

Nevada Irrigation District
Board of Directors

MINUTES

September 10, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District convened in regular session at the District's main office located at 1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley, on the 10th day of September 2025, at 9 a.m.

Present were Ricki Heck, President (Division I) and Chris Bierwagen, Vice-President (Division II); and Directors Brad Fowler (Division III); Earl Stephens (Division IV); and Rich Johansen (Division V).

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; Chip Close, Director of Water Operations; Gabe Aronow, Director of Engineering; Steve Prosser, Director of Maintenance; Peter Wade, Director of Power Systems; Sandra Dunlap, Director of Finance; Monica Reyes, Director of Recreation; Naomi Schmitt, Director of Human Resources; Dustin Cooper, District Counsel; and Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary.

STANDING ORDERS

- Call to Order: President Heck called the meeting to order
- President Heck led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call: 5 Members Present

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Otis Wollan, resident of Colfax:
 - Sierra Nevada Alliance webinar later today
 - Emails received regarding dredge miners near Dog Bar
- James Haufler, President of Friends of Auburn Ravine:
 - Has been hearing about illegal dredge mining up from Dog Bar
- Eric Paasche, Vice President of Alta Sierra Neighborhood Alliance:
 - Requesting the use of District property to hold a green waste event

CONSENT AGENDA

Director Bierwagen made a motion to pull Item 3C - Grant Authorization - Invasive Mussel Response from the Consent Agenda for discussion. Director Fowler seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Public comment: None

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Director Johansen made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Item No. 3C: Grant Authorization - Invasive Mussel Response. Director Fowler seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Public comment: None

MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON AUGUST 27, 2025
M/S/C Johansen/Fowler, unanimously approved as submitted.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION – D. ANDREWS
Adopted Resolution No. 2025-42 – Resolution of Appreciation - Doug Andrews. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler, unanimously approved.

PURCHASE OF NEW, REPLACEMENT PICKUP TRUCK
Approved the purchase of one (1) 2025 Ford Ranger Crew Cab XL 4x4 pickup truck from Geweke Ford in Yuba City, California, and authorize the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler, unanimously approved.

GRANT OF EASEMENTS REQUESTED BY PG&E FOR UNDERGROUND UTILITIES ON DISTRICT PROPERTY
Adopt a resolution approving the granting of five (5) easements to Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) for "just compensation", as determined by PG&E's internal valuation, and authorize the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler, unanimously approved.

WARRANTS, PAYROLL FUND CERTIFICATE AND INVESTMENT REPORT
Ratified the issuance of warrants by receiving and filing the check registers and the Investment Transaction Report for the period August 16, 2025 through August 29, 2025. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler, unanimously approved.

GRANT AUTHORIZATION - INVASIVE MUSSEL RESPONSE
Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, responded to clarification question from the Board related to the budget amendment.

Public Comment: None

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-43 - Grant Authorization- Nevada Irrigation District – Invasive Mussel Response. M/S/C Johansen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

ADDITION OF SENIOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS TECHNICIAN JOB CLASSIFICATION
Chip Close, Director of Water Operations, presented the item.
Board discussion and input received:

- Essential functions unique to the proposed new position

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- Number of people to fill this spot
- Training, certifications and SCADA
- In-house staff with skill sets needed for this position
- IT-model
- Cross training
- Out of class pay
- Clarification of steps
- Comparisons - no comparable class

Public Comment: None

HEALTHY RIVERS AND LANDSCAPE AGREEMENT

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, and Dustin Cooper, District Counsel, presented the item.

Board Discussion:

- Confirmed Memorandum of Understanding was signed asked if there was any chance of future modification or changes
- Number of water agencies choosing Healthy Rivers and Landscape Agreement
- Federal Government and its authority
- Plan for Water modeling and the state's modeling
- Salmon population
- Drinking water
- Total storage
- Deadpool on Scotts Flat Reservoir
- The state's reason for leaving climate change out
- Flow Contributions and scenarios discussed
- Spillwater
- Capacity
- Call-time periods
- FERC requirements
- Grant Program
- Fish screens
- Technical Advisory Committee and participants
- Measuring success
- Estimating financial contributions
- Various Program projections
- Choice between two pathways
- Regulatory oversight

Public Comment:

