



# INLAND EMPIRE

## RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### Minutes of the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District Special Board Meeting

#### In-Person

Thursday, February 6th, 2025 at 12 PM

2024 Orange Tree Lane

Redlands, CA 92374

#### Meeting Link:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/83807570433?pwd=K1oM6vZBMjiPSabvtgIQWISasLLHUB.1>

**Meeting ID:** 838 0757 0433

**Passcode:** 057694

**Phone** 1-669-900-6833

Directors Present: President Rick Gomez; Secretary-Treasurer Rod LeMond; Director Brad Buller; Director Jim Earsom; Director Lorien Sanders; Director David Friedman; Associate Director Alicia Gyllenhammer; Associate Director Andy Okoro

Directors Absent: Vice-President Nancy Sappington; Associate Director Terrie Andrews

Staff Present: District Manager Mandy Parkes; Administrative Programs Lead Jennifer Castillo; Administrative Assistant Valerie Velazquez; Conservation Programs Manager Susie Kirschner; Sustainable Ag Lead Madison Santiago; Forestry Programs Lead Melanie Garcia; Mitigation Programs Lead Jose Mora; Education Programs Lead Gabriela Preciado; Community Engagement Specialist Crystal Valenzuela; Agriculture Programs Technician Autumn Yanez-Jacobo

Members of the Public: Randy Bekendam; Jessica Handy

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

**President Rick Gomez called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM**

#### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### III. OATHS OF OFFICE

**Administrative Programs Lead Jennifer Castillo Administered the Oath of Office for Director Lorien Sanders.**

#### IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. February 6th, 2025 Special Board Meeting Agenda
2. Minutes of the January 9th Board Meeting
3. January 2025 Checks and Agreements Report

Director Jim Earsom made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Brad Buller provided the second. During discussion, directors requested grammatical revisions on January 9th Board Meeting minutes. Director Earsom made a revised motion including edits and Director Buller made a revised second. The motion was approved unanimously, 6-o.

Buller	Aye	LeMond	Aye
Earsom	Aye	Sanders	Aye
Friedman	Aye	Sappington	Absent
Gomez	Aye		

V. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and Possible Approval of Subgrantees and Agreements for the CFDA - Urban Agriculture Grant.

Director Brad Buller made a motion to approve the Subgrantees and Agreements for the CFDA - Urban Agriculture Grant. Director Jim Earsom provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 6-o.

Buller	Aye	LeMond	Aye
Earsom	Aye	Sanders	Aye
Friedman	Aye	Sappington	Absent
Gomez	Aye		

2. Receive and File - 2024-25 Q2 Financial Packet.

**There was no action taken as this was a Receive and File Item.**

3. Discussion and Possible Approval of Associate Director Gyllenhammer’s attendance at the Special District Leadership Foundation’s April Conference.

Director Brad Buller made a motion to approve Associate Director Gyllenhammer’s attendance at the Special District Leadership Foundation’s April Conference. Director Jim Earsom provided the second. The motion was approved unanimously, 6-o.

<b>Buller</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>LeMond</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Earsom</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Sanders</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Friedman</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Sappington</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Gomez</b>	<b>Aye</b>		

**VI. REPORTS**

**1. Department Reports**

**Education Programs Lead Gaby Preciado provided an update on the Education Report. Sustainable Ag Lead Madison Santiago provided an update on her team’s activities, and Board Members commented on support for this programming aligned with best practices for ensuring long-term impacts from use of District funds.**

**2. LRPPG Report**

**Staff provided updates on recent site improvements and upcoming events.**

**3. NRCS Report**

**There was no NRCS report.**

**4. CARCD Report**

**Board members provided brief updates on the work of the CARCD Board.**

**5. NACD Report**

**Board members provided updates on the upcoming NACD Conference.**

**VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. Agricultural Land Conservation Presentation**

**Conservation Programs Manager Susie Kirschner provided an overview of IERCD’s work focused on identifying and assisting in supporting the continued operations on district agricultural lands. During the discussion, Board Members noted their support for the work and desire to continue to focus on continuity between major areas of District work, District Mission and the strategic plan.**

**VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Board Members requested an item in the March packet focused on the evaluation of the current strategic plan and a plan for reviewing and updating prior to the end of the current fiscal year.**

**IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Sustainable Agland Conservation Overview**

2. Funding Agreement with the Wildlands Conservancy
3. CDFA Grant Agreements

X. CALENDAR

XI. ADJOURN MEETING

**President Rick Gomez adjourned this meeting at 2:19 PM**

**Approved this 13th day of March, 2025**

DocuSigned by:

*Rick Gomez*

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**Rick Gomez, President**

DocuSigned by:

*Rod LeMond*

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**Rod LeMond, Secretary-Treasurer**