Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 8/6/2026 | 9:30 AM
Location: SLDMWA Boardroom

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

Board of Directors Present

Division 1: Dave Weisenberger, Director
Vince Lucchesi, Alternate
Anthea Hansen, Director
Ed Pattison, Director
Division 2: Justin Diener, Director
William Bourdeau, Director
Aaron Barcellos, Director
Lon Martin, Alternate
Division 3: Chris White, Alternate
Cannon Michael, Chair/Director
Mike Gardner, Alternate
Division 4: Aaron Baker, Alternate
Richard Santos, Director
Dana Jacobson, Director
Joe Tonascia, Director
Brett Miller, Alternate
Division 5: Allison Febbo, Director (ZOOM)
Manny Amorelli, Director
Friant Representative:
Absent

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Pablo Arroyave, Chief Operating Officer
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel
Scott Petersen, Chief Strategic & Admin. Officer
Ray Tarka, Director of Finance
Cindy Meyer, Special Programs Manager (ZOOM)
Jordan Freed, Legal/Legislative Policy Clerk
Stewart Davis, IT Officer
Eddie Reyes, Information Systems Technician

Others Present

Chris Linneman, Summers Engineering
Mitch Partovi, Water Agency
Kristin Olsen-Cate, California Strategies (ZOOM)
Cindy Kao, Valley Water
Chase Hurley, Pacheco Water District
John Wiersma, Henry Miller Reclamation District
Levi Johnson, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Scott Taylor, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Bill Pucheu, Tranquillity Irrigation District
Rodney Wade, Tranquillity Irrigation District
Danny Wade, Tranquillity Irrigation District
Jerry Salvador, Tranquillity Irrigation District
Giana Olivera, Tranquillity Irrigation District
Tom Gibson, Department of Water Resources
Nancy Vogel, Department of Water Resources
Wilson Orvis, Friant Water Authority
Jose Gutierrez, Westlands Water District (ZOOM)

Agenda Item	Topic	Lead
1.	**Call to Order/Roll Call** – The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. by Chair Cannon Michael and roll was called. During roll call, Director Allison Febbo was identified as participating remotely pursuant to Government Code section 54953.8.3(c)(1) for just cause.	
2	**Additions or Corrections to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq. –** No additions or corrections.	
3.	**Opportunity for Public Comment –** No public comment.	

4.	**Agenda Items 4-5: Closed Session –** Chair Cannon Michael adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 9:34 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 10:04 a.m., Chair Cannon Michael reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.	Akroyd, Barajas
5.	**Agenda Items 6 – 9: Board to Consider: 6) July 9, 2026 Meeting Minutes, 7) Acceptance of the Financial & Expenditures Reports, 8) Treasurer's Report, and 9) Acceptance of Staff Reports –** M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director William Bourdeau, the Board accepted the July 9, 2026 meeting minutes, financial & expenditure reports, Treasurer's Report, and staff reports. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Lucchesi, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Lon Martin, White, Michael, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Tonascia, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.	
6.	**Agenda Item 10: Grassland Basin Drainage Steering Committee ("GBDSC") Recommendation to Adopt Resolution Authorizing Certain Actions in Furtherance of Transitioning Committee Activities to the Grassland Basin Authority ("GBA")** **A. Transition the Water Authority's status as a "Discharger" under Order R5-2019-0077 to the GBA** **B. Transition the Water Authority's status as a "third-party representative" under Order R5-2015-0095-07 to the GBA** **C. Transition the Water Authority's rights and responsibilities under its Use Agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to the GBA** Deputy General Counsel Rebecca Harms reviewed the memo included in the packet. Harms described the transition activities that would be authorized by the resolution. Harms reported that Authority staff will proceed in coordinating with the GBDSC, GBA, and all other necessary parties to accomplish the actions required for transition. Regional Drainage Coordinator Chris Linneman reported that staff is targeting 6-18 months to complete this transition. Harms and Linneman answered questions throughout the presentation. On a motion made by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Alternate Chris White, the Board adopted Resolution authorizing certain actions in furtherance of transitioning Committee activities to the Grassland Basin Authority ("GBA"). Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Lucchesi, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Lon Martin, White, Michael, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Tonascia, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.	Harms
7.	**Agenda Item 11: Water Resources Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Staff Recommendation for Positions on Legislation** **A. H.R. 8876 (Walberg), Aquatic Invasives Species Control and Prevention Act of 2026** Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen reviewed the staff and Water Resources Committee recommendation for a support and	Petersen

amend position on the listed piece of legislation. Petersen answered questions throughout the presentation.

M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Alternate Aaron Baker, the Board adopted the Staff Recommendation for Position on Legislation. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Lucchesi, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Lon Martin, White, Michael, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Tonascia, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

8. **Agenda Item 12: Water Resources Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Execution of Letter Agreement for Westlands Water District Formula for Long Term Water Supply Project ("FLOWS Project") and Westlands Water District FLOWS Project Activity Agreement -** Executive Director Federico Barajas reviewed the items included in the packet. Barajas reported that adopting the proposed resolution, executing the proposed Letter of Agreement, and executing the Activity Agreement would allow Reclamation to make non-reimbursable funding available to the Water Authority for the project prior to the funding expiration date. Barajas further explained that the Water Authority would also enter into a Westlands Water District Formula for Long Term Water Supply Project Activity Agreement with interested member agencies. The Water Authority would then work with the participating Activity Agreement Members to utilize the non-reimbursable funds for activities necessary to advance and complete the Project. Barajas, Akroyd

General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd reviewed a change to article 3 of the Letter of Agreement that had been made since the Water Resources Committee's recommendation. Allison Febbo and Jose Gutierrez of Westlands Water District provided additional information. Staff answered questions throughout the presentation.

