

SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

Board of Director's Board Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ted Costa	President
Pam Tobin	Vice President
George Machado	Director
Mike McRae	Director
Manuel Zamorano	Director

SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

Adam Larsen	General Manager
Donna Silva	Director of Finance & Human Resources
Tony Barela	Director of Operations
Andrew Pierson	Director of Engineering
Greg Zlotnick	Director of Water Resources & Strategic Affairs
Devon Barrett	Customer Service Manager
Mike Spencer	Water Treatment Plant Manager
Teri Grant	Clerk of the Board/Executive Assistant
Ryan Jones	General Counsel
Kristen Castanos	Water Counsel

OTHER ATTENDEES

Bill Stroppe	
Dan W	
DG	
Elizabeth	
Michael	
User 1	
Craig Locke	Sacramento Suburban Water District
Kevin Thomas	Sacramento Suburban Water District
Entela Fallstead	SJWD Employee
Jed Thorne	SJWD Employee
Mark Hargrove	SJWD Employee

AGENDA ITEMS

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Roll Call**
- IV. Public Forum and Comments**
- V. Consent Calendar**
- VI. Discussion and Action Items**
- VII. Information Items**
- VIII. Directors' Reports**
- IX. Future Agenda Items**
- X. Committee Meetings**
- XI. Upcoming Events**
- XII. Closed Session**
- XIII. Open Session**
- XIV. Adjourn**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

The Board Secretary took a roll call of the Board. The following directors were present in the Boardroom: Ted Costa, Mike McRae, George Machado, Pam Tobin, and Manuel Zamorano.

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

Vice President Tobin thanked customers for their positive comments that were received regarding the cancelation of the January retail rate increase. President Costa thanked Director McRae for initiating the review of the rates.

V. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and are approved by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board, audience, or staff requested a specific item removed. Consent Calendar item documents are available for review in the Board packet.

1. Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, December 17, 2025 (W & R)

Recommendation: Approve draft minutes

2. WTP Influent Meters Replacement Project (W)

Recommendation: Approve draft minutes to authorize the Director of Operations to purchase two (2) venturi meter assemblies from BIF Co., LLC for the WTP Influent Meters Replacement Project

3. Rescind Censure and Related Sanctions against Director Tobin (W & R)

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 26-01 to Rescind Censure and Related Sanctions against Director Tobin

Director Machado moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Zamorano seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

VI. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

1. Long Term Warren Act Contract (LTWAC) (W)

Mr. Greg Zlotnick reviewed a written staff report which was included in the Board packet. He explained that the new long term Warren Act Contract is required for the District to receive Placer County Water Agency water delivered by the Bureau of Reclamation through Folsom Dam, as the current contract expires February 28, 2026.

Mr. Zlotnick reported that a negotiation session was held last week, resulting in a draft contract that is substantially similar to the current agreement. He noted that the contract and associated environmental documentation have been posted for a 30-

day public comment period which will conclude after the February Board meeting. Staff is therefore requesting the Board to authorize the General Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the District when it's available to do so. He also explained that the District will be required to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) to comply with CEQA requirements, and that the Board is being requested to authorize the General Manager to sign those documents as well.

Mr. Zlotnick further advised that it was still possible the environmental documentation and/or contract may require review by the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science in Washington, D.C., which had not been required previously. If such review occurs, a one-year extension of the current contract would be necessary to continue deliveries of PCWA water until the new contract is available to sign. He explained that was why the Board was also being asked to authorize the General Manager to sign the extension and its associated NOE if it became necessary to do so.

Vice President Tobin moved to approve a CEQA Notice of Exemption related to taking action to authorize the General Manager to sign a LTWAC with the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), for which Reclamation has prepared an Environmental Assessment pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Director Zamorano seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Director Zamorano moved to approve Resolution 26-02 authorizing the General Manager to sign the new LTWAC with Reclamation so long as it is substantially similar to the District's current Warren Act Contract. Director Machado seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Vice President Tobin moved to approve a CEQA Notice of Exemption related to taking action to authorize the General Manager to sign a 1-year extension of the District's current Warren Act Contract with Reclamation. Director Machado seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Director McRae moved to approve Resolution 26-03 authorizing the General Manager to sign a 1-year extension of the District's current Warren Act Contract with Reclamation. Director Machado seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

2. Sacramento LAFCo Elections (W & R)

President Costa advised the Board that a vote was required for the Special District Representative for Regular Seat #7. He noted that the Board had previously nominated Vice President Tobin; however, LAFCo did not include her name on the ballot and suggested a write-in vote. Vice President Tobin declined the write-in option, stating a preference to vote for a listed candidate to ensure the vote would be counted. She further informed the Board that she would contact LAFCo to request clarification regarding its submission, tracking, and confirmation procedures, noting that the issue occurred on LAFCo's end.

