

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
December 18, 2024, 5:30 p.m.**

President Green called to order the December 18, 2024, regular meeting of the Orange County Water District Board of Directors at 5:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the District Secretary called the roll and reported a quorum as follows. Public access was also provided via Zoom webinar.

Directors
Valerie Amezcuia (absent)
Denis Bilodeau
Cathy Green
Dina Nguyen
Natalie Meeks
Stephen Sheldon
Van Tran
Erik Weigand
Bruce Whitaker
Roger Yoh

Staff
John Kennedy, General Manager
Jeremy Jungreis, General Counsel
Christina Fuller, District Secretary

BOARD SWEARING IN CEREMONY (DIRECTORS BILODEAU, GREEN, TRAN, WEIGAND, YOH)

The District Secretary administered the ceremonial oath of office to newly reelected/reappointed Directors Bilodeau, Green, Tran, Weigand and Yoh.

1. Director Service Award

General Manager John Kennedy presented a service award to Director Dina Nguyen for ten years of service and to Director Roger Yoh for 20 years of service.

2. Employee Service Award

Mr. Kennedy presented service awards to Jason Dadakis, Chris Friberg, Eric Gautier, Mark Greening and Linda Koki for 20 years of service.

3. Reorganization of the Board of Directors

A) Election of Officers

The Board entertained nominations for Board officers. Directors Bilodeau, Tran and Weigand were nominated as follows:

**MOTION NO. 24-112
ELECTING DENIS BILODEAU PRESIDENT**

Upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Weigand and carried [9-0], Director Denis Bilodeau is hereby nominated to the office of President of the Orange County Water District; and, the nominations

are hereby closed, and Director Bilodeau is elected President for the 2024-25 one-year term.

Ayes: Bilodeau, Green, Meeks, Nguyen, Sheldon, Tran, Weigand, Whitaker, Yoh

Absent: Amezcua

MOTION NO. 24-113
ELECTING VAN TRAN FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Upon motion by Director Yoh, seconded by Director Green and carried [9-0], Director Van Tran is hereby nominated to the office of First Vice President of the Orange County Water District; and, the nominations are hereby closed, and Director Tran is elected First Vice President for the 2024-25 one-year term.

Ayes: Bilodeau, Green, Meeks, Nguyen, Sheldon, Tran, Weigand, Whitaker, Yoh

Absent: Amezcua

MOTION NO. 24-114
ELECTING ERIK WEIGAND SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Meeks and carried [9-0], Director Erik Weigand is hereby nominated to the office of Second Vice President; and, the nominations are hereby closed, and Director Weigand is elected Second Vice President for the 2024-25 one-year term.

Ayes: Bilodeau, Green, Meeks, Nguyen, Sheldon, Tran, Weigand, Whitaker, Yoh

Absent: Amezcua

B) Interim Reappointment of Committee and Agency Representatives

President Bilodeau announced that he will be making Committee and outside agency appointments and urged Directors to contact him with their requests.

Director Bilodeau assumed the Chair and conducted the remainder of the meeting.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

There were no visitors wishing to address the Board this evening.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Whitaker, seconded by Director Green and carried [9-0] as follows,

Ayes: Bilodeau, Green, Meeks, Nguyen, Sheldon, Tran, Weigand, Whitaker, Yoh

Absent: Amezcua

4. Approval of Cash Disbursements

MOTION NO. 24-115
APPROVING CASH DISBURSEMENTS

Payment of bills for the period of November 14, 2024 through December 11, 2024 in the total amount of \$15,542,962.85 is ratified and approved.

5. Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting held November 20, 2024

MOTION NO. 24-116
APPROVING MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held November 20, 2024, are hereby approved as presented.

6. Resolution Commending Director Bruce Whitaker for his Service to OCWD

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12-152
COMMENDING BRUCE WHITAKER FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE AS AN
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER

WHEREAS, Bruce Whitaker, a dedicated member of the Orange County Water District (OCWD) Board of Directors, was appointed by the Fullerton City Council to represent OCWD's Division 10 (Fullerton) from August 2012 to January 2014, February 2017 to February 2019, and January 2021 to December 2024; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Whitaker successfully led OCWD in accomplishing its core operation to manage, replenish and protect the Orange County Groundwater Basin – Orange County's largest source of drinking water – in a financially sound manner. The basin provides approximately 85% of the water supply to 2.5 million residents in north and central Orange County; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Whitaker championed water reuse by serving on the steering committee for the Groundwater Replenishment System, the world's largest system for indirect potable reuse, which under his guidance, accomplished its final completion with a capacity to produce 130 million gallons of water per day; and

