BIGHORN-DESERT VIEW WATER AGENCY

"To provide a high-quality supply of water and reliable service to all customers at a fair and reasonable rate."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

BOARD MEETING OFFICE
1720 N. CHEROKEE
LANDERS, CALIFORNIA 92285
AND REMOTE ACCESS VIA ZOOM

September 8, 2026
EARLIER START TIME AT 4:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER
President called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
President Miller-Boy led the pledge.

ROLL CALL

Directors present:	Rodney Miller-Boyer William Aldridge Megan Close-Dees – Absent with prior notice Jose Martinez JoMarie McKenzie
Staff present:	Jennifer Cusack, General Manager Marina West, Chief Engineer David RewaL, Laun Hanson, Tyler Price, Rosalind Paulino, Lana Keiser-Jazo
Public:	Following Roll Call 3 member(s) of the public were present in the meeting room. There was 0 member of the public participating via Zoom platform.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
MSC[1] (McKenzie/Martinez) unanimously approved.

PRESENTATIONS

25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY RESOLUTION PRESENTATION TO DAVID REWAL

OPERATIONS PRESENTATION
Water Distribution Supervisor Rewal and GM Cusack gave a PowerPoint presentation on accomplishments of the Operations Department over the past several years. They presented on the new A-Booster Station; Goat Mountain Well No. 13 well head tie-in to distribution system and SCADA work. They also reported on upgrades to R-2 Reservoirs and rehabilitation of Reservoirs B3 and B4

completed some years ago. David Rewal also summarized water level measuring at various sites. Other projects mentioned were the emergency response to a leak on Old Woman Springs Highway, replacement of the Landers School service line, valve maintenance program tasks, support to new capital projects and replacement of chlorine sheds.

Questions from Directors were asked and answered.

MBCA – WATER WISE LANDSCAPING PRESENTATION

GM Cusack introduced Mr. Steve Bardwell, President Morongo Basin Conservation Association (MBCA), addressed the Board regarding the 2026 Desert-Wise Living Series partially sponsor through a grant by the Agency. Mr. Bardwell summarized the history of MBCA advocating for the health of the desert and our local communities. He summarized the history of the Desert-Wise Landscape Tours and the evolution of the program from in-person tours to the current format utilizing video content in the 15th year. He thanked the Agency for its financial support throughout the Series. Videos from the MBCA YouTube channel were shown. He further shared statistics on "views" to the MBCA channel totally over 400,000 to date highlighting the impact the program has had over time.

CLOSED SESSIONS –

a. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION [GOV CODE SECTION 54957(b)(1)]
   Title: General Manager
b. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS [GOV CODE SECTION 54957.6]
   Agency designated representative: Jennifer Cusack
   Unrepresented employee: Chief Engineer

Board adjourned to Closed Session at 4:47 pm.

Board returned from Closed Session at 5:39 pm.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT –

Item a. The Board met in Closed Session concerning Public Employee Evaluation of its General Manager under Government Code Section 54957(b)(1). No reportable action.

Item b. The Board met in Closed Session concerning Conference with Labor Negotiator, Jennifer Cusack, regarding its unrepresented employee, Chief Engineer, under Government Code Section 54957.6. No reportable action.

Discussion and Action Items

1. **DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES PROP. 1 ROUND 2 IRWMP IMPLEMENTATION GRANT AGREEMENT NO. 4600013807 (PROP 1 2014): ACCEPT COMPLETION OF WORK, AUTHORIZE FILING OF NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND RELEASE OF RETENTION AMOUNTS HELD TO SOUTH WEST PUMP & DRILLING, INC.**

   Chief Engineer gave a brief Powerpoint presentation summarizing the staff report presented in the agenda packet.

   Questions from the Board were asked and answered.

   Public Comment: None.

Motion No. 26-044 – Accept completion of work; Authorize filing of Notice of Completion and release of retention amounts owed to South West Pump & Drilling, Inc. for Goat Mountain Well No. 13 Development and testing Contract No. PWC25-02 (Department of Water Resources Prop. 1 Round 2 IRWMP Implementation Grant Agreement No. 4600013807)

Jose Martinez	yes
William Aldridge	yes
Megan Close-Dees	Absent
Rodney Miller-Boyer	yes
JoMarie McKenzie	yes

MSC[1] (Martinez/Adridge) unanimously approved.

