegation to the General Manager with Respect to Local, State, and Federal Legislation and Regulation

Antonio Ortega, government affairs officer, presented Board Policy BL-13: Delegation to the General Manager with Respect to Local, State, and Federal Legislation and Regulation Policy. He reported on a recent addition of the WilmerHale team to help strengthen IID's presence in Washington, D.C.

The Government Affairs Team is collaborating with departments to identify core priorities for 2026. Mr. Ortega summarized key Federal and State legislative deadlines and advocacy efforts for 2026.

Director Cardenas emphasized the ongoing efforts in the Coachella Valley and Riverside County, led by Mr. Ortega, and expressed his desire to see similar efforts in Imperial County. Chairwoman Eugenio also urged greater efforts regarding the U.S. Department of Energy. Director Dockstader thanked Mr. Ortega for the monthly report, which includes links to specific bills.

Moved by Director Cardenas, seconded by Vice Chairman Hamby, that the Board find that the District is substantially in compliance with Board Policy BL-13: Delegation to the General Manager with Respect to Local, State, and Federal Legislation and Regulation.

Motion carried, 5-0.

REPORTS

7. Water Department

- Water Manager Tina Shield reported on the following matters:
 - The 2024 On-Farm Efficiency Conservation Program and the seasonal contracting for the 2025 program are nearly complete.
 - The draft environmental impact report is out for the post-2026 operating conditions.
 - She will speak at the Pioneers Museum on the Colorado River on Friday, January 23, 2026.
- Water Manager Mike Pacheco reported on the following matters:
 - He visited the Rotary Club in Brawley and Holtville. The El Centro Rotary Club requested a tour of IID facilities, and Water Manager Pacheco scheduled it. They toured IID's Water Control Center, the Brock Reservoir, Drop One, Imperial Dam, and Pilot Knob.
 - The Holtville Rib Cookoff is on Saturday, January 24, 2026, at the Holt Park.

8. Power Department

Water Manager Matthew Smelser presented a slide of the Gateway Substation in Calexico. The substation was fully energized on January 15, 2026. This substation will expand capacity for future growth on the east side of Calexico and relieve loading constraints on existing substations.

9. Support Departments

Fernando Castro-Alvarez, manager of Strategic Initiatives, provided a brief overview of the strategic plan and presented an update on the initiative development approach and the 17 proposed initiatives across seven topics for the 2026-2027 strategic plan.

After the presentation, a brief discussion ensued.

10. General Manager

General Manager Jamie Asbury reported on the following matters:

- She conducted a very productive meeting with the executive staff.
 - She attended and reported on the following meetings and events:
 - Held an executive staff meeting.
 - Ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Avenue 42 Substation expansion in Indio.
 - Meeting with UtiliCast to discuss the Energy Imbalance Market and the Extended Day-Ahead Market initiative.
 - Met with a Risk Management Consultant evaluating enterprise risk for IID and collaborating with the internal audit team.
 - Met with the Reliability Compliance Officer to discuss the internal compliance program for 2026.
 - Traveled to Sacramento to meet with Vice Chairman Hamby, chair of the Colorado River Board of California, and Water Manager Tina Shields, representing IID on water-related issues and the Colorado River operating guidelines post-2026.
 - Attended the Power Risk Management Group meeting last month.
 - Imperial County Farm Bureau meeting and an internal meeting regarding IID's EV charging strategy.
 - Represented IID as an alternate at the Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority meeting last week.
 - Attended IID's monthly Construction and Maintenance line crew meeting last month.
 - Discussed with Juan Perez from Riverside County how to advance the Cook Street Substation initiative.
 - Joined a ride-along with Harry Nelson and his crew members to observe their work on the line extension at the Gateway Project.
- She reviewed the Lithium Valley Specific Plan and is looking at ways to enhance the county's document by providing supportive comments.
- She reviewed the executive summary of the Colorado River Basin Draft EIS.

Director Cardenas asked General Manager Asbury to convey his appreciation to Jessica Humes, Environmental Compliance supervisor, for her incredible presentation at the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission on burrowing owls. He also mentioned the Salton Sea Authority meeting and a topic on the Colorado River Policy Platform, and asked Water Manager Shields to continue participating in the process and to provide resources during the 45-day comment period.

Based on Director Cardenas' comments, General Manager Asbury informed the Board that the IID is examining areas where the county seeks to grow and will provide guidance and support in that endeavor at the appropriate time.

The Board took a break.

CONVENE CLOSED SESSION— 3:22 p.m.

1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE
(Cal. Gov. Code sec. 54957(b)) (1 matter)
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(Cal. Gov. Code sec. 54956.9(d)(2) & (e)(1)).
(3 cases)

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION— 5:01 p.m.

REPORT ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION, IF ANY

General Counsel Wayne Strumpfer reported that the Board voted 5-0 to uphold the discipline, dismissal, and release of an employee.

ADJOURNMENT— 5:01 p.m.

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