

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING WORKSHOP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

JULY 18, 2024

The Special Board Meeting Workshop of the Board of Directors of the Indian Wells Valley Water District was called to order by President Kicinski at 8:00 a.m. in the Board of Directors Hearing Room, 500 West Ridgecrest Boulevard, Ridgecrest, California. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chuck Krieger. **PLEDGE**

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** President Ronald R. Kicinski  
Vice President David C.H. Saint-Amand  
Director Charles D. Griffin  
Director Stan G. Rajtora **ROLL CALL**

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Director Mallory J. Boyd

**STAFF PRESENT:** George Croll, General Manager  
Jim Worth, Attorney  
Chuck Krieger, Consulting Engineer  
Tim Parker, Consulting Hydrogeologist  
Jason Lillion, Operations Manager  
Renée Morquecho, Chief Engineer  
Tyrell Staheli, Chief Financial Officer  
Lauren Smith, Recording Secretary

**AGENDA DECLARATION** **AGENDA DECLARATION**  
Recording Secretary, Lauren Smith, reported that the agenda for today's Special Board Meeting Workshop was posted on Thursday, July 11, 2024.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION** **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**  
None.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS** **PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
None.

Jim Worth commented there is need to add a Closed Session at the end of this workshop.

**MOTION:** was made by Vice President Saint-Amand and seconded by Director Griffin to add a Closed Session item to the Workshop agenda. Motion was carried, unanimously by the following roll call vote:

President Kicinski: Aye  
Vice President Saint-Amand: Aye  
Director Boyd: Absent  
Director Griffin: Aye  
Director Rajtora: Aye

**BOARD WORKSHOP**

The Board discussed the possibility of employees carrying firearms if they hold a Concealed Carry Weapon permit. Jim Worth reviewed California laws regarding the matter. The Board agreed to not create a policy regarding CCWs, and to permit firearms in accordance with state law pertaining to CCWs.

**BOARD  
WORKSHOP  
OPTIONS FOR  
CCW**

Amanda Rodriguez, legal counsel, provided an overview on the Brown Act. (Presentation available online.)

**BROWN ACT  
REFRESHER**

The Board heard public comment from Tom Thompson and Rene Westa-Lusk.

Jim Worth provided an overview on "Review of Elections: dos and don'ts". (Presentation available online.)

**REVIEW OF  
ELECTIONS**

**PRESENTATIONS**

Representatives from State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and Local Agency Formation Committee (LAFCo) provided a status on Inyokern Community Services District (CSD) and potential steps going forward, including a rough timeline.

**SWRCB & LAFCO**

The Board heard public comment from Tom Thompsons and Kristi Merrifield.

The Board recessed the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 10:18 a.m.

Tim Parker presented an Assessment of groundwater storage for the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Basin prepared by the Technical Working Group (TWG). (Presentation available online.)

**TWG:  
ASSESSMENT OF  
GW STORAGE  
FOR IWV**

The Board heard public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk.

George Croll reviewed Senate Bill 606 and Assembly Bill 1668. (Presentation available online.) Including a status of the regulation and timeline for implementation, regulatory compliance categories for personal, outdoor, and commercial use. The overall goal is to reduce consumption by almost 30% by 2040 statewide.

**BOARD  
WORKSHOP  
(CONT)  
SB 606 & AB  
1668**

*Due to time constraints the Board deferred items #C.5 - G until the next Board meeting.*

**MOTION:** was made by Director Griffin and seconded by Vice President Saint-Amant to defer the remaining Workshop agenda items to the next Board meeting agenda. Motion was carried, unanimously by the following roll call vote:

President Kicinski:	Aye
Vice President Saint-Amant:	Aye
Director Boyd:	Absent
Director Griffin:	Aye
Director Rajtora:	Aye

With no further Board or Public comments, President Kicinski recessed the meeting and adjourned to Closed Session at 11:32 a.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting was reconvened in Closed Session at 11:35 a.m.

**CLOSED  
SESSION**

The meeting was reconvened to Open Session at 12:02 p.m.

No action was taken that requires disclosure under the Brown Act.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,



Lauren Smith

Recording Secretary

**APPROVED: August 12, 2024**