



# IID

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## **MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING Business Session Tuesday, April 7, 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**

The invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance were led by Pastor Dan Bruce of Faith Assembly in Imperial.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

- Team of the Month for April 2026

A total of 139 employees from the Power, Water, General Services, and IT departments were recognized as the Gateway and Westmorland Team of the Month for April 2026. This honor was awarded for successfully completing the substation expansion projects on time and within budget.

Human Resources Manager Marcia Rivera and Power Manager Matthew Smelser shared comments and slides about the job sites.

### **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**

- Howard Elmore from Brawley discussed and distributed a summary of his points on the Vail 607A Drain, one of the few remaining areas in the valley that still requires tailwater pumping. General Manager Asbury will reach out to Mr. Elmore to address any questions he may have.
- Matt Dessert from El Centro raised two points during his comments. First, he said he has not received a response from IID regarding his Public Records Act request for Non-Disclosure Agreements associated with Director Cardenas. General Counsel Strumpfer responded that he had responded to the request the day after the board meeting and again this morning. Second, he asked the Board to consider adding an agenda item to address the action taken on July 2, 2024, regarding healthcare benefits for directors after just eight years of service.

## **CONSENT**

None.

## **ACTION**

1. Adopt a resolution recognizing April 18, 2026, as National Lineman Appreciation Day.

Sabrina Barber, manager of Distribution Services and Maintenance, presented this matter, followed by complimentary and appreciative comments from the Board of Directors regarding IID's linemen.

Moved by Director Cardenas, seconded by Director Pacheco, that the Board adopts Resolution No. 9-2026, recognizing April 18, 2026, as National Lineman Appreciation Day.

Motion carried 5-0.

2. Approval of U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Project: Grant Application for Trifolium 11 Reservoir

Justina Gamboa-Arce, a senior water resources planner, reported that the Feasibility Study for the Trifolium 11 Reservoir was finalized and accepted by the Bureau of Reclamation. As a result, the IID has been invited to submit a funding application, which has been prepared and deemed strong. The project's estimated cost is \$28.1 million, with a 75 percent cost share from IID, approximately \$21.1 million, and a potential 25 percent federal cost share of up to \$7 million. Ms. Gamboa-Arce recommended that the Board authorize submission of the funding proposal for the Trifolium Reservoir.

In response to a question from Director Cardenas, Ms. Gamboa-Arce stated that the funds were appropriated by the Biden administration for four years. It has been very difficult for proponents to submit the feasibility study and be eligible for the project, at least over the past three years. The IID has demonstrated that it can meet all the requirements; therefore, she believes that if the IID score is high enough, the funds would be secure.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Dockstader, that the Board authorized the submission of the Trifolium 11 Reservoir funding proposal.

Motion carried 5-0.

3. Appoint Director(s) to meet with the District's External Financial Auditors, Baker Tilly US LLP

Raquel Buenrostro, an internal auditor, requested the Board's direction on appointing one or two directors to meet with the District's external financial auditors, BAKER TILLY US LLP, in accordance with Policy GP-12: External Auditor Responsibility, at the conclusion of the independent financial audit.

Vice Chairman Hamby proposed appointing Directors Pacheco and Dockstader, and both accepted the appointment.

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Cardenas, that the Board appoint Director Dockstader and Director Pacheco to meet with the District's external financial auditors, BAKER TILLY US LLP, after the financial audit is completed.

Motion carried 5-0.

4. Approval of the All-American Canal Sludge Pipe Replacement Project Capital Budget Amendment

Jorge Sanchez, Superintendent General of Water Operations and Maintenance, provided an update on Amendment No. 2 to Major Work Authorization 200101 for the All-American Canal Sludge Pipe Replacement Project – Basin 1, including the budget amendment. Due to an environmental abatement program addressing California's 17 metals, construction completion was delayed from 2025 to 2026. To accommodate this change, \$15,155,900 will be carried over from the 2025 capital budget to the 2026 fiscal year.

After the presentation, a brief discussion followed.

Moved by Director Cardenas, seconded by Vice Chairman Hamby, that the Board approve the Water Department capital budget amendment to carry forward unexpended 2025 funds into the 2026 budget to complete the All-American Canal Sludge Pipe Replacement Project – Basin 1.

Motion carried, 5-0.

## **INFORMATION**

5. 2026 Summer Readiness Update

Timothy Hamilton, assistant manager of Supply and Trading, provided an update on 2026 Summer Readiness. Under the IID Risk Policy and Balancing Authority requirements, IID must procure capacity resources totaling 115 percent,

including reserves, for the current year. The Power Department has secured the necessary resources and is fully equipped, both internally and externally, to meet the anticipated 2026 summer load demand.

The topics he covered in his PowerPoint presentation include the following:

- 2026 Capacity Needs
- Product Procurement Mix Details
- 2026 Natural Gas
- Additional Operational Measures
- Factors Impacting Readiness

After the presentation, the Board offered comments.

## **POLICY MONITORING**

### **6. BL-10: Delegation to the General Manager with Respect to Power-Related Transactions**

Timothy Hamilton, the assistant manager of Power Supply and Trading, presented the guiding principles that delegate authority to the General Manager for power-related transactions. He discussed the following policy principles:

- Power Purchase Agreements up to 10 years with option of 10-year renewal
- Transmission Service Agreements up to 10 years
- Fuel Transportation Agreements up to 10 years

Moved by Director Pacheco, seconded by Vice Chairman Hamby, that the Board find that the District is substantially in compliance with Board Policy BL-10: *Delegation to the General Manager with Respect to Power-Related Transactions*.

Motion carried, 5-0.

### **7. BL-11: Delegation to the General Manager with Respect to the Energy Risk Management Policy**

Alma Montoya, risk manager, presented the guiding principles that grant the General Manager the authority to develop, approve, and implement a Power Risk Management Policy to achieve the following objectives, which she outlined:

- Ensure reliable power supply
- Maintain competitive and adequate power rates
- Comply with state regulations on renewable energy
- Fulfill Western Electricity Coordinating Council obligations
- Establish a Power Risk Management Group

In response to questions posed by Director Cardenas, General Manager Asbury addressed Risk Management Policy matters.

General Manager Asbury wanted both the Board and the public to understand that multiple layers of internal controls are in place. This is a complex business that requires a collective effort to manage effectively.

A brief discussion followed on this matter, with comments from the Board.

Moved by Director Cardenas, seconded by Vice Chairman Hamby, that the Board find that the District is substantially in compliance with Board Policy BL-11: *Delegation to the General Manager with Respect to the Power Risk Management Policy*.

Motion carried 5-0.

8. BL-12: Delegation to the General Manager with Respect to Water-Related Transactions

Justina Gamboa-Arce, a senior water resources planner, reported on the following four primary tasks.

- Small Water Supply Agreements
- Grant Applications for Water Projects
- Water Transfer Agreements
- Other Water-Related Contracts and Agreements

Moved by Vice Chairman Hamby, seconded by Director Dockstader, that the Board find that the District is substantially in compliance with Board Policy BL-12: *Delegation to the General Manager with Respect to Water-Related Transactions*.

Motion carried 5-0.

9 SD-6: Resource Planning and Management

Water Managers Tina Shields and Mike Pacheco reported on the plan to manage water resources to ensure system reliability, cost-effectiveness, and compliance with laws, regulations, and mandates. The following five primary areas were reviewed:

- Encourage the maximum utilization of available water resources within the service area.
- Protect IID's senior Colorado River water rights.
- Provide cost-effective and reliable water delivery service.
- Improve water use efficiencies, provide water supply certainty, adapt to hydrologic variability, and address long-term Colorado River resiliency.
- Develop and implement water conservation programs and water management initiatives to comply with long-term conservation obligations

Timothy Hamilton, the assistant manager of Power Supply and Trading, reported on the plan for managing power resources to ensure system reliability, cost-effectiveness, and compliance with laws, regulations, and mandates. He outlined the following four main objectives:

- Prepare a 20-year Integrated Resource Plan every five years.

- Meet or exceed greenhouse gas emissions mandate.
- Meet or exceed the renewable portfolio standard requirement.
- Use District-owned resources and support the economy of the IID service area.

Chairwoman Eugenio requested a breakdown of the Renewable Energy Portfolio (listed on agenda page 19). Mr. Hamilton responded that the information is available on IID's website, specifically on the Power Content Label, and offered to provide her with a copy.