WHEREAS, under Bruce Whitaker's leadership, OCWD garnered accolades for innovation, financial management, public outreach, and excellence in engineering; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Whitaker was a respected, acclaimed and honorable board member who worked well with his colleagues and staff to advance programs and projects that best served OCWD and his constituents; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his role at OCWD, Bruce Whitaker contributed to regional water management as a commissioner and chair of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) that plans and builds projects increasing water supply, protecting water quality and increasing sustainability within the Santa Ana River Watershed. He also served as a board member and chair of the Santa Ana River Flood Protection Agency, a JPA that works to address flood hazards from the Santa Ana River; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Whitaker served on the Fullerton City Council from November 2010 to December 2024, including two terms as mayor, where he prioritized transparency, fiscal responsibility and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Whitaker's extensive public service also includes roles on the Orange County Vector Control District and County of Orange Oversight boards, planning commissioner for Fullerton, founder of the Fullerton Association of Concerned Taxpayers; and statewide coordinator of Municipal Officials for

Redevelopment Reform, among many others. He has held positions in legislative affairs and community development, reflecting a deep commitment to state and local government; and

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Board of Directors of the Orange County Water District does hereby officially commend and congratulate Bruce Whitaker on his dedication and successful leadership at the Orange County Water District. It is with great appreciation and admiration that the Board wishes him well in all his future endeavors.

7. Elections to OCWD Board

MOTION NO 24-117
RECEIVING AND FILING CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION

The certificate of the Orange County Registrar of Voters for the November 5, 2024 General Election certifying the election to the following Directors are hereby received and filed:

Division 2	Denis Bilodeau	4-year term December 6, 2024 through December 1, 2028
Division 3	Roger Yoh	4-year term December 6, 2024 through December 1, 2028
Division 4	Van Tran	4-year term December 6, 2024 through December 1, 2028
Division 6	Cathy Green	4-year term December 6, 2024 through December 1, 2028
Division 7	Erik Weigand	4-year term December 6, 2024 through December 1, 2028

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL AT WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD DECEMBER 11

8. Annex Building Roof Replacement Project- Notice Inviting Bids

MOTION NO. 24-118
AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE INVITING BIDS FOR ANNEX BUILDING ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Publication of a Notice Inviting Bids for Contract No. FV-2024-1: Annex Building Roof Replacement Project is authorized.

9. Garden Grove Wells 22, 26, 27 PFAS Treatment Systems Engineer's Report and Categorical Exemption

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12-153
AUTHORIZING FILING OF CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE WELLS 22, 26, AND 27 PFAS TREATMENT SYSTEMS PROJECT AND APPROVING THE ENGINEERS REPORT

WHEREAS, the District staff has advised that the plans and specifications for the City of Garden Grove Wells 22, 26, and 27 PFAS Treatment Systems Project are currently nearing 30% completion; and

WHEREAS, the Water Issues Committee of this Board has recommended approval of the Engineer's Report for the City of Garden Grove Wells 22, 26, and 27 PFAS Treatment Systems Project and has determined the project feasible, necessary and beneficial to the lands of the District;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), staff has recommended filing of a Categorical Exemption for the City of Garden Grove Wells 22, 26, and 27 PFAS Treatment Systems Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Orange County Water District does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1: Filing of a Categorical Exemption for the Garden Grove Wells 22, 26, and 27 PFAS Treatment Systems Project in compliance with CEQA guidelines.

Section 2: The Engineer's Report for the City of Garden Grove Wells 22, 26, and 27 PFAS Treatment Systems Project is hereby approved, and the project is determined as feasible, necessary and beneficial to the lands of the District.

10. Development of 2025-2050 Water Demand Forecast for Orange County

MOTION NO. 24-119

APPROVING PAYMENT TO MWDOC FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A 25-YEAR WATER DEMAND FORECAST FOR ORANGE COUNTY

Payment in the amount of \$106,526 is authorized to the Municipal Water District of Orange County for OCWD's share of the Orange County Water Demand Forecast to be conducted by Hazen and Sawyer.

11. Award Contract No. LAB-2024-1 Laboratory Washroom Refurbishment to RBA Builders LLC, and Authorize Increase of Existing Purchase Order to IDS Group, Inc., and Budget Increase

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12-154

AWARDING CONTRACT LAB-2024-1 LABORATORY WASHROOM REFURBISHMENT TO RBA BUILDERS LLC AND AUTHORIZING INCREASE OF EXISTING PURCHASE ORDER TO IDS GROUP, INC., AND BUDGET INCREASE

WHEREAS, a Notice Inviting Bids for Contract LAB-2024-1 Laboratory Washroom Refurbishment Project, was published in The Orange County Register on September 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, one construction bid was received on November 13, 2024 for the Laboratory Washroom Refurbishment Project, Contract No. LAB-2024-1: RBA Builders LLC, in the amount of \$959,927.

