

**MINUTES FOR THE MAY 12, 2026  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) met in person in regular session in the District Boardroom at 9:00 a.m., with public access provided via the online Zoom meeting platform. President Spyksma called the meeting to order. Director Van Ryn led the flag salute. Upon roll call the following members were noted present:

DIRECTORS: ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN  
ABSENT: HOLBROOK

Also present were General Manager Peter Rietkerk; General Counsel Mia Brown; Engineering Department Manager Forrest Killingsworth; and Clerk of the Board Danielle Barney.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Mark Louwerens, Local Dog Trainer, addressed the Board and acknowledged the privilege of utilizing Woodward Reservoir for his amateur dog training services. He explained that he has trained American Kennel Club (AKC) Labrador Retrievers to assist in obtaining North American Hunting Retriever Association certifications, as well as to become service and/or companion dogs for local veterans and women. Mr. Louwerens noted that Woodward's variety of land, surroundings, and access to water are optimal for training good dogs, for responsible owners and hunters, at no cost to the District. In closing, he thanked the Board for their time and expressed hope for continued use of Woodward Reservoir following the managerial transition of recreational services.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. Approval of Checks in the amount of \$255,486.55; Accounts Payable Wires in the amount of \$765,289.19; and Payroll dated April 22, 2026 in the amount of \$5,641.29, and May 1, 2026 in the amount of \$307,389.99.
- B. Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2026
- C. Approval of Consent to SSJID's Entry of Property to Read and to Maintain Flow Meter, APN 226-130-19

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Roos and seconded by Director Van Ryn to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: HOLBROOK

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Item #1 – Directors' Reports**

Director Van Ryn thanked all management and staff for their hard work and service to the District.

Director Weststeyn reported that he attended the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority (SJTA) Commission

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meeting on May 11. Discussion included:

- SJTA’s public communication outreach efforts.
- The San Joaquin Valley Water Resilience Summit, to be held on May 20-21 at Fresno State, which will focus on regional water solutions.

Director Roos thanked the Division Managers and Maintenance crews for their hard work and commitment to deliver water and repair leaks.

President Spyksma commented on a good start to the 2026 irrigation season, and the current unusual weather patterns.

President Spyksma reported that he attended the SJTA Commission meeting on May 11, and stated that additional discussion included incorporating information on urban water usage, in addition to agricultural water usage, into the communication outreach efforts.

SSJID Public and Government Relations Manager Katie Patterson announced that SSJID Engineering Department Manager Forrest Killingsworth, and Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Manager Justin Ashworth have been named as SSJID’s Member Agency Community Outreach Representatives for the SJTA. She stated that both will be participating in a taped interview on May 13, with Mr. Killingsworth speaking about SSJID’s water operations, and Mr. Ashworth speaking about WTP operations. It is anticipated that the interview and/or tidbits will be available via online media platforms.

President Spyksma referenced the upcoming San Joaquin Valley Water Resilience Summit, on May 20-21, and noted that it would be beneficial for an SSJID representative to attend and have a “seat at the table.”

President Spyksma referenced the preliminary research on Division 9 operations, and stated that he looks forward to the report. Mr. Killingsworth stated that SSJID Assistant Engineer Kent Norman has led the research project regarding Division 9 operations, rate methodology, and efficiency. Next steps are to vet internally, with a final report forthcoming to the Board.

**Item #2 – Various Reports**

Mr. Peter Rietkerk, SSJID General Manager, reported that he attended the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) 2026 Spring Conference, on May 5-7, 2026, in Sacramento, along with Director Holbrook, SSJID Water Resources Coordinator Brandon Nakagawa, and Ms. Patterson. Updates included the announcement that California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Director Karla Nemeth had been selected as ACWA’s next Executive Director (ED). Ms. Nemeth is capable of leading ACWA as ED, but she will have a tough job of assuring ACWA can fairly represent the diverse water interests throughout the state.

Mr. Rietkerk announced that the District received Inflation Reduction Act reimbursements for the solar farm repowering project. SSJID Electric Utility Manager Bill Schwandt and SSJID Finance and Administration Manager Sonya Williams had been working diligently and recouped due funds in the amount of \$800,724.00. He thanked Mr. Schwandt and Ms. Williams for their efforts.

