

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 22, 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 additional public access provided as a courtesy via the online Zoom meeting platform. President Spyksma called the meeting to order and SSJID Electric Utility Manager Bill Schwandt led the flag salute. Upon roll call the following members were noted present:

DIRECTORS: HOLBROOK ROOS SPYKSMA WESTSTEYN
ABSENT: VAN RYN

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 – None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Checks in the amount of \$103,979.31; Accounts Payable Wires in the amount of \$1,061,235.57; and Payroll dated September 4, 2026 in the amount of \$319,436.81, September 4, 2026 in the amount of \$9,480.90, September 4, 2026 in the amount of \$907.28, and September 10, 2026 in the amount of \$2,681.50.
- B. Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2026
- C. Approval of the Special Board Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2026
- D. Financial Statements through August 31, 2026
- E. Investment Report through August 31, 2026

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

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Item #1 – Directors' Reports

Director Roos thanked the Division Managers and Maintenance Crews for their hard work during the busy irrigation season.

Director Weststeyn expressed thanks to all staff for their service to District customers, and for keeping the water flowing.

Director Holbrook reported that he attended the California Special District Association (CSDA) Annual 2026 Conference, held August 24-27, 2026, in Palm Desert. Highlights included breakout sessions regarding

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cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and an agency's right to sell property which has been classified as "surplus." Ms. Mia Brown, SSJID General Counsel, stated that the right to sell property that has been deemed as surplus is an exciting update which will make transactions an easier process.

Director Holbrook thanked all staff for their work during the successful 2026 irrigation season.

President Spyksma opined that it was a great irrigation season, and congratulated all on the excellent management and new automation.

President Spyksma noted the upcoming winter construction season and monthly safety meetings, and stated that "safety is paramount."

Item #2 – Various Reports

The Managers' Reports, for September 22, 2026, were provided in electronic form to the Board on September 18, 2026.

Director Holbrook thanked the Senior Leaders for submittal of their informative Managers' Reports, they are appreciated.

Mr. Peter Rietkerk, SSJID General Manager, referenced previous Board approval for the development of a Municipal Service Review (MSR) with San Joaquin Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo), which is required by LAFCo every five (5) years. He stated that Ms. Brown had been coordinating with LAFCo on a Cost-Share Agreement to commission RSG Solutions (RSG) to develop the MSR, for an estimated \$41,000.00 cost to SSJID. Mr. Rietkerk added that the District has received two (2) annexation applications, which cannot move forward until the completion of the required MSR. It is anticipated that the timeframe for RSG to complete the MSR will be eleven (11) months. The Board inquired if there were other landowners interested in annexing into the District, to which Mr. Rietkerk responded in the negative.

ACTION CALENDAR

Item #3 – Consider Approval of the End of the End of Irrigation Season Date

Mr. Brandon Nakagawa, SSJID Water Resources Manager, and Mr. Joe Hasten, SSJID Irrigation Services Supervisor, addressed the Board and presented Friday, October 16, 2026 as the staff recommended end date of the 2026 irrigation season. He cited considerations that factored into the recommendation including harvest conditions, current hydrology data, Water Treatment Plant operations, weather forecast predictions, Woodward operating levels, and SSJID's water conservation account.

Board discussion included consideration to end the 2026 irrigation season on Monday, October 19, later than the staff recommendation; a potential wet winter and the State's subsequent flood preparations; maintenance work to be completed on the French Camp Outlet Canal (FCOC) before rainy season; and authorizing the President and General Manager to move the end date up, if needed, in the event of extreme wet weather or extenuating circumstances prior to October 16.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Weststeyn to announce that the end of the 2026 irrigation season will be Friday, October 16, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., including a three (3) day "Extended Service Period" ending Monday, October 19, 2026, which would serve as a "last call" for customers requesting water; and authorize the President and General Manager to move the end date up, if needed, in the event of extreme wet weather or extenuating circumstances prior to October 16.

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The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #4 – Consider Approval of a Project Recovery Agreement with Drill Tech Drilling & Shoring, Inc. for the Canyon Tunnel Project

Mr. Forrest Killingsworth, SSJID Engineering Department Manager, addressed the Board regarding approval of the Project Recovery Agreement (Agreement) with Drill Tech Drilling & Shoring, Inc. (DTDS) for Brierley Associates' (Brierley) technical support on the Canyon Tunnel Project (Project), subject to required approval by the Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) Board of Directors.

Mr. Killingsworth provided brief background and explained that following the April 14, 2026 incident and suspension of tunnel advancement, SSJID, OID, DTDS, Provost & Pritchard (P&P), and Cal/OSHA have been working through a phased recovery process for the Project. Cal/OSHA has accepted the Phase 2 Restoration Plan. Phase 3, which is intended to address resumption of tunnel advancement, remains under development.

The proposed Agreement establishes a framework for Brierley to provide forward-looking technical support as tunnel advancement resumes, and provides mechanisms for DTDS to retain Brierley as a technical resource to support recovery, restoration, temporary support evaluation, ground-condition evaluation, constructability review, field observation, and future tunnel advancement.