2. **Consent Calendar -**
    a. Board Meeting Minutes
        i. August 11, 2026 – Regular Meeting
    b. Financial Statements
        i. Financial Report – July 2026 (New Format)
        ii. Balance Sheet(s) – July 2026
        iii. Budget Sheet(s) – July 2026
    c. Disbursements/Check Register – July 2026
    d. Service Order Report – July 2026
    e. Production Report for Bighorn-Desert View System – August 2026
    f. Production Report for Goat Mountain System – August 2026
    g. Capital Project Status Report – August 2026
    h. Receive and File Committee Meeting Minutes
        i. Planning/Legislative/Engineering/Grants Standing Committee – June 23, 2026
        ii. Finance/Public Relations/Education/Personnel Standing Committee May 19, 2026
    i. Corrected Resolution 26R-08 – ID Goat Mtn Standby Liens 2026-27
    j. Corrected Resolution 26R-09– Delinquent Account Liens on Tax Roll 2026-27
    k. Resolution 26R-14 – Approving Form of and Authorizing the Special Districts Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and 2027 Group Insurance Renewal
    l. Resolution 26R-15 – Biennial Review and Adoption of the Conflict-of-Interest Code
    m. SWRCB Grant Agreement No. D2102065: Authorize Change Order No. 4 Task Order CA Rural Water Association for Design Changes Related to the Construction of the Zone B Transmission Mainline in the amount of $16,650.
    n. SWRCB Grant Agreement No. D2102065: Authorize Change Order No. 3 Task Order for Monument ROW for additional Right-of-Way Services related to the Water System Consolidation Projects in the amount of $10,000.
    o. SWRCB Grant Agreement No. D2102065: Retroactive Authorization of Payment of CA Department of Fish and Wildlife Invoices for two (2) Western Joshua Tree Incidental Take permits for the Water System Consolidation Projects totaling $179,986.50.

Recommended Action: Approve Consent Calendar Items a through o, as presented.

Motion No. 26-045 Adopt Consent Calendar Items a-o, as presented.

William Aldridge	yes

Megan Close-Dees	Absent
Rodney Miller-Boyer	yes
JoMarie McKenzie	yes
Jose Martinez	yes

MSC[1] (Martinez/Aldridge) unanimously approved.

3. **Matters removed from the Consent Calendar Items**
   None.

4. **Public Comment Period**
   None.

5. **Items for Next or Future Agenda**
   Dir. McKenzie requested presentation on status of the Agency's Special Districts Leadership Foundation Certificate of Transparency.

6. **Verbal Reports –** Including Reports on Courses/Conferences/Meetings.

   1. General Manager Report – None.
   2. Chief Engineer Report – Reported that the Notice Inviting Bids will be released September 15th with Bid opening October 15, 2026. Most likely a Special Meeting will be scheduled to review and approve the low bid to keep on schedule. MWA Mini-Tour is scheduled for September 16, 2026 from 9am to noon.
   3. Director Reports -
      Director Martinez – Reported on the CA Special Districts Association (CSDA) Conference he attended in August and summarized his thoughts on what he learned at the conference. He submitted written comments for the record. He posed several questions of staff for later follow-up.
      Director Miller-Boyer – Reported on attendance at BIA Conference, MWA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), MWA Regular Board of Directors meeting and CSDA Conference he recently attended.
      Director McKenzie – Reported on the BIA Water Conference, Association of San Bernardino County Special Districts (ASBCSD) Dinner meeting, and CSDA conference she recently attended.
      Director Aldridge – Reported on the CSDA Conference he recently attended. He further reported on a meeting he held with GM Cusack.

7. **Adjournment**
   President Miller-Boyer adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm.

Approved by:

Megan Close-Dees, Secretary of the Board

MSC[1] – Motion made, seconded and carried.

Official Seal