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**Item #3 – Consider Approval of the 2026 Watershed Sanitary Survey Update**

Mr. Charles Galea, WTP Operations Supervisor, addressed the Board regarding approval of the Cost-Sharing

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Agreement (Agreement) between SSJID and the Stanislaus Calaveras River Group to authorize Hazen and Sawyer (H&S) to prepare the 2026 Watershed Sanitary Survey (WSS) Update, and authorize the General Manager to sign the Agreement for \$61,729.80.

Mr. Galea explained that the WSS is a requirement by the Division of Drinking Water (DDW), for public water systems that utilize surface water as their source, to review, evaluate and update water quality data and significant changes to potential contaminant sources. He further explained that SSJID is required to submit a WSS Update every five (5) years, with the last update submitted in 2021.

Mr. Galea stated that the District is working with the Stanislaus-Calaveras River Group, led by Stockton East Water District (SEWD), to hire a consultant to prepare the WSS on SSJID's behalf. SEWD prepared the Request for Proposal (RFP) and received one (1) bid from H&S. He added that H&S had developed the last round of WSS Updates so they are familiar with the process and our watershed. The due date for the WSS Update is June 30, 2026. Mr. Galea emphasized that SEWD reached out to H&S questioning their Proposed Schedule of the WSS Update, as depicted on Proposal page 18, which listed deliverables by the end of June. H&S responded that DDW had extended the due date deadline to August 2026.

Mr. Galea noted that SEWD would also be requesting approval of the Agreement from their Board today, and that SSJID executing said Agreement would be contingent upon SEWD Board action.

There are sufficient funds in the WTP Consulting Services budget for the WSS Update.

Board discussion included the cost increase to \$61,729.80 from approximately \$38,000.00 in 2021; the scope of work to coordinate, collect and compile data from the nine (9) agencies which comprise the Stanislaus Calaveras River Group; the addition of Golden Mussel data in the 2026 WSS; and to start the RFP process earlier to solicit more bids for the next required update in 2031.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Roos to approve the Cost-Sharing Agreement between SSJID and the Stanislaus Calaveras River Group to authorize Hazen and Sawyer to prepare the 2026 Watershed Sanitary Survey Update, and authorize the General Manager to sign the Agreement for \$61,729.80.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	HOLBROOK

**Item #4 – Consider Approval of Sierra Controls Task Order No. 4 Regarding Main Distribution Canal Drops #1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Site Upgrades**

Mr. Lance Martin, SSJID Telemetry Systems Supervisor, addressed the Board regarding approval of Task Order No. 4 with Sierra Controls, under the Master Services Agreement (MSA) for the Irrigation SCADA Master Plan (SMP) Phase 2 site upgrades of the Main Distribution Canal (MDC) Drops 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Mr. Martin gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Irrigation SMP progress which detailed the SMP Project Phases 1, 2, 3 and 4; the new Ignition SCADA Platform Map View; Drop 6 Control and Sensor Data; Drop 6 Control 12-hour Trend; Upstream Level Summary; Flow Summary; example mobile shots of system maps and Drop data; and pictures of MDC Drop upgrades.

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Mr. Martin stated that Task Order No. 4 would complete the process of revitalizing the MDC Drops in alignment with the SMP, and provided a detailed description of the scope of work. He noted that Sierra Controls had extensive experience in the work involved and control methodology, and had successfully demonstrated their ability on MDC Drops 6 through 12.

Task Order No. 4, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$235,228.29 is adequately funded through the SCADA Capital Budget SCADA25.02 2026-27 Phase 2 – SCADA Master Plan – MDC Drops, with \$275,000.00 allocated in 2026.