WHEREAS, the Water Issues Committee of this Board recommends awarding the contract the lowest responsive bid and responsible bidder, RBA Builders LLC, in the amount of \$959,927.

WHEREAS, the Water Issues Committee of this Board further recommends increasing the existing purchase order to IDS Group, Inc. in the amount of \$35,046 for construction support services and increasing the overall project budget by \$145,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Orange County Water District does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1: The Affidavit of Publication of Notice Inviting Bids for Contract No. LAB-2024-1 is received and filed.

Section 2: The lowest responsive bid of RBA Builders LLC, in the amount of \$959,927 is accepted.

Section 3: Increase of existing Purchase Order to IDS Group, Inc. in the amount of \$35,046 for construction support services is hereby authorized.

Section 4: Increase project budget by \$145,000 for a total project budget in the amount of \$1,125,000 is hereby authorized.

12 Increase On-Call Consultants Design Budget to Prepare PFAS Treatment System Designs

MOTION NO. 24-120

AUTHORIZING INCREASE OF ROUND 1 PFAS PROJECT DESIGN/CM SERVICES BUDGET

An increase of the project design/CM services budget by \$5 million for a total of \$30 million is authorized.

13. Approval of Facility License Agreement with Delhi Center for South Basin Groundwater Protection Project Public Meetings

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12-155

AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE FACILITY LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH DELHI CENTER TO CONDUCT PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR THE SOUTH BASIN GROUNDWATER PROTECTION PROJECT

WHEREAS, the District will conduct two public meetings at the Delhi Center in Santa Ana, California to inform the public of the South Basin Groundwater Protection Project Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) and the Draft Interim Remedial Action Plan (IRAP), and to receive questions; and

WHEREAS, the Water Issues Committee of this Board recommends the General Manager execute the Facility License Agreement with Delhi Center for the District's use to conduct public meetings for the South Basin Groundwater Protection Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Orange County Water District does hereby authorize the General Manager to execute the Facility License Agreement with Delhi Center as described herein; and, upon approval as to form and content by General Counsel, its execution by District officers is authorized.

14. Evoqua Water Technologies LLC Resin Media Agreement

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12-156

AUTHORIZING TWO-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC FOR PURCHASE OF ION EXCHANGE RESIN MEDIA

RESOLVED, that a two-year Agreement with Evoqua Water Technologies, LLC is authorized for an amount not to exceed \$13,000,000 for purchase of Resin Media, and upon approval as to form by District General Counsel, its execution by the District officers is authorized.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL AT ADMINISTRATION FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD DECEMBER 12

15. Monthly Cash Control Report

MOTION NO. 24-121
RECEIVING AND FILING THE MONTHLY CASH CONTROL REPORTS

The Summary Cash and Cash Equivalents Control Reports dated November 30, 2024 are hereby received and filed.

16. Investment Portfolio Holdings Reports

MOTION NO. 24-122
RECEIVING AND FILING INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS REPORTS

The Investment Portfolio Holdings Reports dated November 30, 2024 are hereby received and filed.

17. Biennial Review of OCWD Conflict of Interest Code

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12-157
ADOPTING AMENDED APPENDIX A (DESIGNATED FILERS) TO
CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 09-11-163 adopted November 4, 2009, the Orange County Water District adopted its Conflict of Interest Code conforming to the Political Reform Act, composed of the following three documents: 1) Conflict of Interest Code, 2) Appendix A, Designated Filers; and 3) Appendix B, Disclosure Categories; and

WHEREAS, the Political Reform Act requires local government to review its Conflict of Interest Code biennially to determine its accuracy; and

WHEREAS, the Administration and Finance Issues Committee of this Board has reviewed the OCWD Conflict of Interest Code and appendices thereto and has recommended adoption of an amended Appendix "A" to the OCWD Conflict of Interest Code to reflect appropriate staff assignments;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Orange County Water District does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1: The OCWD Conflict of Interest Code Appendix A, Designated Filers, is amended as described herein and is hereby incorporated in and made a part of the OCWD Conflict of Interest Code, replacing the previous Appendix A.

Section 2: The District Secretary is hereby instructed to forward such amended Conflict of Interest Code and revised Appendix A to the Orange County Board of Supervisors for review and approval as required by California Government Code Section 87303.

