



Official Memorandum

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To: SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates
From: Federico Barajas, Executive Director
Date: March 5, 2026
RE: Selection and Appointment of FY27 San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board Officers

The Water Authority's Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA) provides for the selection of a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. In contrast to the Treasurer, who serves at the pleasure of the Board of Directors¹ (Board), "[t]he chair, vice chair, and secretary . . . hold office for a period of one year commencing the first meeting of each Fiscal Year [FY]." JPA, Art. 17. The Water Authority's FY 2027 begins March 1, 2026.

Issue for Decision

Who the Board should appoint as Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for FY 2027.

Recommendation

The Board take action to appoint a Chair and Vice Chair. Staff proposes that Federico Barajas continue to serve as Secretary.

Background Information

1. Chair

The Chair is selected from the membership of the Board. The Chair serves as the presiding officer at all Board meetings, has a right to vote on all matters coming before the Board, and is a voting member of both the Water Resources Committee and Finance and Administration Committee. The Chair appoints members and alternate members of the Committees and Subcommittees, appoints from within each Committee and Subcommittee chairs, and has the right to call special meetings. Cannon Michael has served as Chair since March 2018.

2. Vice Chair

The Vice Chair is also selected from the membership of the Board. The Vice Chair serves as the presiding officer of Board meetings in the absence of the Chair. Like the Chair, the Vice Chair has a right to vote on all matters coming before the Board and is a voting member of both the Water Resources Committee and Finance and Administration Committee. William Bourdeau has served as Vice Chair since March 2020.

¹ The Water Authority's Director of Finance, Raymond Tarka, has served as Treasurer since June 2022.

3. Secretary

The Secretary may be but is not required to be a Director. In practice, the Water Authority's Executive Director has filled the Secretary role, with assistance from the Water Authority's Executive Secretary. The Secretary is responsible for keeping the minutes of all meetings of the Board and all other official records of the Authority. Executive Director Federico Barajas has served as Secretary since January 2019.