Board discussion clarified that the work would be completed during the 2026 winter maintenance season; Board support of the necessary maintenance; and recollection of future planned projects to develop a customer flow meter program for the purpose of scheduling and/or viewing current flow status.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Roos and seconded by Director Van Ryn to approve Task Order No. 4 with Sierra Controls, under the Master Services Agreement for the Irrigation SCADA Master Plan Phase 2 site upgrades of the Main Distribution Canal Drops 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$235,228.29, on a time and materials basis.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	HOLBROOK

**Item #5 – Consider Adoption of Resolution No. 26-14-D Requesting Election Services by San Joaquin County Registrar of Voters**

Ms. Mia Brown, SSJID General Counsel, addressed the Board regarding adoption of Resolution No. 26-14-D Requesting Election Services by the San Joaquin County (SJC) Registrar of Voter (ROV).

Ms. Brown explained that per California Elections Code §§10002 and 10403, the ROV requires a resolution from special district(s) requesting services to consolidate their election(s) with the County’s regular election, to be held on November 2, 2026. SSJID will have two (2) seats up for election in November, thereby requesting election services by the ROV.

Ms. Brown noted provisions, regarding Candidate Statements, listed on the resolution: 1) Candidate Statements shall not exceed 400 words; and 2) The cost of the Candidate Statement shall be paid by the Candidate.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Van Ryn to adopt Resolution No. 26-14-D Requesting Election Services by San Joaquin County Registrar of Voters.

**SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 26-14-D**

**DECLARING AN ELECTION BE HELD IN ITS JURISDICTION;  
REQUESTING THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO CONSOLIDATE THIS ELECTION WITH  
ANY OTHER ELECTION CONDUCTED ON SAID DATE;  
AND  
REQUESTING ELECTION SERVICES BY THE REGISTRAR OF VOTERS.**

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**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District (“SSJID” or “District”) orders an election to be held in its jurisdiction on November 3, 2026; at which election the issue(s) to be presented to the voters shall be:

**NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE GOVERNING BODY**

1. Said election shall be to fill a vacancy for the following Board Members(s) who whose term(s) expire:

Incumbent’s Name	Division Number (if applicable)	Regular/Short Term
David Roos	1	Regular (2026)
Glenn Spyksma	2	Regular (2026)

2. Said Directors for this District are elected by Division. The District is split into areas called “Divisions,” and only those voters residing within the Division area may vote for candidates who run in the area.
3. Said District has determined the following election particulars:
  - a. The length of the Candidate Statement shall not exceed 400 words.
  - b. The cost of the Candidate Statement shall be paid by the Candidate.
4. Said District has determined the following election particulars:
  - a. In the case of a tie vote, the election shall be determined by runoff election.
  - b. The Registrar of Voters is requested to provide election services. If the District requests the San Joaquin County Registrar of Voters Office to provide election services, all applicable costs will be paid for by the District.
5. The District hereby certifies that there have been changes to the District boundary lines since our last election, and updated maps and legal descriptions have been provided to the Office of the Registrar of Voters.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Joaquin is hereby requested to:

1. Consolidate the South San Joaquin Irrigation District election with any other applicable election conducted on the same day; and
2. Authorize and direct the Registrar of Voters Office, at the South San Joaquin Irrigation District’s expense, to provide all necessary election services.

This Resolution shall be considered a Notice of Election and Specification of Election Order if applicable.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, by the following vote:

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AYES: ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: HOLBROOK  
ABSTAIN: NONE

**Item #6 to be Discussed Following Closed Session**

*It was announced that all remaining items on the Closed Session agenda would be discussed. The Board took a brief recess at 9:40 a.m. and convened to Closed Session at 10:00 a.m.*

**Item #7 – CLOSED SESSION**

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

*The Board returned to Open Session at 12:54 p.m.*

**Item #8 – ANNOUNCEMENT OF REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

Disclosure of reportable actions taken in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1:

**Item 7.b. – Claim Presented by Michael and Kim Jerome for Real Property Damage**

No action taken on the claim relating to flooding on the Jerome property, and that portion is returned as untimely. The remainder of the claim relating to claimed damages from capping the pipeline is rejected.

**Item #6 – Consider Approval of Job Description and Salary for SSJID Construction and Maintenance Supervisor**

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Van Ryn to table agenda Item #6 to a future board meeting.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN  
NOES: NONE  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
ABSENT: HOLBROOK

**Item #9 – ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Danielle Barney, Clerk of the Board