

Independence Ranch Community Service District

Special Meeting Minutes September 16, 2025

The Special Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The General Manager was asked to call roll.

Present: George Tracy, President; Greg Hamson, Vice President; Bill Mulchay, Director;
Matt Costello, Director, Absent: Cinde Stark, Director

A quorum was confirmed, with four of the five board members in attendance.

Guest (s): Mark Kenyon, Dena Price

New Business:

FEMA – Correspondence was received regarding the costing and details of the repair projects by storm damage that were declared from the period of December 2022, through January 31, 2023. President Tracy talked about the repairs and said Fema wants to close out the project he continued on to say in a response he made to Fema that none of the work has been completed but we were planning on doing some patch repair soon, he explained to Fema that a brand-new board was in place. President Tracy said that OES could give an extension. President Tracy talked about going before OES and that someone would need to travel to meet with them.

Mr. Kenyon asked about traveling to meeting. Why? With all the technology, isn't a zoom meeting possible? President Tracy said that in the past he had to travel to Santa Ana.

Mrs. Price asked so what did Fema ask for? The General Manger read "attached are the costing and details of your project. Due to the trouble, you are having logging into the grants manager I would like to get your permission to sign the project on your behalf to move forward towards funding. I will call later today around 2 pm to see if we can get this going. I just need you to reply to this email with permission to sign this project, if you agree. Please review and respond."

President Tracy made a motion to respond back to Fema giving permission to sign off on the project and move forward to funding, a second by Director Costello. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Legal Counsel - Discuss a plan to hire legal Counsel for the IRCSD. President Tracey started off with saying he will set up a committee of 3 to search for legal counsel for the IRCSD, he feels it is not a one-person job to do so, and this is a waste of time and energy. He gave the General Manager a business card for "The Lawyer Referral & Information Services" and told her to call and said he had met with her in 2023.

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The General Manager responded that this is not a waste of time and energy and I was hired to do a job, the IRCSD needs legal counsel due to the possible litigations and issues you are facing. All I ask for it the authority to search for an attorney and the approval to obtain at least 3 proposals to bring back to the board. This is something we cannot sit on.

A motion was made by Vice President Hamson to give the General Manager authority to seek legal counsel and obtain at least 3 proposals, a second by Director Mulchay. All in favor three (3) “aye”, all opposed President Tracy “no”. With a majority vote, motion carries.

Vice President Hamson noted that after we receive the proposals further direction to move forward would be given to the General Manager on attorney fees and right to hire. Further stating in his opinion, the IRCSD does need legal counsel, Director Mulchay also agreed and stated we have had legal counsel before.

President Tracy still wants a committee to search for an attorney with CSD law. Director Mulchay stated that a committee is not needed this is why we have a General Manager I am sure she will find legal counsel with CSD law.

SLO Tax Collector -Discuss giving authority to the General Manager to contact SLO County Tax Collector to hold the 218-tax assessment until legal counsel can review.

President Tracy said no need to call and we should not stir the pot the tax bills have already gone out. General Manager said all I ask is to get a status report if a hold cannot be placed on the assessment fee since the tax statements have already been mailed out yet due to the possible litigation. Its better to be prepared. President Tracy disagreed. Vice President Hamson stated there is no harm trying to find out the status of the tax bill.

Mr. Kenyon stated that if the tax statements have already been sent out their ways such as an escrow account that could be set up and those funds not used until the issue is resolved.

A motion was made by Vice President Hamson to have the General Manager call the SLO Tax Collector to find out the status of the tax statements, a second by Director Costello. All in favor three (3) “aye”, all opposed President Tracy “no”. With a majority vote, motion carries.

Director Costello stated it is not a big deal; it’s only a phone call. Director Mulchay agreed.

Adjourn - there being no further business General Manager Thompson asked for a motion to adjourn the Special Meeting. A motion was made by Director Mulchay, a second by Vice President Hamson, all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.