Moved by Director Cardenas, seconded by Director Dockstader, that the Board find that the District is substantially in compliance with Board Policy SD-6: *Resource Planning and Management*.

Motion carried 5-0.

## REPORTS

### 10. Water Department

- Water Manager Tina Shields delivered a presentation providing updates on the 2025 IID Water Accounting Summary, including conservation requirements and SCIA volumes; the 2025 provisional IID Water Accounting; IID's Water Conservation and Transfer Summary; IID Conservation Volumes (AF) 2003-2025; and the Water Transfer Agreements Summary.
- Water Manager Mike Pacheco reported on the following matters:
  - He attended the IID/City of Calexico 2-on-2 meeting with Chairwoman Eugenio, Director Pacheco, and Assistant General Manager Sergio Quiroz. The City provided IID with the dimensions of the gates to be installed on its manholes to prevent IID's drainage system from backing up into its retention ponds or parks.
  - He will participate in tours with congressional staff throughout the week.
  - Phase One of the Mulberry In-Line Reservoir was completed a couple of weeks ago, and Phase Two is expected to be completed in December of this year.

### 11. Power Department

Power Manager Matthew Smelser provided an overview of several key projects in the Coachella Valley. Highlights included the expansion of Avenue 42 Bank No. 3, the development of Caritas, a 40-unit affordable mobile home park, and the Desert Recreational District's establishment of a new community park in Thermal.

12. Support Departments

Human Resources Manager Marcia Rivera provided an update on IID's early outreach strategy for Student Engagement and Workforce Development to raise awareness of IID career pathways. Her presentation also covered the key message of recognizing student achievement, the benefits of the paid summer internship program, next steps, and expansion opportunities.

After the presentation, the Board asked questions and offered input regarding the program's importance.

In response to a question from Director Cardenas, Human Resources Manager Rivera explained that budget constraints over the years have limited the number of student interns that can be hired. However, she noted that if more student internship opportunities were created, the program could achieve greater success.

2026 Annual Work Plan Parking Lot:

Director Cardenas requested an exploration of expanding the summer internship program and asked that this topic be added to the Parking Lot discussion for the August 2026 meeting.

Discussion ensued, with comments and input from the Board and General Manager Asbury.

13. General Manager

General Manager Jamie Asbury participated in several meetings and provided updates:

- A meeting with staff regarding upcoming legislation that requires IID websites to comply with the ADA and provide greater accessibility for non-English-speaking individuals.
- A meeting with a Rate Consultant from the Finance Department about potential changes to one of IID's Rate Schedules focused on automating the terms for returning funds to customers.
- A Farmer's Water Roundtable meeting, the IID-Citizens Energy Press Event, and a California Colorado River meeting with CNRA and other California agencies to discuss operational guidelines for the post-2026 Colorado River.
- A meeting with the external auditor regarding the reporting of financial statements.
- A meeting with representatives from Controlled Thermal Resources and Berkshire Hathaway.
- One-on-one meetings with Director Cardenas and Vice Chairman Hamby.
- A meeting with the Risk Consultant and the Assistant General Manager Sergio Quiroz.
- A tour with representatives from IID and the Metropolitan Water District.
- A meeting with representatives from the San Diego County Water Authority.

- Discussion with IID staff regarding financial reserves and potential modifications to certain policies to comply with the Public Utilities Regulatory Policy Act.
- Quarterly Risk Management Meeting.
- A meeting with a transmission developer to discuss potential opportunities in Arizona.
- Ms. Asbury will host two All-Hands Meetings, one in La Quinta on April 8 and the other in El Centro on April 9, 2026.

**CONVENE CLOSED SESSION— 3:07 p.m.**

1. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS

(Cal. Gov. Code sec. 54956.8)

Property: Agency Negotiation: Sergio Quiroz

Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL — ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

(Cal. Gov. Code sec. 54956.9(d)(2) & (e)(1)).

(6 matters)

*Chairwoman Eugenio left the meeting at 3:56 p.m. and returned at 5:21 p.m. During her absence, Vice Chairman Hamby presided over the closed session.*

3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

(Cal. Gov. Code sec. 54956.9 (d)(1): IID v. County of Imperial et al.

Case # ECU004498

**REPORT ACTIONS TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION, IF ANY**

None.

**RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION— 5:37 p.m.**

**ADJOURNMENT— 5:38 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.)**