

Nevada Irrigation District
Board of Directors

MINUTES

December 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 December 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; Monica Reyes, Director of Recreation; 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

- None

President Heck recognized and thanked retiree John Pratt, for his 30 years of service with the District, and expressed condolences to the Pratt Family, as he was sadly killed in a recent accident in Grass Valley.

SPECIAL ORDERS

HIGH SCHOOL FARM PRESENTATION

Luke Browning, Director of Career Technical Education and State/Federal Programs, at Nevada Joint Union High School District, provided a presentation regarding the High School Farm.

Board Discussion:

- Appreciation was expressed for a great presentation
- Skilled agriculture jobs
- Grow crops and variety
- Program progress and projections
- Lincoln High School Farm
- Watering profiles

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- Seeing progress momentum
- Excitement expressed for District participation
- Vocational Agriculture and Training
- Clear Creek Canal on property
- Micro ponds

Public comment: None

CONSENT AGENDA

Public Comment: None

MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON NOVEMBER 12, 2025
M/S/C Johansen/Bierwagen, unanimously approved as submitted.

POSITION / COMPENSATION SCHEDULE – 12/29/2025

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-55 - Approving the Nevada Irrigation District 2026 Position/Compensation Schedule, effective 12/29/2025, which includes a cost-of-living allowance (“COLA”) increase of 2.5% and authorized posting to the District’s website. M/S/C Johansen/Bierwagen, unanimously approved.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-56 - Resolution of Appreciation - J. Tortorici. M/S/C Johansen/Bierwagen, unanimously approved.

2026 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Approved the Board Meeting Schedule for 2026. M/S/C Johansen/Bierwagen, 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 November 1, 2025, through November 30, 2025. M/S/C Johansen/Bierwagen, unanimously approved.

GENERAL ORDERS

BUDGET TO ACTUAL REPORTS - FY 2025 Q3, FOR THE PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, presented the item.

Board Comments:

- Lead-time stretched and inflation
- Borrowing at a lower cost
- Off-book summary

Public Comment: None

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Received and filed Budget to Actual Reports - FY 2025 Q3, for the period ending September 30, 2025. M/S/C Johansen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

DEER CREEK POWERHOUSE COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE (PROJECT NO. 2665)

Peter Wade, Director of Power Systems, presented the item.

Board Comments: None

Public Comment: None

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-57 – Approving transferring remaining funds for the Deer Creek Powerhouse Communication Upgrade Capital Improvement Project (Project #2665) to the 2026 Annual Budget and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler, unanimously approved.

FERC YUBA-BEAR PROJECT RELICENSING CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) SUPPORT SERVICES - SOLE SOURCE

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, and Peter Wade, Director of Power Systems, presented the item.

Board Comments:

- Litigation
- Mitigated Negative Declaration
- Any likelihood of additional mitigations for the District coming out of this EIR
- Requirements for campgrounds and roads and mitigating related potential environmental damages
- Cost of services
- Letting public know how much government is costing the District
- NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act)
- Proposal contains areas that are very precise and others that are vague
- Change Orders
- HDR's good history with the District
- Plan for Water modeling
- Regular meetings with HDR
- Estimated completion

Public Comment: None

Awarded a sole source agreement in the amount of \$700,068 to HDR Engineering, Inc. for consulting services related to the FERC Yuba-Bear Project Relicensing CEQA Environmental Impact Report (EIR) preparation, authorized the General

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Manager to execute the appropriate documents, and adopt a resolution to amend the 2026 Annual Budget to increase the consultant fees budget appropriation for Fund 50 by \$700,068. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler, unanimously approved.

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT - REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD FOR 2026 AND APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER (PURSUANT TO WATER CODE, SECTIONS 21375 AND 21376), EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026

Director Johansen nominated Director Bierwagen as President of the Nevada Irrigation District Board of Directors for 2026. President Heck seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Hearing no other nominations, Director Bierwagen was elected as President. Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division 1	Aye
Bierwagen, Division 2	Abstain
Fowler, Division 3	Aye
Stephens, Division 4	Aye
Johansen, Division 5	Aye

Director Bierwagen nominated Director Fowler as Vice President of the Nevada Irrigation District Board of Directors for 2026. Director Stephens seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Hearing no other nominations, Director Fowler was elected as Vice President. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

Director Johansen made a motion to appoint Kris Stepanian as Secretary to the Board for 2026 (pursuant to Water Code, Sections 21375 and 21376). Director Fowler seconded the motion. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler, unanimously approved.

Public Comment: None

Director Johansen made a motion to appoint Jennifer Hanson, as Treasurer to the Board for 2026 (pursuant to Water Code, Sections 21375 and 21376). Director Heck seconded the motion. M/S/C Johansen/Heck, unanimously approved.

Public Comment: None

The meeting paused at 10:04 a.m., and the Nevada Irrigation District Joint Powers Authority meeting convened.

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY - REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Public Comment: None

Director Bierwagen made a conforming motion to approve the 2026 elected and appointed positions (pursuant to Water Code, Sections 21375 and 21376), effective January 1, 2026:

- **Director Bierwagen, President**
- **Director Fowler, Vice President**
- **Kris Stepanian, appointed as Secretary**
- **Jennifer Hanson, appointed as Treasurer**

M/S/C Bierwagen/Johansen, unanimously approved.

The Nevada Irrigation District Joint Powers Authority meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m., and the regular NID Board Meeting reconvened.

The meeting was recessed at 10:05 a.m. and reconvened at 10:16 a.m.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

NEW JOB DESCRIPTION - ASSISTANT MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, requested to pull this item from the agenda and bring it back at a future meeting.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- Needed rain
- Tyler implementation on track and recognized staff for their hard work

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

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

- Irrigating mandarins and needing rain

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

- LAFCo update and upcoming meetings
- Need more storage
- Commended District staff out working on the Tarr Ditch
- Thanked Director Heck for her role as 2025 Board President

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

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- Excited to partner with the Nevada Union High School Farm
- Undergoing a pacemaker procedure on Friday

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

- Receiving interesting documents related to the District's history from a parent of a past District intern
- Requested a broader conversation at a future date regarding meadow restoration and grazing restrictions, and a robust discussion ensued
- Next steps for District to get involved with the Nevada Union High School Ranch
- Requested Board seating to all sit in straight line
- Thanked Director Heck for her role as 2025 Board President

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

- Thanked Director Fowler for bringing the Nevada Union High School Ranch to the District and pursuing how to partner
- Attended the Nevada County Contractors Association Holiday Gathering, catered by the high school culinary club
- Thanked everyone for a great year and looking forward to 2026

MEETING ADJOURNED at 10:45 a.m.. The Board is scheduled to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, January 14, 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