

# NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MINUTES

December 13, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District convened in special session at the District's main office located at 1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley, on the 13th day of December 2022, at 4:00 p.m.

Present were Chris Bierwagen, President (Division II); Karen Hull, Vice President (Division III); and Directors Ricki Heck (Division I); Trevor Caulder (Division IV); and Rich Johansen (Division V).

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; Doug Roderick, Director of Engineering; Chip Close, Director of Water Operations; Keane Sommers, Director of Power Systems; Steve Prosser, Director of Maintenance; 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 Bierwagen called the meeting to order
- President Bierwagen led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call: 5 Members Present

#### OATH OF OFFICE –Trevor Caulder, Director, Division IV

Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary, administered the oath of office.

#### WORKSHOP ITEMS

#### PLAN FOR WATER MATRIX AND PROCESS CHECK-IN

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, provided a process check-in:

- The final strategic planning document is scheduled to be brought back in January
- January Plan for Water meeting to include Stage 8: Demand, to review some of the demand assumptions before Stage 7: Hydrology and Hydrography

Public Comment:

- None

#### PLAN FOR WATER WORKSHOP - STAGE 6: BASIS FOR PLAN FOR WATER

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, presented the item and facilitated the workshop.

- Planning Horizon Determination:
  - Length of time, considerations, and options
  - Board Consensus reached for a 50-year planning horizon

- Frequency of update
  - Regular updates help to refine and validate assumptions and are useful for capital planning and rate setting
  - Board consensus reached for full updates every 5 years
  - Board consensus reached for annual data updates for some information
- Use of Plan
  - Master Planning
  - 5-year and annual CIP
  - UWMO and AWMO
  - Informs long-term financial planning
  - Informs operations
- Responsibility for Plan
  - Board
  - Staff
  - Board Policy – Board consensus reached to develop policy
- Facts vs. Assumptions
  - Physical processes (runoff, hydroclimatic variability)
  - Future demand
  - Future operating criteria (FERC, VA's)
  - Reservoir conditions
  - Storage management (surplus)

Board discussion ensued regarding demand, fire protection, drought, and looking at agriculture water months, creating a Board policy for the plan.

Public Comment:

- Barbara Bashall, Nevada County Contractors' Association:
  - Provided positive feedback from involvement working on the Regional Transportation Plan, developed with a 20-25 year horizon
- Peter Burns, member of the public:
  - Asked if the model outputs will show or express the level of uncertainty of a given output or timeframe
  - The quality of an assumption informs the level of uncertainty of the result based on the assumption
- Marco Bell, member of the public
  - The model handles demand requirements from a physically based perspective and land use such as crop types
- Gus Tolley, with Geo-Logic Associates and resident of Division 2:
  - Spoke about the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) with a similar framework put in place by the State of California, which has a 40-year horizon, 5-year required updates, and annual report updates
- Peter VanZant, member of the public:
  - Inquired if 5- year updates will require consultants
  - Asked why Ag Water Management Plan is not used

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- Otis Wollan, member of the public, commented on the following:
  - o Proactive drought policy, conservation, and criteria to identify commercial agriculture
  - o Land management following the River Fire
  - o Brief submitted to the administrative hearing officer at the State Board
  
- Traci Sheehan, Foothills Water Network:
  - o Provided positive feedback on bookends and bringing this discussion forward at this point in the planning process
  
- Amanda Hixson, Sierra Harvest Farm Institute Director:
  - o Asked why the Ag Water Management plan is not used and it was because it is not updated frequently

MEETING ADJOURNED at 5:09 p.m., to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 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