Mr. Killingsworth explained that under the proposed Agreement, DTDS would retain Brierley under a separate agreement between DTDS and Brierley. He further explained Brierley's role in providing forward-looking technical advice related to ground conditions, temporary support, constructability, and tunnel advancement during construction.

Mr. Killingsworth noted that the Agreement limits Brierley's role to Project recovery and future Project performance and restricts the use of Brierley for Project-related claims or disputes. The Agreement also preserves the parties' existing contractual rights and positions.

The Agreement provides reimbursement to DTDS, for eligible Brierley costs, up to a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,000,000.00. If the District's \$1,000,000.00 contribution is exhausted and Brierley support is still needed, DTDS remains responsible for continuing to prosecute the Work and may continue to use Brierley at DTDS's cost. The SSJID/OID Interagency Agreement provides that Project costs are apportioned 72-percent (72%) to SSJID, and 28-percent (28%) to OID, resulting in an estimated SSJID share of up to approximately \$720,000.00. Actual costs may be less depending on the level of Brierley involvement.

Board discussion included positive comments about the Agreement; expressing appreciation for Brierley's technical expertise; and thanking Mr. Killingsworth for his diligence and hard work on the Project.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Roos to approve the Project Recovery Agreement with Drill Tech Drilling & Shoring, Inc for the Canyon Tunnel Project, subject to the required approval of the OID Board of Directors.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #5 – Consider Adoption of Resolution No. 26-31-P Authorizing the District to Quitclaim the District’s Interest and Transfer a Portion of Lateral “Qi” (Station 79+00 to Station 91+00) Located Within Assessor’s Parcel Number 206-120-14

Mr. Anthony Podesto, SSJID Engineering Technician, addressed the Board and provided detailed explanations of the District’s Lateral “Qi” including size and location; a 30-foot Grant of Easement encompassing the portion of Lateral “Qi” recorded in February 1965; and the application submitted by Rick Riella (Applicant) requesting the District quitclaim the existing easement and transfer ownership of Lateral “Qi” to RDSR Properties LLC (Owners).

Mr. Podesto stated that the section of Lateral “Qi” proposed for transfer can only serve the subject property. He further stated that the properties upstream of this location will continue to be served as they are currently, and that the subject property has an active structure permit to construct new on-farm pressurized service connected to the adjacent control box to provide irrigation service moving forward.

Mr. Podesto added that should the Owners elect to remove the lateral, the District will require the submittal of a Structure Abandonment Application and completion of abandonment at the Control Box, including plugging the turnout to the west, in accordance with District standards.

Mr. Podesto noted a deep well adjacent to the Q14 Control Box that is within the District’s 15-foot (15’) easement. Because the well has been in place for many years and has not affected District access, maintenance, or operations, staff recommended leaving the well as-is and issue a retroactive encroachment permit.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Roos to adopt Resolution No. 26-31-P Authorizing the Quitclaim of Easements and Transfer of Pipeline Owned by the South San Joaquin Irrigation District (Portion of Lateral “Qi”).

**SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 26-31-P**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE QUITCLAIM OF EASEMENTS AND TRANSFER OF
PIPELINE OWNED BY THE SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT
(PORTION OF LATERAL “Qi”)**

WHEREAS, the SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT (“District”) is the lawful owner of an easement upon real property situate in the unincorporated area County of San Joaquin, identified by San Joaquin County Assessor’s Parcel Number 206-120-14 (the “Subject Property”); and

WHEREAS, said easement was conveyed by that certain Grant of Easement for Right-of-Way recorded February 25, 1965 and recorded in Book 2919 of Official Records, at Page 671 (“Easement”), for the purpose of construction, maintenance and operation of a portion of District’s Lateral “Qi” pipeline, Station 78+71 to 91+95 (“Pipeline”). Said Easement is more particularly described in the attached Exhibit “A,” and

WHEREAS, the owner of the Subject Property burdened by the Easement is RDSR PROPERTIES, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company; and

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WHEREAS, RDSR PROPERTIES, LLC. has formally requested that the District abandon said Easement and Pipeline, and upon abandonment agrees to accept all rights, responsibilities, and liabilities for said Easement and Pipeline; and

WHEREAS, the District has determined that the Easement and Pipeline are no longer needed for current or future District purposes; and

WHEREAS, the District Board of Directors finds it in the best interests of the District to quitclaim the Easement and transfer the Pipeline unto RDSR PROPERTIES, LLC.; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code section 22500 authorizes an irrigation district to dispose of any interest in property where: 1) the District's Board of Directors find the property is no longer necessary for district purposes; 2) the proposed conveyance is supported by valuable consideration; and 3) the District's Board of Directors finds the terms and conditions of the conveyance to be in the best interests of the District; and

WHEREAS, the District's Board of Directors finds the requirements of California Water Code section 22500 have been met.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by this Board of Directors that:

