



IID

A century of service.

www.iid.com

Since 1911

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING Work Session Tuesday, March 17, 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— 12:34 p.m.

All directors were present in the El Centro Boardroom. Vice Chairman Hamby presided over the closed session meeting. Chairwoman Eugenio arrived at 12:43 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONVENE CLOSED SESSION— 12:34 p.m.

1. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (Cal. Gov. Code sec. 54957) Title: General Counsel

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION— 1:04 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Paula Pangle of the Imperial County Farm Bureau led the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORT ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION, IF ANY

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Motion carried, 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Peter Rodriguez of El Centro expressed his concerns about the Board of Supervisors' meetings and the Data Center.
- Matt Desert of El Centro spoke about the current IID power rates, the ECA overcollections returned to ratepayers, the rate stabilization account, and his suggestion of a six (6) percent power rate reduction for all users for four months.

CONSENT

Public Comment

Paula Pangle, on behalf of the Imperial County Farm Bureau, in recognition of National Ag Day, extends its appreciation to the IID Board, general manager, and staff for their collaboration, partnership, and commitment to protect and help grow the agricultural community.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Cardenas, that the Board approve the consent agenda as presented (items Nos. 1-4),

Motion carried, 5-0.

1. Approval of amendment to the Employment Contract of General Counsel
The Board approved the amendment to the General Counsel's Employment Agreement to more closely align the services provided. The agreement will take effect on April 1, 2026.
2. Approval of Amendment No. 4 to the S-Line Rebuild/Sunpin Project – Major Work Authorization No. 2.00190
The Board approved Amendment No. 4 for the S-Line rebuild project – MWA No. 2.00190 - raising the total cost to \$66,452,394, an increase of \$9,286,658. This increase is attributed to change orders with SunPin, redesign and additional right-of-way acquisition costs, and structural deflection issues. A \$30,000 adjustment was made for Cordoba Corporation to address a design issue.
3. Approval of the 2026 Annual Internal Audit Plan
The Board approved the Annual Internal Audit Plan as presented. It was developed and submitted for Board approval in accordance with IID Board Policy BL-4, Board-Internal Auditor Relationship.
4. Adopt a Resolution in Honor of National Ag Day
The Board adopted Resolution No. 7-2026 in honor of National Ag Day, to be recognized on March 24, 2026.

CONSENT ITEMS ADDED TO ACTION AGENDA

ACTION

5. Approval of the 2026 Electric System Refunding Revenue Bonds Financing
Chief Financial Officer Belen Valenzuela reported that this was an informational item presented to the Board at its March 3, 2026, meeting. It is for the refunding of the 2015C Revenue Bonds and is expected to result in estimated net present value savings of approximately \$20.7 million, with average annual cash flow savings of approximately \$1.9 million.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Cardenas, that the Board adopt the Thirteenth Supplemental Resolution No. 8-2026 that will authorize and approve the issuance of the Electric System Refunding Revenue Bonds, Series 2026, and the execution and delivery of the associated financing documents.

Motion carried, 5-0.

6. Approval of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement forming the Coachella Electric Financing Authority

Mathew Smelser, the Power Manager, reported that the City of Coachella is experiencing growth and exploring alternative funding methods to expand its electrical system. Representatives from the City of Coachella and IID have collaborated to develop a structure for this expansion, which will be a Joint Powers Authority similar to the one established with the City of Indio. The estimated cost of the necessary infrastructure is about \$42 million, to be funded by Coachella residents.

The General Manager thanked the staff for their diligence in pursuing this matter.

Director Dockstader thanked Chairwoman Eugenio, Vice Chairman Hamby, and the staff for their work in the Coachella Valley.

Public Comments

Eric Reyes of Los Amigos de La Comunidad expressed his concern and disagreement about this matter.

A discussion of this issue took place, with General Manager Asbury and Chairwoman Eugenio offering their comments.

Moved by Director Cardenas, seconded by Director Pacheco, that the Board approve the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement and exhibits and authority for the General Manager to execute an agreement in substantially the form approved by the IID Board of Directors.

Motion carried, 5-0.

7. Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the El Centro Generating Station Unit 2-2 Gas Turbine Generator Major Overhaul Project – Major Work Authorization No. 2.00366

Kraig Strauch, the generation manager, reported that Unit No. 2-2 at the El Centro Generating Station has been in commercial operation since 1993. It is currently undergoing a significant inspection to ensure its continued reliability and safe operation. During the outage's disassembly and inspection phase, additional conditions were identified that required corrective actions before returning the unit to service. Failure to perform the additional work during this major inspection could result in a forced outage and significant damage to the turbine. Proceeding with the planned overhaul will ensure operational reliability and reduce future financial and operational risks.

Moved by Director Pacheco, seconded by Director Dockstader, that the Board approve Amendment No. 1 for \$225,827 for the ECGS Unit No. 2-2 Gas Turbine Generator Major Overhaul Project - Major Work Authorization No. 2.00366.

Motion carried, 5-0.

