

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING AND JOINT
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING - SPECIAL
BOARD WORKSHOP MINUTES**

July 7, 2025

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Water Resources Committee Regular Meeting and Joint Water Resources Committee Regular Meeting and Special Board Workshop convened at approximately 10:00 a.m. at 842 6th Street in Los Banos, California, with Committee Chair William Bourdeau presiding.

Water Resources Committee Members Present

Ex-Officio

Cannon Michael
William Bourdeau

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Member (via ZOOM)

Division 2

Bill Diedrich, Member

Division 3

Absent

Division 4

Absent

Division 5

Manny Amorelli, Alternate

Board of Directors Present

Division 1

Anthea Hansen, Director (via ZOOM)

Division 2

Justin Diener, Director
William Bourdeau, Vice-Chair/Director
Bill Diedrich, Director

Division 3

Jarrett Martin, Director
Cannon Michael, Director

Division 4

Brett Miller, Alternate

Division 5

Manny Amorelli, Director

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 (via ZOOM)
Ray Tarka, Director of Finance
Cindy Meyer, Special Programs Manager
Eddie Reyes, Information Systems Technician
Stewart Davis, IT Officer

Others Present

Patrick McGowan, Panoche Water District
Ron Milligan, Water Authority consultant (via ZOOM)

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – The meeting was called to order by Chair William Bourdeau and roll was called. In accordance with the Brown Act, Committee Member Anthea Hansen was identified as participating remotely 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. **Water Resources Committee to Consider Approval of the May 5, 2025 Meeting Minutes** - Chair William Bourdeau deemed the May 5, 2025 meeting minutes deemed approved as submitted.
5. **Recommendation to the Board of Directors to Adopt Staff Recommendation on Positions on Legislation**
 - a. H.R. 3845 (Gray), Valley Water Protection Act (Support)
 - b. H.R. 1897 (Westerman), ESA Amendments Act of 2025 (Watch)
 - c. S.B. 707 (Durazo), Open Meetings: Meeting and Teleconference Requirements. (Oppose unless amended.)

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen reviewed the staff recommendations for positions on legislation, including the ratification of positions on H.R. 3845 and S.B. 707. Petersen answered questions from Committee members throughout the presentation.

Following an unplanned and unwelcome Zoom interruption during Petersen's presentation, staff stopped the Zoom transmission of the meeting; the in-person gathering also took a recess

during this time. After 5-10 minutes, the Zoom transmission and meeting resumed.

On a motion of Ex Officio Member Cannon Michael, seconded by Alternate Manny Amorelli, the Committee adopted the staff recommendations for positions on H.R.3845 (Gray), H.R. 1897 (Westerman), and S.B. 707 (Duranzo). The vote on the motion was as follows:

AYES:	Michael, Bourdeau, Hansen, Diedrich, Amorelli
NAYS:	None
ABSTENTIONS:	None

6. Update on Science Program.

Special Programs Manager Cindy Meyer reviewed a PowerPoint presentation that provided an update on the Science Program's priority activities. Meyer and other Water Authority staff answered Committee and Board member questions throughout the presentation.

7. Executive Director's Report.

- a. **Water Rates Adjustment** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that an adjustment to Water Year 2025 Water Rates will be an action item at the Finance & Administration Committee meeting this afternoon.
- b. **DMC Subsidence Project Workshop** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that a Joint Workshop is scheduled following the Board meeting Thursday, July 10 at Hotel Mission De Oro.
- c. **Senator Adam Schiff Visit** – Executive Director Federico Barajas reported that Senator Schiff toured the B.F. Sisk Dam last week.
- d. **SOD Drought Plan** – Chief Operating Office Pablo Arroyave provided a brief update. Arroyave reported that Westlands Water District staff has shared a draft concept of how drought plan water could be accessed in early parts of the water year.
- e. **Transfer Programs** - Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave provided a brief update on 1) North to South transfers – an EA for 2026-2027 transfers has been finalized, but no decisions made, and Reclamation is developing an EIS for transfers in 2028 and beyond; (2) Exchange Contractors – participating members are gaining access to 59,000 AF this year linked to the 55% allocation this year; 3) Yuba Transfers – uncertain if our portion of the water will be conveyed due to capacity limitations at Banks Pumping Plant.

8. Update on Water Policy/Resources Activities.

Water Policy Director Scott Petersen provided an update regarding State Water Resources

Control Board activity, water rights reporting, Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program activity, Reclamation updates, changes to the Reclamation Manual, the Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley, and the San Joaquin Valley Collaborative Action Program. Petersen answered questions throughout the presentation.

9. Update on Water Operations and Forecasts.

Chief Operating Officer Pablo Arroyave provided a brief update on Jones Pumping Plant (JPP) operations interruption over the weekend due to debris at the Tracy Fish Facility. Arroyave reported that the Authority provided staff members to help, which allowed JPP to return to five units quickly. Arroyave reported that the June 90% forecast overview was included in the packet. Arroyave introduced consultant Ron Milligan, who provided information regarding CVP supply, reservoir storage, allocations, snowpack, and operations. Arroyave reported that JPP operations may return to five units on July 19, 2025. Milligan and Arroyave answered Committee member questions throughout the presentation.

10. Committee Member Reports – Member/Chair William Bourdeau reported that water user John Harris passed away, and asked for a moment of silence.

11. Closed Session - Chair William Bourdeau adjourned the open session to address the items listed on the Closed Session Agenda at approximately 11:26 a.m. Upon return to open session at approximately 11:32 a.m., Chair William Bourdeau reported that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.

12. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2 – General Counsel Rebecca Akroyd clarified that the minutes were approved without any correction.

13. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:33 a.m.