Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: 10/8/2026 | 9:30 AM
Location: SLDMWA Boardroom

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

Board of Directors Present

Division 1: David Weisenberger, Director
Anthea Hansen, Director
Ed Pattison, Director
Lea Emmons, Alternate
Division 2: Justin Diener, Director (ZOOM)
William Bourdeau, Director
Aaron Barcellos, Director
Lon Martin, Alternate
Division 3: Chris White, Alternate
Jarrett Martin, Director
Mike Gardner, Alternate
Division 4: Aaron Baker, Alternate
Richard Santos, Director
Dana Jacobson, Director
Brett Miller, Alternate
Division 5: Giana Olivera, Director
Allison Febbo, Director
Manny Amorelli, Director
Friant Representative:
Johnny Amaral, FWA Rep. (ZOOM)

Authority Representatives Present

Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Rebecca Akroyd, General Counsel
Rebecca Harms, Deputy General Counsel
Scott Petersen, Chief Strategic & Admin. Officer
Ray Tarka, Director of Finance
Jacob Bejarano, Civil Eng. Manager
Cindy Meyer, Special Programs Manager (ZOOM)
Eddie Reyes, Information Systems Technician

Others Present

Vince Gin, Valley Water
Patrick McGowan, Panoche Water District
Chris Park, CDM Smith
Scott Taylor, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Kristin Olsen-Cate, California Strategies (ZOOM)
Joe Hopkins, Provost & Pritchard
Mitch Partovi, Water Agency
Chase Hurley, Pacheco Water District
Levi Johnson, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (ZOOM)

Agenda Item	Topic	Lead
1.	**Call to Order/Roll Call** – The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. by Vice-Chair William Bourdeau and roll was called. During roll call, Director Justin Diener and Friant Representative Johnny Amaral were identified as participating remotely via teleconference pursuant to Government Code section 54953(b), consistent with traditional teleconference rules.	
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.-6.	**Agenda Items 4-6: Board to Consider: 4) October 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes, 5) Acceptance of the Financial & Expenditures Reports, and 6) Acceptance of Staff Reports -** M/S - Motion by Director Richard Santos,	

seconded by Director David Weisenberger the Board accepted the October 8, 2026 meeting minutes, financial & expenditure reports, and staff reports. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Lon Martin, White, Jarrett Martin, Gardner, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Olivera, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

7. **Water Resources Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Central Valley Project Performance Framework –** Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen reviewed a PowerPoint presentation describing the Draft Central Valley Project Performance Framework. Petersen reported that the framework proposes a management method for the Water Authority's CVP policy, science, and communications programs. Petersen reviewed Three pillars that, if adopted, will describe the types of action the Authority staff would pursue on behalf of its member agencies, 1) Water Supply Resilience, 2) Environmental Stewardship, and 3) Adaptive Governance & Readiness. Petersen thanked Committee members for their feedback last month, and reviewed changes. Executive Director Federico Barajas provided additional information. Petersen answered questions throughout the presentation. Petersen

M/S – Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Ed Pattison, the Board adopted the Central Valley Project Performance Framework. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Lon Martin, White, Jarrett Martin, Gardner, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Olivera, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

8. **Finance & Administration Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Resolution Authorizing New Commercial Banking Relationships with JP Morgan Chase Bank and Valley Strong Credit Union –** Finance Director Ray Tarka reported that the Authority is embarking on a new level of capital infrastructure renewal. Tarka reported that increases in capital under Authority management, including various funding sources for infrastructure repairs, a new role as a fiscal and administrative agent for federal funds provided by Reclamation, and significant water transfer transaction values have increased the need for more modern banking platforms and tools. Tarka reported that J.P. Morgan Chase Government Banking provides specialized financial services tailored for federal, state, and local government entities, as well as school districts and public transit authorities. Tarka reported that Valley Strong Credit Union offers collateralized money market accounts to California Special Districts with very competitive rates of return. Tarka reported that staff proposes updating the Water Authority's banking relationships, subject to the signatory requirements outlined in the memo included in the packet. Tarka

M/S – Motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Director Dana Jacobson, the Board adopted resolution authorizing new commercial banking relationships with JP Morgan Chase Bank and Valley Strong Credit Union. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Hansen, Pattison, Diener,

Bourdeau, Barcellos, Lon Martin, White, Jarrett Martin, Gardner, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Olivera, Febbo, Amorelli, Amaral; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