M/S - Motion by Alternate Director Dave Weisenberger, seconded by Director Anthea Hansen, the Board adopted Resolution authorizing execution of Letter Agreement for Westlands Water District Formula for Long Term Water Supply Project ("FLOWS Project") and Westlands Water District FLOWS Project Activity Agreement. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Lucchesi, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Lon Martin, White, Michael, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Tonascia, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

9. **Agenda Item 14: Report on California Department of Water (DWR) Resources Activities and Updates -** Executive Director Federico Barajas introduced the item and DWR Director Tom Gibson, who introduced Senior Policy Advisor Nancy Vogel. Gibson spoke briefly about his past relationship with the Authority and his interest in continuing to work collaboratively with the Authority in his new role. Barajas highlighted several high-priority matters involving DWR and the Water Authority, including the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program, the Intertie, and Joint Use Facilities. Nancy Vogel added additional information. Gibson, Vogel, and staff answered questions from Board members throughout the presentation. Chair Cannon Michael and Executive Director Federico Barajas, Gibson

Barajas thanked both Tom Gibson and Nancy Vogel for attending the Board meeting.

10.	**Agenda Item 15: Status Update Regarding the DMC Subsidence Correction Project -** Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reviewed a PowerPoint presentation included in the packet, which summarized the work completed on the project in July.	Barajas, Arroyave
11.	**Agenda Item 13: Expression of Appreciation for Bill Pucheu, Board Member of San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority –** Chair Cannon Michael presented Bill Pucheu with a letter of appreciation, and Executive Director Federico presented him with tokens of appreciation. Bill Pucheu expressed his appreciation for his many years working with Authority staff and serving as a Finance & Administration Committee member and a Director on the Board.	
12.	**Agenda Item 16: Update on Status of Golden Mussels –** Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reviewed the memo included in the packet. Arroyave reported that funding was secured to continue with the very successful monthly coordination meetings through January. Special Programs Manager Cindy Meyer provided additional information. Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen provided a brief Golden Mussel legislative update. Staff answered questions throughout the presentation.	Arroyave, Petersen, Meyer
13.	**Agenda Item 17: Report on State & Federal Affairs** Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen provided federal updates including confirmations, LTO/Adaptive Management, ESA regulatory changes, White Sturgeon, Trinity Consultation comments, Congressional action, Continuing Resolution, surface transportation reform, and the Farm Bill. Petersen additionally provided a California legislative update. Petersen introduced Kristin Olsen-Cate, who provided a State Affairs update. Petersen and Olsen-Cate answered questions throughout the presentation.	Petersen, Olsen
14.	**Agenda Item 18: Executive Director's Report** **a. Supplement to DMC Funding Agreement -** Executive Director Federico Barajas reviewed the Supplement to Article V.H of the May 27, 2026, Funding Agreement for the Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Project. Barajas reported that the funds have been received, and the staff is ensuring the Authority complies with all requirements associated with the funds. **b. Tribal Beneficial Use (TBU) Guidance Document –** Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that comments on the draft TBU guidance are due by the end of the month.	Barajas
15.	**Agenda Item 19: Chief Operating Officer's Report** **a. Jones Pumping Plant** - Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that Unit 5 at Jones Pumping Plant is scheduled to be available at the end of the month.	Arroyave

b. **Outages** – Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave reported that the O'Neill outage is scheduled for September 14, 2026.
c. **O'Neill Pumping Plant** Transformer **Replacement Repayment Contract** - Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave staff intends to begin negotiations soon.
d. **Staff** - Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave provided an Engineering staffing update. Arroyave answered questions through his report.

16. **Agenda Item 20: Update on Water Operations and Forecasts –** Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave referenced the latest forecasts included in the packet**.** Arroyave provided updates regarding operations, CVP supply, and reservoir storage. Arroyave answered questions throughout the presentation.

17. **Agenda Item 21: Committee Reports** – No reports.

18. **Agenda Item 22: Outside Agency/Organization Reports**
    a. **Family Farm Alliance (FFA)** – Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen reported that Samantha Barncastle will be touring in the Valley. Petersen reported that the annual conference will be in October.
    b. **Farm Water Coalition** – No report.
    c. **Association of California Water Agencies** – No report.
    d. **San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint Effort** – Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen provided a brief update.
    e. **San Joaquin Collaborative Action Plan –** Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen provided a brief update.
    f. **Central Valley Project Water Association (CVPWA) –** No report.
    g. **Great Valley Farm Water Partnership (GVFWP) –** Information included in the packet.

19. **Agenda Item 23: Board Member Reports** – No reports.

20. **Agenda Item 24: Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)** – No reports.

21. **Agenda Item 25: Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 a.m.