

Nevada Irrigation District
Board of Directors

MINUTES

February 24, 2026

The Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District convened in special session at the Placer County Planning Commission Chambers, located at 3091 County Center Drive, Auburn, CA on the 24th day of February 2026, at 3 p.m.

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

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; 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; Aurora Penaluna, Customer Service Administrator; Andrew McClure, District Counsel; and Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary.

STANDING ORDERS

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- None

CONSENT AGENDA

Public comment: None

MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 11, 2026

M/S/C Johansen/Fowler, unanimously approved as submitted.

FY2027 BUDGET CALENDAR

Received and filed the FY2027 Budget Calendar. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler,, unanimously approved.

2026 SECURITY EVALUATIONS - SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT

Awarded a sole-source contract with GFT in the amount of \$267,535 plus a 10% contingency in the amount of \$26,754 (Total \$294,289) and authorized the General

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Manager to execute the appropriate contract documents and any change orders within the contingency amount. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler,, unanimously approved.

SOUTH YUBA CANAL MAINTENANCE SUPPORT SERVICES SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT

Awarded a sole-source contract to Hansen Brothers Enterprises in the amount not to exceed \$250,000. 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 register, payroll fund certificate, and the Investment Transaction Report for the period January 17, 2026, through February 13, 2026. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler,, unanimously approved.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

WATER RATE STUDY WORKSHOP

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, introduced Erik Helgeson with Bartle Wells Associates, who provided a presentation.

Board Discussion:

- Projects that would drop off under the low CIP scenario
- ADA transition plan clarification
- Grass Valley headquarters stairs
- Scoring and determining what is critical
- Annual CIP scoring
- Difference in replacement/repairs between low and high CIP scenarios
- Difference in cost for planned repairs vs. emergency repairs
- Hydro's contribution towards dam safety work
- Life expectancy of the District's dams
- Scotts Flat and other large capital projects
- Hydro revenues and estimated cost of Hydro rewind
- Future raising of Rollins Reservoir
- High & low scenarios, as related to South Yuba Canal flume replacement/repair
- District canals and how it would play out if there were a canal failure
- Cattle drinking from canals and constructive conveyances
- Current rate on bonds and projected inflation
- Bond funding advantages
- Valorem tax
- Revenue based on model
- Debt service
- Reserves
- Last rate increase
- Changing volumetric rate tiers from 2 to 1
- Typical treated water usage for single family resident

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- Clarification re Slide 19 - Proposed Summer Bill is correct as shown under Projected Summer Bill Comparison
- Comparable Irrigation districts that are entering the Proposition 218 process
- Raw water rate survey comparison
- 5% early payment discount and received Board consensus to bring back as a separate item

Andrew McClure, District Counsel, weighed in on the discussion related to the 5% early payment discount:

- Increasing cost of construction
- Clarified the Board's ability to lower the rate after approved
- Escalation factors and received Board consensus to leave at 4%
- Protecting agriculture, the District and infrastructure
- Costs imposed by state and federal agencies
- Unable to receive unanimous Board consensus on the High vs Low CIP scenarios
- Discussed timing of when to implement new raw water rates by either delaying the start of the increase or by issuing a supplemental bill part way through the season
- Bills for this irrigation season are going out next week, and 5% early payment discount will stand for that billing

Public Comment:

- Laura Peters, resident of Division 3 and former NID Board Member
 - Not seeing addressed how a dam failure would impact water supply
 - Inquired who is paying for Hydro rewind
 - Confirmed the excel spreadsheet handed out during the meeting would be posted on the District's website
 - Inquired about property taxes collected by the District from all properties in the boundaries of the District whether they receive water or not, and the purpose of property taxes
 - Cost to the District for the 5% early payment discount and urged the Board to keep it
 - Asked if the Board has considered adjusting the fixed vs. variable rates
- Mona Bass, member of the public
 - Hind-sight glasses and looking at past cost reductions
- Dean Farquar, member of the public
 - Requested clarification if total on Slide 21 represents only year one and inquired about the following years
 - Spoke in support of keeping the 5% early payment discount and at least waiting until next year after rates increase this year to eliminate it

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- Joe Fisher, member of the public
 - Inquired about the annual total dollars paid to the District from those paying in one installment for the 5% early payment discount and the District's short-term investments with a normal rate of return
 - Voiced concerns about the compounding effects, significant rate increase for raw water users and elimination of the 5% early payment discount

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- Snow survey scheduled for March, and anticipate it will be good due to recent storms

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

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

- No report

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

- Appreciates work being done on Tyler
- Thanked staff for holding this meeting in Placer County

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

- No report

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

- No report

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

- No report

MEETING ADJOURNED at 5:02 p.m. The Board is scheduled to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 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