9. **Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Execution of Reservation Agreement for Purchase, Sale, and Transfer of Mitigation Credits from Ashurst Ranch Conservation Bank Phase 1 for the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project and Related Expenditure of Up to $5,131,050 –** General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd reported that the Authority negotiated the proposed Reservation Agreement for Purchase, Sale, and Transfer of Mitigation Credits from Ashurst Ranch Conservation Bank Phase 1 (Reservation Agreement) with Ashurst Ranch, LLC, the Bank Sponsor. Akroyd reported that under the terms of the Agreement, the Authority would reserve 248.47 SJKF/CTS upland credits and 7.02 CTS aquatic credits for purchase, and that following bank and credit release approval, the purchase price balance will be paid pursuant to the terms of the Reservation Agreement. Akroyd noted that costs associated with the agreement would be paid by member agencies participating in the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project Activity Agreement. Akroyd reported that while the Reservation Agreement has been reviewed by staff and is near final, it is possible that some edits may be required before the Agreement is finalized and executed, and therefore staff is requesting authorization to execute the Agreement in substantial form.

M/S – On a motion by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Alternate Director Aaron Baker, the Board authorized execution of Reservation Agreement for purchase, sale, and transfer of mitigation credits form Ashurst Ranch Conservation Bank Phase 1 for the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project and related expenditure of up to $5,131,050. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Weisenberger, Hansen, Pattison, Diener, Bourdeau, Barcellos, Lon Martin, White, Jarrett Martin, Gardner, Baker, Santos, Jacobson, Miller, Olivera, Febbo, Amorelli; Nays – 0; Abstentions – 0.

Akroyd

10. **Status Update Regarding the DMC Subsidence Correction Project –** Executive Director Federico Barajas introduced the item. Civil Engineering Manager Jacob Bejarano reviewed the PowerPoint presentation included in the packet, which summarized the work completed on the project in September, and current status of the project. Staff responded to questions throughout the presentation.

Barajas, Bejarano

11. **Update on Status of Golden Mussels –** Special Programs Manager Cindy Meyer reviewed the memo included in the packet. Meyer reported that Governor Newsom signed AB 2032 that streamlines permitting processes associated with golden mussel mitigation in California's water systems. Meyer added that she participated in the Invasive Species Summit. Staff responded to questions throughout the presentation.

Petersen, Meyer

12. **Report on State & Federal Affairs –** Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen provided federal updates including a proposed rule modifying the definition of WOTUS, permitting reform legislation, government funding, and the Water Resources Development Act. Anne

Petersen, MacKay

MacMillan from Invariant provided additional information. Petersen additionally provided a California legislative update. Petersen introduced Kristen Olsen-Cate, who provided a State Affairs update. Petersen, MacMillan, and Olsen-Cate answered questions throughout the presentation.

13. **Executive Director's Report** — Barajas

a. **FY2028 OM&R Budget –** Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that the proposed FY28 budget will be presented to the OM&R Technical Committee meeting October 19, 2026, and to the Finance & Administration Committee, in November. The budget approval process will also include a Budget Workshop on December 17, 2026, before it is presented for approval to the Board of Directors.

b. **OPP Transformer Update –** Executive Director Federico Barajas extended his appreciation to everyone involved in the O'Neill transformer outage that took place a few weeks ago.

c. **CVP Forecasting Summit –** Executive Director Federico Barajas extended his appreciation to Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen and Levi Johnson who were instrumental in organizing the first annual CVP Forecast Summit on October 1-2, 2026 at UC Merced with Reclamation. Barajas reported that there will be a follow-up brainstorming session in the near future.

14. **Update on Water Operations and Forecasts –** Levi Johnson provided updates regarding operations, CVP supply, and reservoir storage. Johnson answered questions throughout the presentation. Levi Johnson reported that he is leaving Reclamation later this month. Board members and Executive Director Federico Barajas expressed their appreciation for his years of federal service and contributions to the Central Valley Project and through it, to the Water Authority and its members. — Barajas, USBR

15. **Committee Reports –** No reports.

16. **Outside Agency/Organization Reports**

a. **Family Farm Alliance (FFA) –** Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen reported that the D.C. Farmer Fly-in took place in September and it was very successful. Petersen reported that the FFA Conference is coming up the last week of October.

b. **Farm Water Coalition –** No report.

c. **Association of California Water Agencies –** Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen reported that the fall conference is coming up in December. Petersen reported that there has been a series of town halls with the new Executive Director.

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) –** Chief Strategic & Administrative Officer Scott Petersen reported that the Strategic Plan has been released and is available if anyone would like to see it.

17. **Board Member Reports –** No reports.

18.-20. **Closed Session** – Vice-Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:22 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 11:53 a.m., Vice-Chair William Bourdeau reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session. Akroyd, Barajas

21. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3) –** No reports.

22. **Adjournment –** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:54 a.m.