

Nevada Irrigation District
Board of Directors

MINUTES

March 25, 2026

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 25th day of March 2026, at 9 a.m.

Present were Chris Bierwagen, President (Division II) and Brad Fowler, Vice-President (Division III); and Directors Earl Stephens (Division IV); and Rich Johansen (Division V).

Director Ricki Heck, (Division I) was absent.

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; 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: 4 Members Present – 1 Member Absent

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Dave Tanner, with the Wiltz Pipeline Association on the Vernon Canal
 - Expressed concerns regarding the 1-Week shutdowns during winter
 - Not reimbursed for the water they are not getting
 - Difficult with cattle, ranches and farms with no water
 - Requested notifications be sent via email rather than U.S. mail
 - Weekend staff needed to help handle smaller issues
 - Requested District staff verify distribution is correct when distribution plate change is requested
- Lily Marie Mora, treated and raw water customer:
 - Urged the Board to participate in developing a statewide water coalition with other agencies to address large infrastructure project issues
 - Shared advantages
 - In-line with NID's Strategic Priorities
 - Requested the District promptly put together a subcommittee
 - Has spoken to the Nevada County Farm Bureau, city councils and Board of Supervisors, and plans to speak with South Yuba River Citizens League

CONSENT AGENDA

The Board requested clarification regarding the following Consent Agenda items:

- 3C. Amendment to Consulting Services for Rollins Reservoir Mapping and Bathymetry Survey
 - o Sedimentation removal and increased cost

- 3F. Watershed CIP Contracts Amendment (CIP Project No. G0005)
 - o Confirmed additional money is for a bond

- 3G. Purchase of New, Replacement 3/4-ton Pickup Truck with Service Body and
 3H. Purchase of New, Replacement 1-ton Pickup Truck with Service Body
 - o Clarifying if these are diesel vehicles

Public comment: None

APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL MEETING ON MARCH 11, 2026

M/S/C Stephens/Johansen, to approve as submitted.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 11, 2026

M/S/C Stephens/Johansen to approve as submitted.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

AMENDMENT TO CONSULTING SERVICES FOR ROLLINS RESERVOIR MAPPING AND BATHYMETRY SURVEY

Amended a consulting contract with PSOMAS Engineering, Inc. for survey services for the Rollins Reservoir Mapping and Bathymetry Survey to increase the amount by \$39,745 for a total contract of \$154,195, and a contingency of \$15,420, and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents and change orders within the approved contingency. M/S/C Stephens/Johansen.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

2026 TALMO & ASSOCIATES INC. CONTRACT

Approved a contract to Talmo & Associates Inc. for the 2026 campground temporary workforce in the amount of \$423,000 and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Stephens/Johansen.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

ACWA JPIA, CALIFORNIA WATER INSURANCE FUND BOARD

Adopted Resolution No. 2026-12 - Concurring the Nomination of John Pang of the Tahoe City Public Utility District, ACWA JPIA member, to the California Water Insurance Fund Board. M/S/C Stephens/Johansen.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

WATERSHED CIP CONTRACTS AMENDMENT (CIP PROJECT NO. G0005)

Approved contract amendments for the Upper Yuba Headwaters Forest Restoration Project (CIP Project No. G0005) contracts, and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Stephens/Johansen.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

PURCHASE NEW, REPLACEMENT 3/4-TON PICKUP TRUCK WITH SERVICE BODY

Approved the purchase of one (1) 2026 Ford F-250 4x4 pickup truck with a service body from Geweke Ford in Yuba City, California, and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Stephens/Johansen.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

March 25, 2026

PURCHASE OF NEW, REPLACEMENT 1-TON PICKUP TRUCK WITH SERVICE BODY

Approved the purchase of one (1) 2026 Ford F-350 4x4 pickup truck with a service body from Geweke Ford in Yuba City, California, and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Stephens/Johansen.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

WARRANTS, PAYROLL FUND CERTIFICATE, AND INVESTMENT REPORT

Ratify the issuance of warrants by receiving and filing the check register, payroll fund certificate, and the Investment Transaction Report for the period March 1, 2026, through March 13, 2026. M/S/C Stephens/Johansen.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

GENERAL ORDERS

WATER SUPPLY UPDATE / SURPLUS WATER DECLARATION

Chip Close, Director of Water Operations, presented the item.