- James Haufler, President of Friends of Auburn Ravine:
 - Fish counting
 - Cameras in downtown Lincoln to count upstream migration
 - Downstream migration studies by PCWA supporting fish into canal instead of over dam

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- Salmon egg production and survival rate and making conditions better for them where we can
- Term sheets – Wet years and the need to bring water over varying from year to year
- Hemphill Project proved that water deliveries and good habitat can occur at the same place at the same time
- Achieving same success from Hemphill for upstream migration can be achieved for downstream migration with the Healthy Rivers Landscape Agreement and voluntary agreements
- Gold Hill Dam, natural barrier upstream, boulders downstream and salmon not getting that far upstream

The meeting recessed at 10:30 a.m. and reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

ROLLINS RESERVOIR STORAGE ALTERNATIVES

Jenifer Hanson, General Manager and Gabe Aronow, Director of Engineering presented the item.

Board Discussion:

- Demand scenario impacts
- Confirmed PG&E outages did not change outlook, but did teach new lessons in water management
- How recent shortages may have changed the bookends if occurred during dry or critically dry years
- Bathymetric definition and cost for bathymetric survey
- Estimate costs are inclusive of environmental expenses, but do not include financing costs
- Yellow-legged frog habitat
- Rollins dam composition and composition of raised
- Potential unmet demand
- Carryover storage
- Composition of sediment material
- Local non-profits and discussions about filling local abandoned mines
- Potential of other entities utilizing sediment materials and if merchantable
- Sediment removal
- Minor raise of Rollins Reservoir
- Improving/reducing water loss in canal delivery system
- Micro-pond expenses vs. scenarios reviewed and benefits
- Importance of pursuing options
- Process moving forward
- Sediment study
- Smaller reservoir raises in upper watershed
- Comparing different potential raise levels for Rollins Reservoir
- Satisfying unmet demand
- Bonding and revenue needed
- Looking at the following package of options:
 - Bathymetric study

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- Higher level of sediment trap concept
- Continue to look at Rollins Reservoir raise and what can be done
- Further work on canal improvements
- Micro-ponds

Public Comment:

- Otis Wollan, resident of Colfax:
 - Sending the Board a link to a video taken above Rollins Reservoir by drone
 - Sediment in Rollins Reservoir
 - Expressed appreciation for depth of thinking on alternatives and commended the General Manager
 - Concentrating on what has to be done
 - Being grateful for all the District has and encouraging creativity with the District's customers
 - Spoke in support of micro-ponds

2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM MID-YEAR STATUS UPDATE

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, introduced the item and it was presented by Gabe Aronow, Director of Engineering.

Board Discussion:

- Congratulations on completing the Maben Canal Phase IV Project
- Funding
- Zero-emission vehicles
- What happens to older vehicles when replaced
- Ordering parts and delivery time
- South Yuba 8.5 Mile Slide Repair Project
 - Clarification and suggestions
 - Hydroelectric revenue and buying parts
- Rollins Powerhouse Governor Replacement Project
 - Design clarification
 - Anticipated delivery of parts
- Chicago Park Powerhouse RTU Replacement
 - Transformers
 - Materials market
- Priority scores
- Expressed appreciation for the presentation and thanked all who participated in getting the information together

Public Comment: None

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, reported on the following items:

- Nearing end of irrigation season
- District participating in this year's Yuba River Clean-Up
- Provided an update on the District's Bear River surplus property sales

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

Director Johansen, Division V, reported on the following items:

- Met with Bill Haire, who designs trails for Bear Yuba Land Trust and his wife Joyce Haire, who often feeds the crews, and they thanked the District for their work
- Jobs, economy and anticipated drop in rates

Director Fowler, Division III, reported on the following items:

- Attended the Nevada Union FFA Booster Dinner, and recognized how much NID and its employees and their families are closely tied to FFA at both Nevada Union and Bear River
- Expressed appreciation for the District's participation at the Nevada County Fair
- Commented on anonymous letter received

Director Heck, Division I, reported on the following items:

- Attended Giants game and they won
- Receiving inquiries from constituents on various topics, and shared overall feedback that they are happy with and grateful for NID

Director Bierwagen, Division II, reported on the following items:

- No report

Director Stephens, Division IV, reported on the following items:

- No report

MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:23 p.m. The Board is scheduled to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the District's Business Center located at 1036 West Main Street, Grass Valley, California.

Submitted By

Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary