

## **TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2025**

### **COMMITTEE ON ETHICS**

Mr. John P. Murray, Acting Executive Director

..Title

Authority to amend Ordinance O25-010 Office of Interim Inspector General

..Body

Dear Sir:

On April 3, 2025, the Board of Commissioners (Board) adopted Ordinance O25-010 establishing an Office of Interim Inspector General and establishing the minimum qualifications and duties for the Interim Inspector General (Interim IG Office Ordinance). On the same date, the Board authorized the MWRD to enter into an agreement with attorney Patrick Blanchard to serve as the MWRD's Interim Inspector General. This proposed amendment reflects changes recommended by the Law Department after receiving input from the Interim Inspector General.

Currently, the Interim IG Office Ordinance provides that summary reports must be kept confidential with certain exceptions. The proposed amendment is necessary to explain the limited circumstances under which confidential summary reports may be released and to whom they may be released. The proposed amendment also adds a penalty for any person who violates a summary report's confidentiality.

Further, the Interim IG Office Ordinance currently provides that the Interim Inspector General may only issue public statements regarding an investigation into an individual. The proposed amendment will correct this language to authorize the Interim Inspector General to also make public statements regarding investigations into inefficient or wasteful management, not just an individual's misconduct. The Interim IG Office Ordinance also contains certain grammatical, non-substantive errors and omissions that will be rectified by this amendment.

This amendment more accurately addresses MWRD staff's use of confidential summary reports to effectively address matters of discipline, recommended action, or ethical violations. This amendment also reflects the full intended authority of the Interim Inspector General to make public statements and corrects minor grammatical issues.

It is respectfully requested that the Board amend Ordinance O25-010 Establishing an Office of Interim Inspector General and establishing the minimum qualifications and duties for the Interim Inspector General.

Requested, Patrick Blanchard, Interim Inspector General and Susan T. Morakalis, General Counsel,  
STM:JBM:GML:mmv

Disposition of this agenda item will be documented in the official Regular Board Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners for September 4, 2025

Attachment