



# Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 5/14/2026 | 9:30 AM

Location: SLDMWA Boardroom  
842 6th Street, Los Banos

## San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes

### Board of Directors Present

- Division 1: Bobby Pierce, Director (Item 2)  
Anthea Hansen, Director  
Ed Pattison, Director
- Division 2: Justin Diener, Director  
William Bourdeau, Director  
Beau Correia, Alternate (Item 3)  
Lon Martin, Alternate
- Division 3: Jarrett Martin, Director (Item 11)
- Division 4: Aaron Baker, Alternate  
Richard Santos, Director  
Dana Jacobson, Director  
Brett Miller, Alternate
- Division 5: Allison Febbo, Director  
Manny Amorelli, Director
- Friant Representative:  
Eric Limas, Alternate

### Authority Representatives Present

- Federico Barajas, Executive Director
- Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer
- Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
- Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel
- Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
- Ray Tarka, Director of Finance
- Lauren Viers, Accounting Manager
- Jaime McNeil, Engineering Manager
- Cindy Meyer, Special Programs Manager (ZOOM)
- Stewart Davis, IT Officer
- Eddie Reyes, Information Systems Technician

### Others Present

- Mitch Partovi, Water Agency
- Danny Wade, Tranquillity Irrigation District
- Kristin Olsen-Cate, California Strategies (ZOOM)
- Michelle Paul, Farm Water Coalition
- Ron Milligan, Milligan Consulting (ZOOM)

## Agenda

Item	Topic	Lead
1.	<b>Call to Order/Roll Call</b> – The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. by Vice-Chair William Bourdeau and roll was called.	
2.	<b>Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.</b> – General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd explained that the need for action on a new item, approval of a Funding Agreement for the DMC Subsidence Correction Project, had arisen after the agenda had been posted. She queried whether the Board desired to add the item as item 12c on the agenda. M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Justin Diener, the Board approved adding the DMC Funding Agreement item to the agenda. Vote: Ayes – Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Lon Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.	

3. **Opportunity for Public Comment** – No public comment.
4. **Agenda Items 4-8: Board to Consider: 4) March 5, 2026 Meeting Minutes, 5) Acceptance of the Financial & Expenditures Reports, and 6) Treasurer’s Report, 7) Acceptance of Staff Reports, 8) Execution of Agreement for Fuel Delivery Services and Expenditure of Up to \$300,000 from the FY 2027 OM&R Budget** - M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Bobby Pierce, the Board accepted the March 5, 2026 meeting minutes, financial & expenditure reports, treasurer’s report, staff reports, and execution of agreement for fuel delivery services and expenditure of up to \$300,000 from the FY 2027 OM&R Budget. Vote: Ayes – Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Correia, Lon Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli, Limas; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.
5. **Agenda Item 9: Water Resources Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Resolution Providing Support for ACWA Vision for Our Water Future** - Executive Director Federico Barajas reviewed the documents included in the packet. Barajas reported that ACWA is encouraging members to help elevate the Vision for Our Water Future by adopting a resolution or proclamation in support. Barajas reported that ACWA’s Vision for Our Water Future seeks to elevate water as a top priority for California’s next governor, legislative leadership, and state officials. Barajas reported that the four key priorities associated with this Vision are (1) Lead on Water, (2) Protect Affordability, (3) Deliver Critical Infrastructure, and (4) Modernize Water Management.  
M/S - Motion by Alternate Aaron Baker, seconded by Director Richard Santos, the Board adopted resolution providing support for ACWA Vision for Our Water Future. Vote: Ayes - Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Correia, Lon Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0. Barajas
6. **Agenda Item 10: Water Resources Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Staff Recommendation on Positions on Legislation** Petersen
- A. **H.R. 8259 (Bentz), Reclamation Project Consultation Improvement Act of 2026** - Support & Amend
  - B. **A.B. 2214 (Jackson), Government finance: deposits** - Not Favor
  - C. **A.B. 2215 (Calderon), Water rights: permits: State Water Project** - Watch
  - D. **A.B. 2216 (Aguiar-Curry), Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy** - Watch
  - E. **A.B. 2447 (Bauer-Kahan), Water: Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act** - Oppose
  - F. **A.B. 2739 (Soria), Water: affordability and system stabilization** - Support
  - G. **S.B. 1001 (Archuleta), Local agency, public utility, or mutual water company: personnel access: Person Identity Verification-Interoperable** - Favor
- Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reviewed the staff recommendation for positions on seven pieces of legislation, which were

recommended for adoption by the Water Resources Committee. Petersen answered questions throughout the presentation.