INFORMATION

8. Powering Our Community Together Update

Power Manager Matthew Smelser presented the Power Our Communities Together Initiatives, which included an infrastructure update. Topics he covered and summarized in his PowerPoint presentation include the following:

- 2025 Major Capital Projects completed
- Strategic Projects
- 2026 Capital Projects under construction
- 2026 Capital Projects by phases
- Infrastructure Replacement Programs
- Next Steps and Alignment

After the presentation, Director Cardenas provided comments on supply chain constraints that could affect RICE Units and pole replacements.

9. New Water Infrastructure Projects Update and Discussion

Water Manager Mike Pacheco presented the Water Department's capital projects costing over \$5 million. Topics he covered and summarized in his PowerPoint presentation include the following:

- Water Department Capital Projects 2025-2028
- Water Department Imperial Dam Projects
- Water Department Reservoir Projects
- Water Department All-American Canal Projects
- Water Department Miscellaneous Project
- Capital Projects by Phases

In response to questions posed by Director Cardenas, General Manager Asbury stated that she would look into a program approach to the construction of the East Highline Lateral and Trifolium 11.

Director Dockstader reported that she has been informed about issues with the automatic gates, as there seems to be a 20 percent reduction in delivered water, particularly on the G Lateral. Water Manager Pacheco said he will look into it, but that it most likely has to do with the elevation on the East Highline.

POLICY MONITORING

Vice Chairman Hamby stated that he reviewed agenda items 10, 11, 12, and 14 and proposed that the Board is substantially in compliance with these policies. He also suggested tabling agenda item No. 13 (Policy GP-8) for further discussion until the next business session meeting.

Public Comment

Matt Dessert from El Centro congratulated the Board on its policy updates, particularly Board Policy GP-3: Board Responsibilities. He voiced concerns about elected officials holding multiple positions outside their official duties. During the meeting, he made a Public Records Act request for any Non-Disclosure Agreements related to Director Cardenas, specifically those involving any second or third parties with whom Director Cardenas might be associated.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Cardenas, that the Board is substantially in compliance with Policies GP-1, GP-3, GP-4, and GP-12 (agenda items 10, 11, 12, and 14), as listed below, and that Policy GP-8 (agenda item 13) be tabled until the next business session for further discussion.

Motion carried, 5-0.

10. GP-1: Purpose of the Board
Motion carried 5-0, as listed above.
11. GP-3: Board Responsibilities
Motion carried 5-0, as listed above.
12. GP-4: Agenda Planning
Motion carried 5-0, as listed above.
13. GP-8: Board Training and Orientation
At the request of Vice Chairman Hamby, this agenda item was tabled until the next business session.
14. GP-12: External Auditor Relationship
Motion carried 5-0, as listed above.

REPORTS

15. Board of Directors

Board of Directors Committee Reports:

Chairwoman Eugenio reviewed the list of external and Local Agency Two-on-Two appointments, and the directors provided brief reports on current activities related to the following appointments.

External Appointments	Appointees
American Public Power Association Policy Makers Council	Cardenas
California Farm Water Coalition	Dockstader
Coalition of Labor, Agriculture, and Business	Pacheco
Colorado River Board of California	Hamby/Dockstader
Salton Sea Authority	Dockstader/Cardenas
Local Agency Two-On-Two	Appointees
City of Calexico	Pacheco/Eugenio
City of Calipatria	Dockstader/Pacheco
City of Imperial	Eugenio/Pacheco

Director Dockstader reported on the following meetings and events she attended.

- Water Committee Meeting at Farm Bureau.
- Interviewed bloggers connected to California Grown.
- IID Tour with the Department of Water Resources and Tom Gibson and Genevieve Johnson of the Bureau of Reclamation.
- Farmer's Water Roundtable meeting.
- Pioneers Museum 90th-anniversary event.

Chairwoman Eugenio thanked General Manager Asbury and Power Manager Matthew Smelser for the Calexico substation upgrade. The following are some of the meetings or events she attended and reported on:

- The American Public Power Association Policy Makers Council meeting in Washington, DC, alongside Director Cardenas.
- A tour of Ormat to examine its geothermal facilities and gather information on its capacity, the customers it serves, and its future plans.
- She, alongside Director Dockstader, will attend a tour of the Coachella Museum on Friday, March 20, 2026 (the tour was subsequently canceled and will be rescheduled).
- Imperial County Farm Bureau meeting with General Manager Asbury.
- Pioneers Museum 90th-anniversary event.

RECESS

The recess was canceled, and the Board proceeded to the 2026 Annual Workplan.

WORK SESSION

None.

ANNUAL WORKPLAN REVIEW

16. Review Board of Directors 2026 Annual Work Plan

The 2026 annual work plan was reviewed, and no changes or additions were proposed. Review of Policy GP-8: Board Training and Orientation will be added to the agenda for the next board meeting.

CONVENE CLOSED SESSION— 2:09 p.m.

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

The Board took a break

Director Dockstader recused herself and left the room during the discussion of one of the five cases on the closed-session agenda item No. 1.

2. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Cal. Gov. Code sec. 54957.6)
Agency designated representative: Marcia Rivera; Employee organizations: EMA, IBEW, PSA

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION — 5:17 p.m.

REPORT ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION, IF ANY

None.

ADJOURNMENT— 5:18 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. The work session part of the meeting was not livestreamed.)