

Nevada Irrigation District
Board of Directors

MINUTES

March 12 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 12th day of March 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; 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

- None

CONSENT AGENDA

Public comment: None

MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 26, 2025

M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved as submitted.

2025 TALMO & ASSOCIATES INC. CONTRACT

Approved a contract to Talmo & Associates Inc. for the 2025 campground temporary workforce in the amount of \$420,000 and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

LAKE WILDWOOD SYSTEM TANK 4 RESTORATION PROJECT, NID CONTRACT NO. M2025-04

Awarded a contract for the Lake Wildwood System Tank 4 Restoration Project to Euro Style Management, Inc. of Sacramento, California, in the amount of

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\$399,000.00, and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

**SMARTSVILLE TREATMENT PLANT STORAGE TANK RESTORATION PROJECT,
NID CONTRACT NO. M2025-05**

Awarded a contract for the Smartsville Treatment Plant Storage Tank Restoration Project to Olympus and Associates, Inc. of Reno, Nevada, in the amount of \$165,012.00, and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

2025 BUDGET AMENDMENT – HDR, IT/OT MASTERPLAN PLANNING

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-15 - Approving an amendment to the FY 2025 Operating Budget in the amount of \$132,516.00 to carry forward unspent appropriations from the FY 2024 Operating Budget for the IT/OT Masterplan Project. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

**2025 CAPITAL BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR SECURITY ACCESS CONTROL AND
CAMERA SYSTEM REPLACEMENT, PROJECT NO. 2693**

Adopted Resolution No. 2025-18 - Approving an amendment to the FY 2025 Capital Budget in the amount of \$321,000 to carry forward unspent appropriations from the FY 2024 Capital Budget encumbered for the Security Access Control and Camera Replacement Project No. 2693 in Fund 70. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

HEMPHILL DIVERSION FISH PASSAGE PROJECT

Approved Resolution No. 2025-19 - Amending the 2025 Annual Budget (Fund 15 Water Capital) to include \$785,000 to pay for the completion of the Hemphill Diversion Fish Passage Project. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

JOB DESCRIPTION REVISION - REMOVAL OF DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIREMENT

Approved revision to job descriptions to remove driver's license requirements. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

**AWARD OF SOLE-SOURCE CONTRACT FOR SOUTH YUBA CANAL OUTAGE
MAINTENANCE SUPPORT**

Approved a sole-sourced agreement with PGE in the amount of \$248,850. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

WARRANTS, PAYROLL FUND CERTIFICATE, AND INVESTMENT REPORT

Ratified the issuance of warrants by receiving and filing the check registers, payroll fund certificates, and the Investment Transaction Report for the period February 15, 2025 through February 28, 2025. M/S/C Bierwagen/Stephens, unanimously approved.

SURPLUS PROPERTY DECLARATION SPECIFIC TO THE PROPOSED CENTENNIAL RESERVOIR PROJECT

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, presented the item.

Board Discussion:

- Contour lines
- Property Taxes on District-owned properties located outside of the District
- Net revenue
- Selling properties individually vs. bulk sale
- Timeline for awarding listings to a real estate broker
- Sale proceeds to Fund 10
- Any extra special clearances required
- Defensible space and easements
- Phased approach vs. non-phased approach in declaring properties as surplus
- Potential future access needs
- Complexity of dealing with larger parcels and timeline
- Any foreseeable environmental impact triggering CEQA
- Fire liabilities
- Clarification of motion

Director Fowler made a motion to postpone the resolution indefinitely. Director Bierwagen seconded the motion.

Motion failed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division 1	No
Bierwagen, Division 2	Aye
Fowler, Division 3	Aye
Stephens, Division 4	No
Johansen, Division 5	No

Board Discussion Continued:

- Postponing resolution until further investigations done about easements
- Clarification of authorizations and direction in resolution
- Each property sale will require Board approval
- Defining Surplus
- Analyzing larger District-owned properties
- Neighboring ownerships
- Direction given to look at other parcels for potential easements
- Clarified the motion
- Confirmed all real property negotiations will come back to the Board for Board approval

Public Comment:

- Otis Wollan, President of American River Watershed Institute
 - Appreciates level of detail provided by staff
 - Public interest group interests
 - Promoting continued ownership that is in the public's interest

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- Timing
 - Expressed interest in 1451 Dog Bar and requested more time to identify possible public funds
 - Exempt and non-exempt is neutral
 - Spoke in support of a phased approach and not an all or nothing approach
 - Provided the Board with a page from the American River Watershed Institute's website showing what they are doing in the non-profit community
 - Prop 4 funding and timing
 - Potential partnership with County of Nevada, who has expressed interest regarding three of the properties
 - Biological assessment underway and should be done in next 30-60 days
- Michael Hill-Weld
 - Complimented staff and the Board on the quality of presentation and discussion on the issues
 - Expressed his support for proceeding with the seventeen parcels
 - Steward Feldman, member of the public
 - County of Placer in process of general plan review
 - Inquired about investigating if 19-acres may be split to sell home and retain river access
 - Member of the public on Zoom
 - Timing of sales for tenants to prepare
 - Mr. Blevins, member of the public and current tenant
 - Expressed interest in purchasing the property he is currently renting

Director Stephens made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-20 initiating the process of declaring exempt surplus land for certain real property purchased for the proposed Centennial Reservoir Project. Director Johansen seconded the motion.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division 1	Aye
Bierwagen, Division 2	No
Fowler, Division 3	No
Stephens, Division 4	Aye
Johansen, Division 5	Aye

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- Met with Director Fowler and Nevada Union Joint High School regarding proposed high school farm project focused on conservation scaled to large irrigation raw water use

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- Provided an update regarding PG&E repairs and reported on a new issue discovered

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

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

- Requested feasibility study

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

- Commented on his own real estate transaction

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

- Requested feasibility study on power plants

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

- Excited about the school farm and NID's partnership

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

- Off-line powerplants, feasibility study, options and FERC

MEETING ADJOURNED at 10:20 a.m. The Board is scheduled to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, March 26, 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