



Mission Statement

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

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

November 20, 2024 – 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

President Schelly, Vice President Szabadi, Director Olson and Director Davis were present along with General Manager Rojas and Chief Financial Officer Shouman.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Moulton asked when the officers were chosen. President Schelly answered January. Director Szabadi mentioned he had asked the General Manger to contact the Registrar of voters and ask them about the dates on which the newly elected directors will be available to be seated.

**President Schelly moved item number five because the auditors were attending via Zoom.

5. CONSIDER ACCEPTANCE OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 AUDIT

The Board of Directors will consider accepting the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 audit.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Olson asked about the assets letter he did not have it in his packet and mentioned he would get it later. President Schelly asked the audit firm representative (Evelyn) about having the General Manager and the Chief Financial Officer being added as “authorized signers” to the bank accounts. Evelyn gave her opinion and said it would be best to just have the General Manger and Board Members be signers on the checks and not to have the Chief Financial Officer sign checks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Evelyn spoke about the process of the audit. She provided a clean opinion of the district finances in the annual audit.

A motion was made by Director Olson to accept the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 audit report and financial statements and Director Szabadi seconded.



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The vote was as follows:

AYES

**Director Davis
Director Olson
Vice President Szabadi
President Schelly**

NAYS

ABSTAIN

ABSENT

Motion approved.

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: October 16, 2024

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

a. Income statement for the fourth month ending October 31, 2024

b. District warrants for September 2024

Check #18568-18627 = \$637,574.27

Gross Payroll = \$75,325

Federal/State PR taxes = \$7,820

LAIF Transfers = \$0

Transfers/charges = \$350.00

C. OPERATIONS REPORT

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

President Schelly made a comment about the operations report, and he thought the 8% water loss was exceptional. Director Olson talked about the 0.77% C.F. decrease in the amount of water sold over the same period from the prior year. Director Szabadi asked if the water sales were still down? Hosny responded we are at normal revenues.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jessica Prierer asked for some clarification on the production report. Bill explained where the numbers came from and explained the production numbers (metered) and billing numbers, the difference between the two represents the loss.



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A motion was made by Director Szabadi to approve the Consent Calendar and Director Olson seconded. The vote was as follows:

AYES

**Director Davis
Director Olson
Vice President Szabadi
President Schelly**

NAYS

ABSTAIN

ABSENT

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 Olson asked for clarification on grants or loans mentioned by the General Manager. Bill responded that he was referencing “grants or loans” that are available for Special Districts.

Director Davis questioned the treatment for the horizontal wells. Bill replied by explaining that we are not treating the horizontal wells it feeds the lake, then eventually goes into the aquifer, and eventually ends up in our treatment process. Bill mentioned that it is a complex system, it is much easier to fill the lake and not treat it twice.

Director Szabadi asked about the weir and the road, and it being washed out, he mentioned he would like to see it done professionally so it's a onetime fee and not a yearly fix. Bill mentioned this was designed by the state and we cannot control the flash floods we get and the amount of debris and sand that gets washed down from the storms. He also mentioned that this has not been maintained for a long time, we will need to maintain this after each storm.

Director Szabadi asked about the review from Dudek. Hosny answered that it was an item on the agenda. Director Szabadi asked what Dudek's general assessment of the plans that was provided by Nathan. Bill's response was it was an overall acceptable workable plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Jerome asked if the horizontal wells are pumped twice or was it all gravity-fed? Bill responded yes, it's all gravity-fed. Steve Moulton asked where the water was when we were cleaning out the creek bed. Bill responded that there wasn't any water flowing at the



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time of our maintenance. Steve Moulton also asked if El-Co was done? Bill responded yes; they are finished for this year.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. DISTRICT TRANSPARENCY

The Board will discuss transparency and what is needed to obtain the Certificate of Excellence and District of Distinction.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

President Schelly asked what the staff found on this and what was needed to be done. Bill responded that all board members need to go to their classes. President Schelly mentioned that there are two trainings needed to be completed he also asked for a list in January for who has and who has not completed their trainings.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Moulton asked about the El-Co work being a million dollars how did that effect the budget? Hosny said it was over a half million dollars of the budget. President Schelly clarified that it was approved in an open session.

4. DUDEK REVIEW REPORT ON 30% PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING FROM CALIFORNIA RUAL WATER ASSOCIATION

The Board will review and discuss the 30% preliminary engineering report and recommendation correction form Dudek

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Szabadi asked about the contract from SRWA and the application from \$15,000-\$20,000. He would like some input from them on how they are spending the money on the product they use. President Schelly asked about the Wi-Fi at the sewer plant. Bill mentioned Mike with SCADA needs to use a radio frequency to tie it into the water system SCADA and make sure it's secure. President Schelly asked how we can overcome possible internet problems and if it can be run manually if it fails? Bill responded we can run the plant manually should the internet fail. The board directed Bill to continue with Dudek.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.



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6. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CEQA FOR STRAWBERRY CREEK

The Board of Directors will consider accepting Resolution No. 800.

President Schelly opens Public Hearing at 6:52 PM.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

President Schelly closes the Public Hearing closes at 6:58 PM.

A motion was made by Director Szabadi to adopt and approve Resolution 800 a resolution of the Idyllwild Water District Board of directors adopting an initial study/mitigated negative declaration (SCH NO.2024101200) of Environmental impact and a mitigation monitoring and reporting program for the Strawberry Creek Diversion structure rehabilitation and the pipeline replacement project, and approval of the project and Director Olson seconded.

The vote was as follows:

AYES

**Director Davis
Director Olson
Vice President Szabadi
President Schelly**

NAYS

ABSTAIN

ABSENT

Motion approved.

7. GRANT WRITING

The Board of Directors will consider selecting a company to write a grant proposal grant for the wastewater treatment plant.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Davis asked what Bill’s thought was on this project? Bill recommends we move forward with Dudek. The Board gave direction to Bill to move forward with Dudek.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.



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8. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

The General Manager would like to recognize Tyla Wheeler for her hard work and recognize to the Board of Directors and sworn as ca.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

President Schelly mentioned that Tyla is a great asset to the district and her knowledge of Idyllwild is helpful. President Schelly swore Tyla in as the Board Secretary.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tyla Wheeler spoke and thanked the board for listening to the community. She mentioned it started out as a rocky year, but they have grown so much in a year and expressed her appreciation for being a part of the IWD team. Steve Moulton asked about the Lead and Copper report and mentioned that he lives in a small remote community that has 50 homes, and they can't complete the report. He said they have talked about using Lake Hemet Water District to complete it for his community.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Szabadi said he wasn't sure when his time was up as being Board Member, but he mentioned he has enjoyed being on the board. President Schelly complimented Director Szabadi for his time on the board and said they had gotten a lot accomplished over the years. President Schelly congratulated Mrs. Priefer as she won a seat from the election. President Schelly added that Steve Kunkle has resigned again, so we have an open seat. President Schelly also mentioned he would like the district to consider using a new auditing firm and putting out an RFB.

The Board of Directors adjourned at 7:13 pm.

The Board moved to Closed Session at 7:20 pm.

CLOSED SESSION

9. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Public Employee Performance Evaluation § 54957 Title: General Manger

The Board moved out of closed session at 7:50pm.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Nothing to report.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

None.



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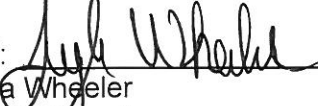
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ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 7:51pm

The next Board meeting is a Regular Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 18, 2024, 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