1. The above Recitals are true and correct, and are incorporated herein.
2. Transfer of ownership of the Pipeline and Easement to RDSR PROPERTIES, LLC. is hereby approved.
3. The General Manager and other District staff are authorized and directed to execute and record all documents and do all other things necessary and proper to effectuate the quitclaim of the Easement and Pipeline to RDSR PROPERTIES, LLC.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of September, 2026, by the following vote:

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

Item #6 – Consider Approval of Award of Contract to Sierra Build Group for the SSJID Restroom Accessibility Upgrade Building “B” Project

Mr. Edgar Torres, SSJID Associate Engineer, addressed the Board regarding approval of an award of contract to Sierra Build Group (Sierra) for the Restroom Accessibility Upgrade Building ‘B’ Project (Project) for an amount of \$176,172.00, and authorize the General Manager to approve up to \$45,000.00 in additional work, as necessary.

Mr. Torres explained that the existing Building B restroom primarily serves Irrigation Operations staff, is currently configured as a men's restroom, and does not meet current accessibility requirements. Last year, staff contracted with Progressive Designs to develop a plan set and obtain the necessary county permits for the new Building B bathroom. The design includes a unisex restroom with three (3) standard bathroom stalls, one (1) Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) stall, and a handwashing area.

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Staff advertised the Project for bids on August 5, 2026, with four (4) bids received and opened on September 2, 2026. Sierra was determined to be the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, with a Notice to Proceed anticipated to be issued in early October. The Contractor is required to commence work within seven (7) calendar days of the Notice to Proceed, and complete the work within forty-two (42) calendar days of commencement. A temporary restroom trailer will be provided during construction for Building B staff.

Mr. Chad Parsons, SSJID Senior Engineer, stated that staff is also proposing the construction of an exterior shower/eye-wash station, which would tie into the current plumbing system and be located on the outer wall.

The 2026 budget allocated for the Project (SHOP25.01) is \$225,000.00. In addition to the contract award of \$176,172.00, staff recommended the Board authorize an additional \$45,000.00 for the proposed additional exterior shower/eye-wash station and potential changes that may be required. The total potential construction expenditure is \$221,172.00, which is within the Board-adopted 2026 Project budget.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Weststeyn to approve the Award of Contract to Sierra Build Group for the Restroom Accessibility Upgrade Building ‘B’ Project (Project) for an amount of \$176,172.00, and authorize the General Manager to approve up to \$45,000.00 in additional work, as necessary.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #7 – Consider Approval of Amendments to SSJID Conflict of Interest Code

Ms. Brown addressed the Board regarding approval of the proposed amendments to the SSJID Conflicts of Interest Code. She explained that the Political Reform Act (PRA) (California Government Code §§ 81000 et seq) requires that the District maintain a Conflicts of Interest Code, which must be reviewed every two (2) years and updated as needed, including the addition of all newly created positions, removal of changed or eliminated positions, and updates to disclosure categories as deemed necessary.

Ms. Brown stated that the Conflicts of Interest Code and disclosure categories assigned to each position are used to determine who is required to file an annual Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) Form 700, and which information must be reported. The County Board of Supervisors (BOS) is the “code reviewing body” for local agencies, pursuant to the Political Reform Act. The amended code, as approved by the District, will be sent to the San Joaquin County BOS for approval before implementation.

Ms. Brown noted that agenda Item #7 Staff Report indicates additions made to the current SSJID Conflicts of Interest Code are underlined, and deletions are shown in strikethrough. Corrections identified for the proposed Conflicts of Interest Code include page 2, Appendix A, Disclosure Categories: Remove Category #3 from the Designated Positions of Electric Utility Manager, and Water Resources Coordinator.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Roos to approve the proposed amendments to the SSJID Conflicts of Interest Code.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #8 – Discussion and Board Direction to Appoint an SSJID Voting Delegate for the Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) Board Meeting, on November 30, 2026, at the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) 2026 Fall Conference

It was noted that the agenda item title was incorrectly listed as December 30, 2026, and that the actual date of the JPIA Board meeting is November 30, 2026.

Mr. Rietkerk addressed the Board regarding District representation at the JPIA Board meeting to be held at the ACWA 2026 Fall Conference. He stated that President Spyksma is the SSJID Board-appointed primary JPIA representative, and Director Holbrook is the alternate representative. Both Directors are unable to attend the ACWA 2026 Fall Conference and staff requested Board direction for attendance/representation at the JPIA summit.

It was determined that Director Roos would be attending the ACWA Fall Conference, therefore the Board appointed him as the SSJID representative and voting delegate for the JPIA meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Weststeyn to appoint Director Roos as the SSJID representative and voting delegate for the JPIA Board meeting on November 30, 2026.

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #9 – Consider Approval of Annual Compensation for General Manager

President Spyksma stated that Agenda Item #9 has been tabled to the next regular board meeting scheduled for October 13, 2026.

Item #10 – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

ATTEST:

Danielle Barney, Clerk of the Board