M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Dana Jacobson, the Board adopted the staff recommendations for positions on H.R. 8259, A.B. 2214, A.B. 2215, A.B. 2216, A.B. 2447, A.B. 2739, and S.B. 1001. Vote: Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Correia, Lon Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

7. **Agenda Item 11: Finance & Administration Committee Recommendation Regarding Acceptance of Final Fiscal Year 2024 Audited Financial Statements** – Finance Director Ray Tarka presented the FY24 audited financial statements, Governance letter, and the Management letter. Tarka reported that the Audit Partner was at the May Finance & Administration Committee (FAC) meeting and reviewed the statements. Tarka commended Finance staff for completing two audits in eight months. Tarka reported that there were no disagreements and reviewed key points. Director Anthea Hansen reported that the FAC recommended approval of the Fiscal Year 2024 Audited Financial Statements and also commended staff for their work.

Tarka

M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Dana Jacobson, the Board accepted the final Fiscal Year 2024 Audited Financial Statements. Vote: Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Correia, Lon Martin, Jarrett Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli, Limas; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

8. **Agenda Item 12: Planning Committee and Finance & Administration Committee Recommendations Related to DMC Subsidence Correction Project** – Executive Director reviewed the items included in the packet.

Barajas,  
Arroyave,  
McNeil

**A. Revisions to Cost Allocation for Phase 1** – Barajas reported that staff, the Planning Committee, and the Finance & Administration Committee recommended utilizing non-reimbursable funds only for Phase 1 of the DMC Subsidence Correction Project.

**B. Revisions to Scope for Phase 1** – Barajas reported that staff and the Finance & Administration Committee recommends a revised scope for Phase 1 of the DMC Subsidence Correction Project consistent with the following: 1) Task 1: No changes, 2) Task 2: Revised (expanded sag area repairs on upper DMC, 3) Task 3: Replaced (instead of panel repair program, address three critical bridges on upper DMC, 4) Task 4: Replaced (instead of panel repair program, address 1-2 critical bridges on lower DMC).

Engineering Manager Jaime McNeil presented a PowerPoint presentation, which included a summary of available non-reimbursable funding, recap of options presented in April, revised Phase 1 scope summary, Phase 1-Task 1 status update, high priority bridge replacements, revised Phase 1 – Walkdown table, and a review of next steps.

C. **Funding Agreement** – Barajas reviewed the handout that was distributed during the meeting. Barajas reported that Reclamation had shared a draft Funding Agreement for non-reimbursable funding. General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd explained that staff is requesting the Board authorize the Funding Agreement in substantial form.

M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Jarrett Martin, the Board approved the revisions to funding source for Phase 1, revisions to Scope for Phase 1, and the Funding Agreement for the DMC Subsidence Correction Project. Vote: Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Correia, Lon Martin, Jarrett Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli, Limas; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

9. **Agenda Item 13: Finance & Administration Committee Recommendation Regarding Ratification of Execution of Change Orders for Jones Pumping Plant Unit 5 Leak Investigation & Repair Project and Increase in Expenditures of Up to \$264,898 from the FY 2026 EO&M Budget** - Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reviewed the documents included in the packet. Arroyave, McNeill

A. **Unit 5 Impeller Balancing Construction Agreement with Unico Mechanical Corp.** – Arroyave reported that staff and Unico discovered that the condition of the Unit 5 impeller posed operational issues to Unit 5 if it were not corrected, and delaying the impeller work would cause the loss of water delivery services.

B. **JPP Pump Casing and Bifurcation Pipe Recoating Construction Agreement with Hartman-Walsh Painting Company** – Arroyave reported that the extent of the damage to the Unit 5 suction elbow and pump casing was much greater than anticipated, and the repair work is necessary to ensure a quality finish is achieved when coatings are applied. Arroyave reported that the Authority immediately authorized the Change Order to proceed with work to prevent any further delays.

M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Manny Amorelli, the Board ratified execution of Change Orders for Jones Pumping Plant Unit 5 Leak Investigation & Repair Project and increase in expenditures of up to \$264,898 from the FY 2026 EO&M Budget. Vote: Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Correia, Lon Martin, Jarrett Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli, Limas; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

10. **Agenda Item 14: Actions Related to North to South Water Transfers** – Deputy General Counsel Rebecca Harms reviewed the documents included in the packet. Harms, Executive Director Federico Barajas, and Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave answered questions throughout the presentation. Arroyave, Harms, Meyer

A. **Adoption of Resolution Approving Initial Study and Adopting Addendum to Revised Long-Term Water Transfers EIR for 2026-2027 North to South Water Transfers** - M/S: Motion by Director

Richard Santos, seconded by Director Allison Febbo, the Board adopted resolution approving initial study and adopting addendum to revised Long-Term Water Transfers EIR for 2026-2027 North to South Water Transfers. Vote: Ayes – Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Correia, Lon Martin, Jarrett Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0

**B. Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Execution of 2026 Water Purchase and Sale Agreements Pursuant to Addendum and Related Actions - M/S:** Motion by Alternate Lon Martin, seconded by Director Justin Diener, the Board Adopted Resolution Authorizing Execution of 2026 water purchase and sale agreements pursuant to addendum and related actions. Vote: Ayes – Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Correia, Lon Martin, Jarrett Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0

