

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
MAY 13, 2026
DISTRICT OFFICE

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:** Director Rodriguez (Board President), Director Valdez, Director Peranick, Director Silva, Director Dutcher, Neal Costanzo, Jason Franklin, JoAnn Vierra. Also in attendance: Gordon Saito & Bridget Saito/ Gordon Saito & Co., CPAs

3. **AGENDA CHANGES, ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS:** To better accommodate members of the public or inconvenience in the order of presentation, items on the agenda may not be presented or acted upon in the order listed. Additions to the Agenda may be added only pursuant to California Government Code Section 54954.2 (b).

4. **POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** Any Board member who has a potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter.

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** All items listed under the Consent Calendar category are considered routine. The complete Consent Calendar will be enacted by one motion by roll call vote. For purposes of discussion, any Board member may have an item removed from the Consent Calendar and made part of the regular agenda. The Board can then approve the remainder of the Consent Calendar.
 - 5.1 Consideration and approval of the regular meeting minutes of the Board of Directors of 04/08/26
 Motion By: Director Valdez **Second By:** Director Peranick
 Directors Valdez, Peranick, Rodriguez, Silva & Dutcher voted to accept the minutes as presented.
 - 5.2 The Bills Payable for April 2026 as presented.
 Recommended Action: Approve the Consent Calendar as presented or modified by the Board.
 Motion By: Director Dutcher **Second By:** Director Peranick
 Directors Dutcher, Peranick, Rodriguez, Valdez & Silva voted to accept the minutes as presented.

6. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: NOTICE(S) TO THE PUBLIC:** At this time, any member of the public may address the Board of Directors regarding any item not on the meeting agenda over which the Board has jurisdiction. No action or discussion will be taken on any item not on the agenda. Issues raised will be referred to the General Manager for review. Members of the public shall limit their remarks to five (5) minutes.

7. **PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE**

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - 8.1. Introduction/Gordon Saito & Co., CPAs
 Gordon Saito introduced himself and Bridget Saito and provided some basic background info, informing that he’s been a CPA since the 1980’s and has been working solo since 1984. The firm provides accounting services for a couple of other water districts & some non-profit businesses, but the bulk of their work is personal tax returns. They have a staff of approximately 12, and their office is located in the area of Palm & Alluvial in Fresno.
 Director Dutcher then opened the discussion regarding the District’s accounting processes and inquiring regarding monthly P & L reports. Gordon informed that he doesn’t recommend monthly statements because they can be skewed due to the timing of payments, but states that quarterly or bi-annual statements will provide a more accurate financial picture. Bridget will work with the District to determine what they think would work best. The Board stated that they are not thinking that there is a problem in the District’s accounting, only that they are seeking recommendations on ways that the District might streamline or improve on what’s currently being done. They are also seeking to make the reports more comprehensible to board members. Gordon estimates that they should have something for the board either at the October or November meetings, after the Sept. 30 quarter-end.
 - 8.2 Engineers Report—Harrison is not present. Jason informed that he is out on Paternity Leave due to the birth of their second child. The Board stated that we should send them some kind of acknowledgement gift from the District. Jason & JoAnn will take care of that.

9. **DEFERRED BUSINESS: NONE**

10. **CORRESPONDENCE: NONE**

11. BOARD AND STAFF REPORTS:

11.1 Manager’s Report

11.1.1 Revenue report thru April 30 was provided for informational purposes. Director Dutcher inquired regarding when the schools will get the first billing for the new meters & Jason informed that should be in the next month.

11.1.2 2026-27 Proposed Budget & Projected Revenue

Jason informed that the numbers do not include the rate increase that will be implemented after the current rate study that’s in process. JoAnn informed that the current target date for the next increase is November 1, 2026 which is 5 months into the District’s fiscal year & this will increase the Projected Revenue. Further discussion continued regarding the Proposed Budget, etc., with the outcome being that JoAnn is going to take a look at the costs for Employee Health Insurance (1.5651) & she will report back to the board with the information.

11.1.3 Jason reports that the District’s backhoe has been having issues for some time and Bobcat/Fresno has not been able to repair it due to its age and the unavailability of parts. Currently it cuts out and stops running at random intervals. Jason states that the District is going to need another backhoe, and that he’s going to be checking auction sites, etc. to see what type of cost would be involved. Jason states that the District has had to enlist subcontractors to do the work on leak repairs vs. the District doing the work. It was suggested that there be a budget item for backhoe replacement.

11.1.4 Jason reports that the female owner of the property directly to the East of the District inquired whether the District would be willing to contribute to the cost of security fencing between our properties. Jason asked her to provide the District with a cost estimate for what she wants and we will present it to the board. As of this meeting, we have not heard back from her.

Director Peranick inquired regarding the driveway at the District’s proposed well yard on Alluvial, Jason replied that he has not heard anything but perhaps Neal has some information. Director Dutcher inquired whether Neal had information, to which Neal confirmed that he does have information.

11.2 Attorney’s Report

11.2.1 Neal requested an additional Closed Session item to be added to this agenda, making it 2 potential items for litigation, so that he may elaborate on the above-referenced question regarding the driveway at the District’s proposed well yard on Alluvial.

Motion by: Director Dutcher Second by: Director Silva

All board members voted in favor to change the Closed Session from 1 potential item to 2 potential items

11.3 Board President's Report: NONE

11.4 Director’s Report(s): Director Silva states she hopes to be able to take some time off to come to the District office to work on the Board by-laws.
12. ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned to Closed Session at 5:49 p.m.

Motion By: Director Dutcher Second By: Director Peranick

All voted in favor to adjourn to Closed Session.
13. CLOSED SESSION:

13.1 Potential Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9

Two (2) Potential Cases
14. RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION: 6:21 p.m.

14.1 Reportable Action: None
15. ADJOURNMENT: Reconvened meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Motion By: Director Dutcher Second By: Director Peranick

All voted in favor to adjourn.

APPROVED BY: SUBMITTED BY:

DAVID RODRIGUEZ JOANN VIERRA

BOARD PRESIDENT

DISTRICT SECRETARY