Board Discussion:

- Confirmed water sales out of District are not sold for less than inside of District
- PG&E outages and impacts to water access
- Do not foresee drought conditions this year
- Historic carryover benchmark
- Lake Fuller problems and PG&E repair
- Carryover and Fall water
- Hot summer impacts
- Appreciate the numbers
- In the event of repairs at Fuller Lake, is a plan/analysis underway on how to bypass

Public Comment: None

Adopted Resolution No. 2026-10 - Making a Declaration of Surplus Water Availability for 2026. M/S/C Fowler/Johansen.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division 1	Absent
Bierwagen, Division 2	Aye
Fowler, Division 3	Aye

March 25, 2026

Stephens, Division 4 Aye
Johansen, Division 5 Aye

AGRICULTURAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE & PUBLIC HEARING

Chip Close, Director of Water Operations, presented the item and introduced Lindsay Otto and Luciana Kindl DaCunha with West Consultants and Katie Klug with David’s Engineering, who provided a presentation.

Board Discussion:

- Clarification requested regarding Section 2.1 (Pages 6 and 32)

Public Hearing Comments:

- Lily Marie Mora, member of the public
 - Requested better notification with the ag community
 - Requested presenters use a pointer with an arrow during presentation
- Matthew Marden, Clear Creek Water Association
 - Trying to understand the proposed water rate increases
 - Would like to connect with his Board Director
 - Clarified how to stay informed
 - Ag Water Management Plan appears sustainable and makes sense

Additional Board Discussion:

- Thanked staff and consultants for a stellar job
- Contributions from Plan for Water modeling

Adopted Resolution No. 2026-11 – Adopting, Filing, and+ Implementing the Agricultural Water Management Plan Update. M/S/C Johansen/Fowler.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

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

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

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

- Rain in 10-day forecast
- Recent action on Sites Reservoir
- Recent staff meetings with regulatory agencies regarding the Scotts Flat Spillway

BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ ITEMS / REPORTS

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

- Telemetry on Tarr Ditch
- Succession Planning event at Northstar today starting at 4pm
- Resilience Project presentation on March 31st from 4-6 p.m. at the Love Building

March 25, 2026

- Organic matter in soil and its benefits

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

- Has been applying compost a number of years and immediate benefits seen
- Renewed interest in electricity sales and distribution and revenue opportunities
- Looking forward to more conversations about storage

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

- Seeing rate increases everywhere and shocked at increasing cost to eat out
- Additional sources of revenue to bring down costs
- Revenue credits for tailwater
- Mandarins in bloom and pumpkin fields are being prepared
- Baseball season is in full swing

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

- Thankful for a well and pond on his farm, especially when in dry conditions
- Micro pond benefits
- Spring water and requesting additional winter water
- Crossing fingers for more rain

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN CLOSED SESSION

- None

The meeting recessed at 10:05 a.m. and reconvened in Closed Session at 10:15 a.m.

Closed Session Workshop with Legal Counsel was declared at 10:15 a.m. concerning the following topics:

Existing Litigation (Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1).) All pending litigation in which Nevada Irrigation District is a named party, including without limitation:

1. Michael Rainey and Emerson Pachaud v. Nevada Irrigation District, Nevada County Superior Court, Case No. CU19-084309;
2. In re Petition for Releases from Priority of State-Filed Applications 5633 and 5634 in Favor of Water Right License 11120 (Application 10221) of South Sutter Water District before the State Water Resources Control Board, Administrative Hearings Office;
3. Bay-Delta Proceedings, including the Delta Conveyance Project, the associated environmental document and change petition before the State Water Resources Control Board and the planned update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan;
4. In re Application for Issuance of Water Quality Certificate for Yuba-Bear Hydroelectric Project before the State Water Resources Control Board;
5. In re Petition to Approve Longterm Yuba Accord Water Transfers by Yuba Water Agency before the State Water Resources Control Board, Administrative Hearings Office;

March 25, 2026

6. Nevada Irrigation District v. Yuba Water Agency, Alameda Co. Superior Court, Case No. 26cv169562;
7. Vincent Cauchi v. Nevada Irrigation District, Placer Co. Superior Court: S-CV-0046749; and
8. Gruber v. Select Property Management, Inc., Nevada Co. Superior Court, Case No. CV0002127.

Anticipated Litigation (Government Code § 54956.9(d)(2) or (d)(3).) Significant exposure to litigation; four potential cases.

Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code § 54956.8.) Discussion with District negotiators Jennifer Hanson and District Counsel concerning price and terms of a potential 2026 or 2027 water transfer to parties located downstream of District facilities.

Board Action: None

MEETING ADJOURNED at 11:35 a.m. The Board is scheduled to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, April 8, 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