**C. Authorization to Execute Letter Agreement with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for Reimbursement of Costs Incurred for Assistance with 2026 North to South Water Transfers - M/S:** Motion by Director Justin Diener, seconded by Director Richard Santos, the Board authorized to execute Letter of Agreement with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for reimbursement of costs incurred for assistance with 2026 North to South Water Transfers. Vote: Ayes – Pierce, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Correia, Lon Martin, Jarrett Martin, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

11. **Agenda Item 15: Report on Strategic Plan Implementation – Executive** Barajas  
Director Federico Barajas reviewed the document included in the packet. Barajas provided a summary briefing regarding end of Fiscal Year 2026 priority actions. Barajas reviewed Fiscal Year 2027 priority implementation actions. Barajas reported that staff have identified eight core priority items and twenty-four high priority items to be targeted specifically during the fiscal year. Barajas answered questions throughout the presentation.
12. **Agenda Item 16: Update on Status of Golden Mussels – Chief Operating** Arroyave,  
Officer Pablo Arroyave reviewed the memo included in the packet. Arroyave reported that the Authority continues to focus on near-term actions, which includes installing Bio-Boxes at Jones Pumping Plant and O’Neill Pumping/Generating Plant. Arroyave reported that staff will support the organization and facilitation of monthly coordination meetings with the assistance of Kearns & West through July 2026. Water Policy Director Scott Petersen and Special Programs Manager Cindy Meyer provided additional information. Staff answered questions throughout the presentation. Petersen, Meyer
13. **Agenda Item 17: Report on State & Federal Affairs – Water Policy** Petersen  
Director Scott Petersen provided federal updates including the FY27 appropriations, golden mussel legislative response, Western drought response letter, ESA Amendments Act of 2025, and Water Resources

Development Act. Petersen additionally provided a California legislative update. Petersen introduced Kristin Olsen-Kate, who provided a State Affairs update. Petersen and Olsen-Kate answered questions throughout the presentation.

14. **Agenda Item 18: Executive Director’s Report** Barajas
- a. **Organizational Framework** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that organizational restructuring is taking place. Barajas reported that Water Policy Director Scott Petersen will assume oversight of Human Resources and Finance and that Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave will be focusing on O&M/EO&M/CIP. Barajas reported that there will also be restructuring of the Engineering Department.
  - b. **Joint Use Facilities Cost Share** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that staff continues to have conversations with both Reclamation and Department of Water Resources regarding Joint Use Facilities cost share. Barajas reported that Reclamation is reviewing the approval processes and CVP contractors will now be included in conversations with Reclamation and DWR.
  - c. **CASP Program** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that there has been progress in technical and policy level discussions with DWR and the State Water Contractors. Barajas reported that both technical and policy working groups have been established with members from the Authority and General Managers from districts who rely on the San Luis Canal involved, and an ad hoc working group will be established to review the long-term CASP Implementation plan.
15. **Agenda Item 19: Chief Operating Officer’s Report** Arroyave
- a. **Yuba Transfers** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that it was confirmed by both DWR and Yuba that this is a Schedule 2 year, which means if the Delta is balanced in June, up to 30,000-acre feet of water could be available.
  - b. **Operations** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave provided a brief update regarding Jones Pumping Plant operations, indicating that staff is preparing for 5-unit operations next week.
16. **Agenda Item 20: Update on Water Operations and Forecasts** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave referenced the current forecasts included in the packet. Ron Milligan provided updates regarding operations, CVP supply, and reservoir storage. Milligan answered Board member questions throughout the presentation. Arroyave, Milligan
17. **Agenda Item 21: Committee Reports** – No reports.
18. **Agenda Item 22: Outside Agency/Organization Reports**
- a. **Family Farm Alliance (FFA)** – Report included in the packet. Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that there will be a small Board leadership retreat in July.

- b. **Farm Water Coalition** – Michelle Paul reviewed the report included in the packet and provided additional information.
- c. **Association of California Water Agencies** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the ACWA conference took place in Sacramento, including major announcements.
- d. **San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint Effort** – Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief update.
- e. **San Joaquin Collaborative Action Plan** – Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided a brief update.
- f. **Central Valley Project Water Association** – Director Anthea Hansen reported that there is a strategic plan workshop scheduled next week.
- g. **Great Valley Farm Water Partnership (GVFWAP)** – Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reported that GVFWAP is meeting next week and will be focusing on high priority projects.

- 19. **Agenda Item 23: Board Member Reports** – No reports.
- 20. **Agenda Items 24-26: Closed Session** – Vice-Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:51 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 12:24 p.m., Vice-Chair William Bourdeau reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.
- 21. **Agenda Item 27: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)** – No reports.
- 22. **Agenda Item 28: Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:25 p.m.