18. Additional Funds for Refurbishment and Replacement Fund R24024: Recharge Operations Infrastructure

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12-158
APPROVING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR REFURBISHMENT AND REPLACEMENT FUND

R24024: RECHARGE OPERATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEREAS, the fiscal year 2024-25 Refurbishment and Replacement (R&R) budget included \$100,000 to address unforeseen infrastructure and equipment issues associated with the District's recharge operations; and

WHEREAS, additional funding is necessary due to the unusual number of necessary repairs; and

WHEREAS, the Administration and Finance Issues Committee of this Board has recommended additional funds in the amount of \$140,000 be authorized for R&R account R24024 for refurbishment or replacement of field recharge operations infrastructure and equipment; and

WHEREAS, the Administration and Finance Issues Committee of this Board has further recommended Ratification of Work Order No. 4 of Agreement No. 1450 and payment to Doty Bros. Construction Company for emergency repairs totaling \$114,127.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Orange County Water District does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1: Additional funds in the amount of \$140,000 for R&R account R24024 for refurbishment or replacement of field recharge operations infrastructure and equipment are hereby authorized.

Section 2: Work Order No. 4 of Agreement No. 1450 and payment to Doty Bros. Construction Company as outlined herein is hereby ratified.

19. Ultraviolet Light (UV) Equipment Supply

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12-159 AUTHORIZING PURCHASE ORDER TO TROJAN TECHNOLOGIES GROUP ULC FOR UV LAMPS

RESOLVED, that issuance of Purchase Order is authorized to Trojan Technologies Group ULC for the purchase of 1,080 UV lamps in the amount of \$265,025, including freight.

20. Surplus of Equipment and Tools

MOTION NO. 24-123 SURPLUS OF EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS

Items on the Surplus List dated December 1, 2024 are hereby declared surplus, and the sale and disposal thereof is authorized.

21. 2025 OC Water Summit Location and Contract Approval

RESOLUTION NO. 24-12-160 AUTHORIZING STAFF TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WESTIN SOUTH COAST PLAZA TO HOST THE OC WATER SUMMIT

Authorize staff to execute an agreement with the Westin South Coast Plaza to host the OC Water Summit

on September 5, 2025 for a total amount not to exceed \$65,000.

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION

22. Draft Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County Feasibility Study on the Consolidation of the Orange County Water District and the Municipal Water District of Orange County

General Manager John Kennedy recalled that a draft of the Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County (LAFCO) report was released to the public on November 15, 2024 and comments have been requested by December 30. He advised that at the December Water Issues Committee meeting, staff presented a draft comment letter for review. He noted that the Committee requested an edit of the second paragraph of the letter and staff has incorporated that request. He advised that LAFCO's final draft of the report should be received and filed by April 2025 and at that time the Board can decide if they will pursue consolidation further.

Director Meeks reported that she felt the LAFCO report was weak in details and that the proposed response by OCWD did not identify those issues.

MOTION NO. 24-124 AUTHORIZING TRANSMITTAL OF THE COMMENT LETTER TO LAFCO

Upon motion by Director Sheldon, seconded by Director Weigand and carried [8-1], with Director Meeks voting "No", the Board of Directors hereby authorizes transmittal of the presented comment letter to Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County (LAFCO) with modifications.

Ayes: Bilodeau, Green, Nguyen, Sheldon, Tran, Weigand, Whitaker, Yoh

Noes: Meeks

Absent: Amezcua

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

23. Special District Leadership Foundation Certificate of Excellence

California Special Districts Association representative Chris Palmer presented the District with its Special District Leadership Foundation Certificate of Excellence.

24. SAWPA Update

Director Whitaker provided an update on recent SAWPA activities.

25. Water Resources Summary

Mr. Kennedy stated the report was in the packet.

26. Committee/Conference/Meeting Reports

The Board reported on attendance at the following Committee meetings, noting the Action Agendas were included in tonight's Board packet.

Nov. 22 - Property Management Committee
Dec. 11 - Water Issues Committee
Dec. 12 - Administration and Finance Issues Committee

27. Verbal Reports

Directors Bilodeau, Green, Sheldon, Tran, Whitaker and Yoh reported on their attendance at ACWA's Fall Conference in December.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION, [Government Code Section 54956.9(a)] – OCWD v. 3M Company et al.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in Open Session whereupon General Counsel Jungreis advised that there were no reportable items.

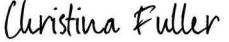
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

DocuSigned by:

Denis Bilodeau
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Denis Bilodeau, President


Christina Fuller 1/17/2025
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Christina Fuller, District Secretary