

Mission Statement

"To provide reliable water and sewer service in a safe, cost effective environmentally sound manner in accordance with community needs."

**MINTUES REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
IDYLLWILD WATER DISTRICT
25945 Highway 243
Idyllwild, CA 92549**

August 19, 2026 – 6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

President Schelly called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

President Schelly, Vice President Priefer, and Director Davis, and Director Stamper. Also in attendance were General Manager Rojas, and Chief Financial Officer Shouman. Director Olson was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

Consent Calendar items are expected to be routine and non-controversial, to be acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion. If any Board member, staff member, or interested person requests that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar, it shall be removed so that it may be acted upon separately.

A. MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting: July 15, 2026

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. Income statements for month ended July 31, 2026
- b. District warrants for July 2026
 - Check #19618-19658 = \$197,021.20
 - Gross Payroll = \$98,744.00
 - Federal/State PR taxes = \$7107.00
 - LAIF Transfers = \$0.00
 - Transfers/charges = \$502.00

C. OPERATIONS REPORT



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DIRECTOR COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

A motion was made by Vice President Priefer to approve the Consent Calendar and Director Stamper seconded.

AYES

Director Stamper
Director Davis
Vice President Priefer
President Schelly

NAYS

ABSTAIN

ABSENT

Director Olson

Motion approved

INFORMATION

2. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

The General Manager will update the Board on accomplishments, challenges that have occurred and key performance metrics.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Stamper about re-doing the tanks. Mr. Rojas said that's our goal we did another one last year we did number 3.

Director Davis asked about the daily flows at the wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Rojas stated that the plant has a maximum capacity of 250,000 million gallons per day (MGD) and currently processes an average of approximately 120,000 MGD, using less than half of its designed capacity.

Director Davis also asked whether the District could conduct smoke testing of the sewer system to identify potential leaks or areas where rainwater may be entering the system and increasing flows during periods of heavy rainfall. Mr. Rojas noted that Houston & Harris had previously inspected the District's entire sewer system using camera equipment. The inspection identified five areas that were deteriorated or causing problems, four of which have since been repaired.

Vice President Priefer asked whether the recent leaks along the highway may have been caused by the recently completed roadwork. Mr. Rojas responded that they likely were. Vice President Priefer also asked whether several other service-line leaks were related to the



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age of the lines. Mr. Rojas explained that the affected lines are older galvanized service lines and that the rocky terrain also contributes to leaks. Vice President Priefer acknowledged that both the age of the lines and the rocky terrain were contributing factors.

President Schelly asked whether it would be more cost-effective to replace aging pipelines proactively through the District's five- or ten-year Capital Improvement Plan or to replace them as they fail. Mr. Rojas explained that when a service line has required three repair clamps, staff documents it for future replacement.

Mr. Rojas also stated that the District plans to work with Fern Valley Water District and use its equipment to replace a service line under the highway. Although he was uncertain how well the equipment would work in that location, the District intends to try it because the service line needs to be replaced.

President Schelly noted that District staff are participating in cross-training, with water and wastewater personnel working together and learning one another's responsibilities. He also recognized that the District has experienced no staff turnover in the past two years and expressed that he was very pleased with the team's collaboration with neighboring agencies.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Jerome requested clarification regarding the survey being conducted. Mr. Rojas confirmed that it was being conducted by the California State Water Resources Control Board.

Mr. Jerome also asked how smoke testing works. The Board explained that smoke would be introduced into the sewer lines, and any smoke escaping from the system could help identify possible leaks, cracks, or improper connections.

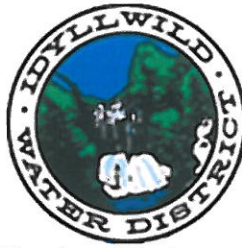
ACTION ITEM

3. EL-CO CONTRACTORS, INC. – FIRE HYDRANT INSTALLATION AT VILLAGE CENTER

The Board of Directors will consider approving a proposal from EL-CO Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$35,000 for the installation of a new fire hydrant at the Village Center parking lot in Idyllwild. The installation is required to comply with the requirements of the Idyllwild Fire Protection District (IFPD), National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 14, and California Office of the State Fire Marshal (OFM) Guideline 01B.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Stamper asked whether the work would require water service to be shut off or affect water delivery to customers. Mr. Rojas stated that it should not affect customers.



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Director Davis asked whether only one bid had been received for the project. Mr. Rojas confirmed that one bid was received. Director Davis then asked whether the District could reduce costs by supplying some of its own materials, such as the fire hydrant. Mr. Rojas stated that he would look into that option.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Jerome asked about the difference between "hot tapping" the existing six-inch water main and installing a tee. Mr. Rojas explained the differences between the two methods and responded to his questions.

A motion was made by Director Davis to approve the Fire Hydrant Installation at Village Center and Director Stamper seconded.

AYES

Director Stamper
Director Davis
Vice President Priefer
President Schelly

NAYS

ABSTAIN

ABSENT

Director Olson

Motion approved

***President Schelly stated that he had spoken with Mr. Rojas, who agreed that the item could be discussed in open session. The Board therefore proceeded with the item in open session.**

CLOSED SESSION

4. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Conference with labor negotiators - Govt Code Section 54957.6
Agency Designated Representative: President Charles Schelly
Unrepresented Employee: General Manager

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.



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ACTION SESSION

5. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO GENERAL MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT REGARDING COMPENSATION

The Board will consider and possibly approve an amendment to the General Manager's Employment Agreement to update compensation terms as discussed in closed session and authorize the Board President to execute the amendment on behalf of the District.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

President Schelly stated that the board wanted to propose a 7% salary increase would be retroactive to the date of the evaluation July 15, 2026.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

President Schelly made a motion to approve a 7% salary increase for the General Manager, retroactive to the date of the General Manager's evaluation on July 15, 2026. Vice President Priefer seconded the motion.

AYES

**Director Stamper
Director Davis
Vice President Priefer
President Schelly**

NAYS

ABSTAIN

ABSENT

Director Olson

Motion approved

DIRECTORS CLOSING COMMENTS

Director Davis commended staff for the excellent results in reducing non-revenue water.

Vice President Priefer thanked staff and acknowledged the significant amount of work involved in responding to the recent leaks. Mr. Rojas stated that staff are doing an excellent job and continue to show up and work together to get the job done. He expressed that he was proud of the team.

Tyla Wheeler, speaking on behalf of staff, recognized General Manager Rojas for the excellent job he has been doing. She noted that he responded to a leak on a Sunday



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and worked alongside staff, and she thanked him for his support and dedication.

President Schelly stated that he believes it is a great benefit to have staff, including the General Manager, living nearby and able to respond quickly when leaks occur.

Mr. Shouman provided an update on the sewer loan and discussed aspects of the application process. President Schelly stated that he was pleased with the District's progress, noting that the necessary steps are in place and the process is moving forward. He added that the Board is pleased with the progress.

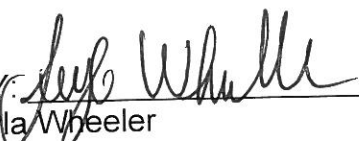
Mr. Rojas provided a preliminary project schedule, with final design anticipated by December 2026, award a bid in April 2027, construction beginning by June 2027, and the project placed into service by October 2028. He clarified that these dates are rough estimates and represent the District's current targets.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board Adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

The next Board meeting is a Regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., to be held at the Idyllwild Water District Boardroom, 25945 Hwy. 243, Idyllwild, CA 92549.

Idyllwild Water District

BY: 
Tyla Wheeler
Board Secretary



Idyllwild Water District

BY: 
Dr. Charles Schelly
Board President