

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

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WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, MARCH, 30, 2023 – 2:00 P.M.

BOARD ROOM  
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

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Attendees: Ron Kicinski, Chuck Griffin, Don Zdeba, and Jason Lillion

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2. Committee/Public Comments**

Don Zdeba provided an update on the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP) aqueduct releases.

Discussions between staff and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have been favorable, exploring options to capture water for recharge. Staff is working with District consultants to develop a project to maximize beneficial use through recharge to the aquifer.

**3. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)**

Chuck Griffin had no updates from the March 8, 2023, IWVGA Regular Board meeting, other than what was previously reported at the IWVWD March Board meeting.

The next IWVGA meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2023.

**4. Potential Impact of Recycled Water on District's Need for Imported Water**

Don Zdeba reported that during discussion of Item A2 on the agenda of the January 24<sup>th</sup> Board Workshop, Board discussion of potential Strategic Planning Effort, the Board requested to recycled water as an agenda item for the Water Management Committee. Committee to consider discussions with the City concerning recycled water being credited against the District's requirement for an imported water supply to meet its needs.

**5. Brackish Water Study**

The draft Status Report covering the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2022 was distributed for review March 10<sup>th</sup>. The report included a summary of the evaluation of full-scale RO system costs based on recent sampling results from NR-1-D (high TDS/high Boron) and previous sampling results from the Carollo Engineers 2010 study. Before concluding the feasibility of a full-scale plant more analysis is necessary to determine the full costs including pipelines and other infrastructure to determine the 30-year Net Present Value with \$/acre-foot costs.

Final steps before compiling the draft Feasibility Study document include efforts to evaluate shallow well impacts in the Study Area based on existing predicted drawdowns using the

Desert Research Institute (DRI) model. Preparation of the 2022 Annual Report is still in progress. The amended project completion date is December 30, 2023.

**6. Alternate Water Sources**

**a. Exploration of sub-basins within the valley**

John Jansen, with Collier Geophysical, continues to work on the final draft of his report with interpretation of the 104 miles of seismic data that has been reprocessed. It was agreed Mr. Jansen would include determination of net clay percentages along with the net sand percentages he had already completed for each HG zone since clays can contain groundwater as well. The net clay calculations have been completed for all zones and have been shared with Tim Parker. The report will be updated as necessary pending Mr. Parker's review.

Building on the work previously performed by Krieger & Stewart in 2021, at the January 24<sup>th</sup> Board workshop staff was tasked with drafting a plan for exploring potential of the El Paso Subbasin to provide a water supply not currently being fully utilized. Mr. Parker has reviewed the aerial electromagnetic data from the SkyTEM flyover as well as geologic logs in the area and identified potential sites to consider for drilling exploration wells. Paul Gosselin previously indicated the District could apply to Technical Support Services for funding to drill monitor wells. Staff has learned the forms to apply are no longer available on line and have to come from DWR. Mr. Parker has been in contact with the DWR Regional Office by both phone and email and also to the State office by via email. Jack Tung, with Regional Office, expressed reservations about having a non-GSA applicant and is waiting to hear back from the Technical Support Services program as is Mr. Parker.

**7. Future Agenda Items**

The Committee requested an agenda item going forward to discuss updates on the LADWP aqueduct releases.

**8. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm