MINUTES FOR THE JULY 28, 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. SSJID General Manager Peter Rietkerk led the flag salute. Upon roll call the following members were noted present:

DIRECTORS:	HOLBROOK ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN
ABSENT:	NONE

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

Public Comment – None

CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Checks in the amount of $67,702.92; Accounts Payable Wires in the amount of $2,940,035.54.; and Payroll dated July 8, 2026 in the amount of $2,377.13, July 9, 2026 in the amount of $1,601.33, and July 10, 2026 in the amount of $331,390.01.

B. Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2026

Director Holbrook referenced Page 5, Item #6, and inquired about the location of the Board vote following the motion regarding adoption of Resolution No. 26-22-B. SSJID Clerk of the Board Danielle Barney clarified that for the adoption of resolutions, the Board vote is included as part of the resolution and recorded, as such, in the minutes.

C. Consent to SSJID's Entry of Property to Read and to Maintain Flow Meter, APN 206-120-14

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Weststeyn to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Item #1 – Directors' Reports

Director Holbrook reported that he attended the American Public Powers Association (APPA) 2026 Conference, from June 25 to July 1, 2026, in Boston, MA. Highlights included volunteering in the APPA "Day of Giving" on June 26; and breakout sessions including "Electric Utility Foundations and Trends," "Light Up Navajo: What it Is and How to Participate," and "A Look at Fusion Energy."

Director Van Ryn thanked management and all staff for their hard work, and cautioned all to be mindful of harvest season and slow-moving farm equipment that may be on the roads.

Director Weststeyn thanked all staff for their service to the District, and expressed appreciation to the Division Managers for their hard work, diligence, and the clean water quality this irrigation season.

Director Roos reported that he participated in the 23rd Annual Jim Brown Memorial "Swing for Youth" Golf Tournament, on July 17, at the Manteca Park Golf Course. The SSJID sponsored foursome won the tournament, which included Irrigation Operations Manager Barron Sweet, Irrigation Services Supervisor Joe Hasten, and Assistant Engineer Kent Norman.

President Spyksma reiterated Director Van Ryn's comment regarding safe driving during harvest season, and thanked the Division Managers for their hard work and patience during the busy irrigation season. He commented on the solid teamwork displayed by the SSJID crews.

Item #2 – Various Reports

The Managers' Reports, for July 28, 2026, were provided in electronic form to the Board on July 24, 2026.

Director Holbrook commented on the following Managers' Reports:

- Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant (WTP) – WTP Mechanic Robert Jones passed his Cross-Connection Specialist certification exam.
- Irrigation Operations – Spencer Van Rys has stepped in to fill the recent opening of the Division 5 Night Division Manager position.
- Engineering Department – A formal response received from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) confirming that the proposed Q/Qc Project will not be a jurisdictional facility.
- Electric Utility – Electric Utility Manager Bill Schwandt received a Certificate of Appreciation from Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) for his presentation, on July 16, regarding SSJID's Retail Electric project.

Director Roos referenced the Irrigation Operations Manager's Report, Section Shop Department, regarding two (2) separate accidents, both occurring on July 10, which involved the Division 3 and Division 5 trucks. He requested that the Board be informed of accidents/incidents, such as these, to be kept abreast of the well-being and safety of District employees. Mr. Peter Rietkerk, SSJID General Manager, concurred, and added that the Board had not been informed, at the time, because both incidents were still under investigation.

President Spyksma thanked the Senior Leaders for their informative Managers' Reports for July 28, 2026.

Mr. Rietkerk referenced Director Holbrook's comment regarding DSOD's recent notification confirming that the Q/Qc Project will not be a jurisdictional facility. He commended the Engineering staff for their diligence and work achieving this milestone, which will streamline regulatory requirements and long-term costs.

Mr. Rietkerk announced that he received an invitation from Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) to participate in a Diablo Canyon Power Plant Tour, on August 4, along with President Spyksma. He stated that management and Board Members from water agencies up and down the Central Valley have been invited, and that he and President Spyksma plan to attend. The Plant supplies nearly 10-percent (10%) of California's total electricity, annually.

ACTION CALENDAR

Item #3 – Discussion and Board Action Regarding the Ripon Consolidated Fire District's Proposed Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment Ballot

Mr. Rietkerk addressed the Board regarding the Ripon Consolidated Fire District's (RCFD) proposed Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment ballot, and the affected SSJID parcels. He added that RCFD Chief Eric DeHart was in attendance, at the meeting, to answer any questions.

Mr. Rietkerk explained the Proposition (Prop) 218 process which requires that a proposed assessment notice must contain a mail-in ballot for the property owner to indicate their approval or disapproval of the assessment. He further explained RCFD's service area within SSJID's jurisdictional boundaries; the benefits of RCFD's proposed assessment including improved service and response times; SSJID's seven (7) parcels affected including the Control Room located on South Carrolton Road; the total proposed amount of $464.49 for the District's seven parcels; the methodology RCFD used to calculate the proposed assessments; and RCFD's 2024 Prop 218 fire assessment effort which did not pass. Mr. Rietkerk noted that only three (3) of the SSJID's seven (7) parcels will be affected by the proposed assessment.

Staff requested the Board's decision to approve or oppose the proposed RCFD assessment. The deadline to submit the official ballot is August 13, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Roos authorizing the General Manager to cast a vote approving the Ripon Consolidated Fire District's Fire Protection and Emergency Response Assessment ballot.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #4 – Presentation of Audit of the 2025 Annual Financial Report

Ms. Sonya Williams, SSJID Finance and Administration Manager, addressed the Board regarding approval of the 2025 Annual Financial Report (AFR), and introduced Ms. Jasmine Logee, Audit Manager, at Price Paige & Company (PP&C) who was in attendance via the online Zoom meeting platform.

Ms. Logee addressed the Board, gave a presentation of the audit report for the December 31, 2025 year-end financial statements, and provided detailed explanations of the audit process; the audit areas of emphasis; the auditor's reports; the government auditing standards report; and required communications.

Director Weststeyn referenced the Basic Financial Statement for the Years Ended December 31, 2025, Page 24, Section A, Reporting Entity, and clarified that SSJID provides three (3) representatives to the South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SSJGSA) with two (2) Board Members and one (1) consultant.

Ms. Logee continued her presentation with the Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, Findings and Responses, Page 72, Section II, Vendor Master File Changes and Disbursements which identified Significant Deficiency. She noted management's inconsistency to perform or document its review of vendor master file additions and/or modifications in accordance with established policies and procedures; the recommended Corrective Action Plan; and management's response to implement new procedures and standardized forms to document all vendor master file additions and modifications, and provide training to all

Finance employees on the revised procedures, required documentation, segregation of duties, and approval requirements. Ms. Logee commended District Management for their immediate actions to address the Auditor recommendations, and Ms. Williams and the Finance Department for their helpfulness and willingness to accommodate the PP&C Team. In conclusion, she stated that the District's financial statements are "clean" demonstrating accurate accounting records.

The Board inquired about the new process to prevent future vendor fraud, to which Ms. Williams responded that new policy allows Level 1 employees to verify new vendor addresses and banking information but prevents executing changes in the accounting system; Level 2 employees will make the vendor changes in the accounting system; and Level 3 employees will verify the changes before they are implemented in the accounting system.

The Board noted an inaccuracy in Item #4 Staff Report, Page 3, Section Cash and Investments, which read… "detailed information on the City's cash and investments…" and should be corrected to read… "detailed information on the District's cash and investments…"

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Van Ryn to accept the audit of the 2025 Annual Financial Report.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

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

The Board took a brief recess at 9:50 a.m. and reconvened to Open Session at 10:02 a.m.

Item #5 – Quarterly Presentation of Financial Statements through June 30, 2026

Ms. Williams addressed the Board and gave an oral presentation of the quarterly Financial Statements through June 30, 2026. She provided detailed explanations of the balance sheets; net positions; total assets; liabilities; revenues, expenses and changes in net position; non-operating revenues; irrigation revenues and expenses; cash flows; reserve allocations and balances; actual versus year-to-date budget comparisons; and breakdown of cash investments by category.

The Board inquired about research regarding the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) California Water Insurance Fund (CWIF), to which Ms. Williams responded that she had obtained information which noted a high liability factor, and that the District cannot invest in an already established account but must create their own. The Board emphasized the need for continued research to develop a CWIF-type captive insurance company.

Item #6 – Quarterly Presentation of Investment Report through June 30, 2026

Ms. Williams gave an oral presentation of the quarterly Investment Report through June 30, 2026. She provided detailed explanations of the components of cash and investments, interest income year-to-date and monthly, amounts invested by yield to maturity, investment holdings, treasury yield curve, investment activity, maturities schedule, employment rates, and Consumer Price Index (CPI) Rates of Inflation from January 2022 to June 2026.

Item #7 – Discussion and Board Direction Regarding Rental Versus Purchase of Vacuum Truck

Mr. James Ferguson, SSJID Shop Department Supervisor, addressed the Board seeking direction regarding future vacuum truck utilization and the District's continued rental versus purchase of the vehicle. He provided background of initial discussions in 2018 considering usage of a vacuum truck, and subsequent rental of a truck for pipeline relining preparation and other irrigation maintenance activities during the 2025-26 construction season. Mr. Ferguson added that staff concluded future relining operations and selected maintenance activities should continue utilizing a vacuum truck because of the improvements demonstrated in employee safety, maintenance productions, and operational capability.

Mr. Ferguson stated that staff had conducted a financial evaluation comparing continued rental versus purchase of a vacuum truck. The rental evaluation was based on the current NorCal rental rate of approximately $3,230.00 per day, including an operator, and an assumed utilization of thirty-seven (37) construction-season days, resulting in an estimated annual rental cost of approximately $120,000.00. The ownership evaluation included the estimated purchase price, annual operating and maintenance costs, and labor for one (1) SSJID employee for an estimated first-year cost of approximately $806,000.00.

Mr. Ferguson explained the specifications required for a District-owned vacuum truck which would likely require dual engines, and modified high-pressure pumps. He further explained a vacuum truck's expanded capabilities beyond pipelining preparation including cleaning pipelines, irrigations boxes, and structures; potholing; sediment removal; and maintenance of drainage systems. Ownership would provide greater scheduling flexibility for maintenance tasks and projects.

Mr. Ferguson noted that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) "Clean Truck Check" program requirements, including reporting, annual compliance fees and emissions testing, are in effect for rented or owned heavy-duty vehicles operating in California, as well as fleets of third-party contractors.

Board discussion included District-owned vacuum truck estimated maintenance costs; engine specifications; modifications; vacuum estimated maintenance costs; and turnaround time for delivery.

Board consensus concluded that the proposed maintenance costs for a District-owned vacuum truck may have been underestimated, and that more research is necessary to reach a fully-informed decision on rental costs versus purchase. The Board thanked staff for their efforts, and emphasized that priority is to utilize a vacuum truck for the safety of District employees, whether the vehicle is obtained by rental or purchase.

Mr. Chad Parsons, SSJID Senior Engineer, clarified that the District would be renting a vacuum truck for the 2026-2027 winter maintenance season. Staff will present a revised analysis to the Board at a future meeting.

Item #8 – Disposition of Exempt Surplus Real Property: Discuss and Consider Approval of Real Estate Purchase Agreement for Two (2) Strips of Land Associated with Right of Way for "Drain 2" (APNs 197-020-02 and 204-050-22)

Ms. Mia Brown, SSJID General Counsel, addressed the Board regarding approval of a Real Estate Purchase Agreement (Agreement) to sell two (2) strips of land associated with SSJID's "Drain 2," and authorize the Board President and General Manager to do all things necessary and proper to convey the Property including execution of grant deeds and other documents.

Ms. Brown provided background of Board action, on April 14, 2026, declaring the Property as "exempt surplus property." SSJID submitted the claim of exempt status to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for verification as required under the Surplus Land Act (SLA). On June 4, 2026, HCD provided written verification that the Property was exempt surplus property, and SSJID may proceed with sale of said Property.

RAFF2, LLC (RAFF2) is planning a development in the vicinity of Lovelace, Roth, and 99 Frontage Roads in Manteca. RAFF2 has agreed to purchase the Property under the following terms and conditions set forth in the Agreement:

1. Purchase of Property is contingent upon RAFF2's acquisition of the adjacent parcels, closing is set to coincide with the closing of those adjacent parcels, at a date to be determined.
2. The Term of the Agreement is initially one (1) year, with annual extensions available as needed to accommodate the timeline for closing. Consideration for each extension is $5,000.00.
3. The Purchase Price is $185,000.00 per acre (approximately 2.11 acres, $390,350.00), total price to be calculated on actual acreage verified by survey.

Board discussion included the inaccuracy of Item #8, Staff Report, Attachment 1 – Conceptual Illustration Site Plan. Staff responded that Attachment 1 was the Developer's Drawing, and that the Staff Report also included an accurate SSJID aerial photograph of the site. Also noted was that the legal description identified the exact portion of said Property, and that HDC had authorized the legal exemption and conveyance of the Property.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Roos and seconded by Director Van Ryn to approve the Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement to sell two (2) strips of land associated with SSJID's "Drain 2;" and authorize the Board President and General Manager to do all things necessary and proper to convey the Property in accordance with the Agreement, including execution of grant deeds and other documents.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Items #9, #10, and #11 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 11:00 a.m. and convened to Closed Session at 11:10 a.m.

Item #12 – CLOSED SESSION

Director Roos exited the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to Open Session at 2:21 p.m.

Item #13 – ANNOUNCEMENT OF REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Disclosure of reportable actions taken in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1:
There were no reportable actions taken in Closed Session.

Item #9 – Consider Claim for Money Damages Submitted by Joseph Rodriguez in an Unspecified Amount

Ms. Brown addressed the Board regarding a claim received, from Joseph Rodriguez, alleging damage to his private irrigation line by District crews. She explained that staff conducted a site visit and inspection of the alleged damage and found no faulty District equipment.

Staff recommended that the Board deny the claim submitted by Joseph Rodriguez.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Van Ryn to deny the claim submitted by Joseph Rodriguez.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #10 – Discuss and Consider 2026 Budget Amendment for Replacement of One District Vehicle, and Repair of One District Vehicle, and Corresponding Budget Amendment in the Amount of $56,000.00

Mr. Ferguson addressed the Board regarding a proposed budget amendment for: 1) estimated repair costs in the amount of $8,000.00 for damage to Truck #343-25; and the purchase of a 2026 Toyota Tacoma SR5 from Modesto Toyota at a cost of $42,915.65 to replace Truck #345-25. Staff requested an additional $5,000.00 in contingency for any unforeseen expenses for a total budget amendment request of $56,000.00.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Weststeyn to approve a budget amendment in the amount of $56,000.00 to cover estimated repair costs in the amount of $8,000.00 to Truck #343-25; purchase a 2026 Toyota Tacoma SR5 for the amount of $42,915.65 from Modesto Toyota to replace Truck #345-25; and $5,000.00 in contingency for any unforeseen expenses.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #11 – Discuss and Consider Adoption of SSJID Encroachment Policy

Ms. Brown addressed the Board and stated that staff would return and present a revised policy for approval. The item was tabled to the next regular board meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Holbrook to table the agenda item to the next regular board meeting.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #14 – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Danielle Barney, Clerk of the Board