

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SERRANO WATER DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Serrano Water District met in a special board meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024. The meeting was held at the District Office located at 18021 Lincoln Street, Villa Park, California.

CALL TO ORDER: President Reese called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brad Reese	President
Frank Bryant	Vice-President
Greg Mills	Board Member
Jerry Haight	Board Member
Mike Pelly	Board Member

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Jerry Vilander	General Manager
Jennifer Westrum	Administrative Assistant
Jeremy Jungreis	Legal Counsel

GUESTS PRESENT:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager Vilander reported that he met with the Transparency Committee to discuss the need to update the Serrano Water District website. The committee agreed to update the website at the beginning of the new year. The target completion date for the website upgrade will be at the end of February 2025. General Manager Vilander also informed the board that Paul Cook from Irvine Ranch Water District replied to his email asking for the latest cost estimate of the Santiago Reservoir Dam Project. Paul Cook responded that the cost of the project is sitting at approximately \$ 470 million.

CORRESPONDENCE

Villa Park resident Arjun Mehta faxed over several letters addressed to the Board Members of the Serrano Water District. The General Manager explained he was in no position to respond to the faxes as they were addressed to the President and Serrano Water District Board. In addition, all faxes must be presented as correspondence at a scheduled board meeting, and he will need directions from the Board to respond. Mr. Mehta requested answers to a few questions he posed, as well as more information regarding what he thinks is the sale of Irvine Lake. He voiced his opposition to this transfer in writing via fax. He also asked that the board meetings be changed to evenings instead of working hours. In addition, he wanted the board to consider rescheduling the meetings that have already been planned, to change them to evening hours as well.

Staff explained to the board that they provided a copy of the last town hall meeting documents to him, which should answer most of his questions. Mr. Mehta continues to send letters by fax asking questions and is urging us to stop the sale of Irvine Lake. The Board explained that they informed the community, sent out notices to all the residents inviting them to the town hall evening meetings so that voices could be heard and questions answered. The Board will be moving forward with Irvine Ranch Water District to negotiate and ultimately transfer ownership of Irvine Lake. Also, the Board explained that this is not a sale, it is an exchange of liability for reliability. The Board gave no specific directions to the General Manager to respond to Mr. Mehta. As requested by Mr. Mehta, his concerns are being recorded in these minutes.

The Board of Directors announced that they would be entering into closed session at 3:28 p.m.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

A. Conference with real property negotiators (Government Code Section 54956.8)
Property: Storage Rights and other District Real Property at Santiago Reservoir (Irvine Lake), adjacent to 4621 Santiago Canyon Road, Silverado Canyon, CA 92676.
Agency Negotiator: Jerry Vilander
Negotiating Parties: Irvine Ranch Water District
Under Negotiation: Price and terms

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION –
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)): Two potential cases

The meeting was reconvened in open session at 4:52 p.m., and it was announced that there was no reportable action.

RESOLUTION

It was moved by Director Haight and seconded by Director Mills to approve Resolution No. 2024-11-12 declaring certain District real property as exempt surplus land and authorizing the General Manager and General Counsel to file Resolution No. 2024-11-12 with the Secretary of State. The motion passed unanimously with Directors Haight, Mills, Reese, Pelly, and Bryant all voting yes.

PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT

Director Mills moved to approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Irvine Ranch Water District Transferring Irvine Lake and Related Serrano Water District Assets and Properties to the Irvine Ranch Water District, subject to such modifications recommended by District General Counsel in consultation with the General Manager. Director Haight seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously with Directors Bryant, Pelly, Reese, Mills, and Haight all voting yes.

WATER SERVICE RELIABILITY AGREEMENT

Director Reese moved to approve the Water Service Reliability Agreement with Irvine Ranch Water District, subject to such revisions recommended by District General Counsel in consultation with the General Manager. Director Pelly seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously with Directors Haight, Mills, Bryant, Reese, and Pelly all voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was formally adjourned at 4:57 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on November 26, 2024 @ 8:30 a.m.

Jennifer Westrum
Administrative Assistant