President Costa then opened the floor for discussion of the candidates. The Clerk of the Board clarified that three seats were to be filled: one four-year regular term, one two-year regular term, and one four-year alternate term. The Board discussed the candidates accordingly.

Vice President Tobin moved to vote for Gay Jones for the four-year regular term, Robert “Bob” Wichert for the two-year regular term and Charlea Moore for the four-year alternate term. Director McRae seconded the motion, and the motion carried with 3 Aye votes, 1 No vote (Zamorano) and 1 Abstain vote (Costa).

3. Request for Proposal for General Counsel (W & R)

GM Larsen provided a written staff report that was included in the Board packet. Vice President Tobin explained that she requested the RFP for General Counsel be on the agenda as it is best practice in governance and Legal Counsel should be reviewed periodically in order to ensure that the District is receiving consistent, proactive and independent legal counsel appropriate to the needs of the District.

The Board discussed the topic and it was pointed out that the current legal counsel was hired in 2020 and his law firm only represents small local governments.

Vice President Tobin moved to issue an RFP for Legal Counsel. There was no second and the motion failed.

Vice President Tobin requested that evaluation of Legal Counsel be placed on an agenda under Closed Session. GM Larsen suggested, and President Costa agreed, that the evaluation be placed on the March Board meeting agenda.

4. 2026 Board Committee Assignments (W & R)

President Costa informed the Board that he received staff’s recommendations for committee assignments which were included in the Board packet. The Board members did not suggest any changes therefore President Costa appointed the Board members to committees as recommended by staff. President Costa suggested that this process be utilized each year.

5. Public Information Committee Charter Review (W & R)

GM Larsen provided a written staff report that was included in the Board packet. President Costa requested that the committee meet to discuss the charter. Director McRae explained that he would like the Board to have an opportunity to review correspondence with the public prior to its release and that all of the Board members should be notified of correspondence before it is released.

6. FY 2025-26 Operations Plan Report Card (W & R)

GM Larsen provided the 2nd quarter progress on the FY 2025-26 Operations Plan Report Card. He noted that most items are on track except for the WTP Backwash Hoods Project that was delayed.

7. Conjunctive Use and Groundwater Banking Activities Update (W & R)

Mr. Zlotnick reported that he attended the regional groundwater bank program committee meeting and advised that WIIN Act funding has been approved and is expected to be received shortly. He noted, however, that a funding shortfall remains and staff will work with consultants to reduce the gap. He also explained that funding for federal acknowledgment of the water bank is currently unfunded and poses a significant gap, expressing concern that CVP contractor agencies should not bear a disproportionate share of the cost since all participants contributed to the overall program.

In response to President Costa's question about attending the Cap-To-Cap event in Washington, D.C., Mr. Zlotnick stated that he does not believe the event justifies the expense or time commitment and recommended that the District instead coordinate Washington, D.C. meetings through its federal lobbyist.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

1.1 General Manager's Monthly Report (W & R)

GM Larsen reported that operations are going smoothly with no compliance issues or failed samples and leaks are down. He informed the Board that turbidity in the water coming into the Water Treatment Plant has increased due to the runoff from the storms, which increases the process for staff. A written report for December was included in the Board packet.

1.2 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence

No report.

2. DIRECTOR OF WATER RESOURCES & STRATEGIC AFFAIRS' REPORT (W & R)

2.1 Hydrology Report (W & R)

Mr. Zlotnick provided the graphs for the Folsom Reservoir levels and the statewide reservoirs levels and noted that the levels are better than average; however, the snow pack is about 51% of average.

2.2 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence

Mr. Zlotnick reported that the Urban Water Management Plan meeting was re-scheduled to February 5th at 11:00 am and is posted on the website. He explained that the consultant will present an overview of the process and solicit feedback from participants.

Mr. Zlotnick informed the Board that the District signed a legislative floor alert, through ACWA, in support of AB 35, which would exempt Proposition 4 spending from the Administrative Procedure Act. He noted that Proposition 4 may provide a potential funding source for District projects. In addition, he reported that RWA intends to submit a regional application for Proposition 4 funds, and the District will submit eligible projects for inclusion once the application is prepared.

Mr. Zlotnick reported that he spoke with the District's federal lobbyist regarding the EPA STAG Grant program as a potential funding opportunity for pipeline maintenance and rehabilitation projects.

3. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES' REPORT

3.1 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence

No report.

4. DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS' REPORT

4.1 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence

Mr. Barela reported that negotiations with the Bureau concerning the Hinkle 2 project are currently on hold while staff work to secure the Parcel C lease. Once discussions regarding Parcel C are finalized, negotiations for Hinkle 2 are expected to resume. He explained that the Hinkle 2 project involves securing USBR-owned property south of the reservoir for construction of a second reservoir, which would provide emergency storage, allow continued operations when Hinkle Reservoir is offline, and support future cover and liner replacement efforts.

Mr. Barela reported that PCWA completed their study on the raw water pipeline that will potentially deliver water to the City of Roseville, which was originally designed for a 30-inch pipeline. He explained that San Juan is inquiring if a 36 or 42-inch pipeline could be installed to allow up to an additional 20 MGD that could be delivered to San Juan. He explained that there are some alignment issues and they will be discussing this at a meeting on Friday.

5. DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES' REPORT

5.1 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence

Mr. Pierson reported that staff will be meeting with the Regional Water Authority (RWA) to discuss percolation ponds/spreading grounds. He further reported that, following the ACWA Fall Conference, he contacted a geologist from GSI Water Solutions, who is scheduled to visit the District to evaluate the site and provide professional input regarding the feasibility of a percolation pond or, if feasible, an injection well.

6. LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

6.1 Legal Matters

Legal Counsel Jones reported that the Clerk of the Board emailed the Board members with the newest version of the Brown Act, which is a requirement, and she will supply them with hard copies once received from CSDA. In addition, Legal Counsel Jones will be conducting an in-person Ethics Training session for Board members and staff who need the training. President Costa suggested that the Ethics and harassment training be completed at the same time. Legal Counsel Jones pointed out that the two training sessions have to remain separate and cannot overlap so the session would be 4 hours instead of two for an in-person training, if that is what the Board members would like. Legal Counsel Jones suggested that any financial training that is required in the Brown Act be received from CSDA.

VIII. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

1. SACRAMENTO GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (SGA)

President Costa reported that SGA had a special meeting on January 15th regarding hiring a consultant to help with the grants.

2. REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY (RWA)

No report.

3. ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA)

3.1 ACWA - Pam Tobin

Vice President Tobin reviewed a written report which was added to the Board packet.

3.2 Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) - Pam Tobin

Vice President Tobin reviewed a written report which was added to the Board packet.

4. OTHER REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS

President Costa commented on Mr. Zlotnick's groundwater banking update, noting that the District may receive credit for water released from Baldwin Reservoir into the creek. Mr. Zlotnick responded that while the concept is viable, several factors must be evaluated, including property ownership along the creek (City of Folsom), required technical analysis, resource availability, and environmental considerations. He added that such a project could also require assessing the feasibility of maintaining environmental benefits during periods without water flow and confirmed that Mr. Barela and Mr. Pierson are working on the matter.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Requests by Board Members for Agenda Items

GM Larsen informed the Board that he is working to have RWA and ACWA make presentations at the February Board meeting.

2. Meeting Date Changes and Board Attendance

GM Larsen inquired if the Board would want to move the regular Board meeting time to 5:00 pm and the Board did not want to move the time.

X. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. Engineering Committee – January 12, 2026

The committee meeting minutes were included in the Board packet.

2. Finance Committee – January 13, 2026

The committee meeting minutes were included in the Board packet.

XI. UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1. ACWA DC2026 Conference**
February 24-26, 2026
Washington, DC
- 2. 2026 ACWA Legislative Symposium**
February 11, 2026
Sacramento, CA
- 3. 2026 ACWA Spring Conference**
May 5-7, 2026
Sacramento, CA

At 7:35 p.m., President Costa announced that the Board was adjourning to Closed Session and there were no public comments.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

- 1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS**
Pursuant to Government Code § 54957.6
Agency representatives: Board members, General Counsel Jones, and Finance Director Silva
Employee group: Unrepresented employee (General Manager)
- 2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Section 54956.9)**
Citrus Heights Water District, et al. vs. San Juan Water District, Case Number: 23WM000064, Sacramento County Superior Court

XIII. OPEN SESSION

There was no reportable action.

XIV. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

EDWARD J. "TED" COSTA, President
Board of Directors
San Juan Water District

ATTEST: _____
TERI GRANT, Clerk of the Board