

MINUTES

**TEHACHAPI-CUMMINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 26, 2026, 3:00 P.M.
22901 Banducci Road, Tehachapi, CA 93561**

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Directors Present: Ables, Hall, Schultz Davis arrived at 3:10 p.m.

Legal Counsel Present: Robert Kuhs arrived at 3:14 p.m.

Staff Present: Catherine Adams, Jon Curry, Tom Neisler, Crystal Sampson

Item 2. Announcement

President Schultz announced this meeting is being audio recorded, including all Board, Staff, and Public comments.

Item 3. Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Schultz.

Item 4. Approval of Agenda

Director Hall moved to approve the Agenda. Director Ables seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Davis. Motion passed.

Item 5. Comments by any Party on Items of Interest and Within the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of the Legislative Body

There were none.

Item 6. Consent Calendar - Consent items are considered routine and are intended to be acted upon as a single item, without discussion. During this portion of the meeting, the Consent Calendar will be read aloud. Prior to approval, the President will give the Board the opportunity to remove any item from the Consent Calendar to be discussed and voted on individually. The President will also give staff and the public the opportunity to request any item be discussed individually, in which case the President will determine whether the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar. The remaining calendar will be acted upon. Any removed items will then be heard and acted upon individually.

- a. Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 15, 2026, and Special Board Meetings of July 14, 2026, and July 17, 2026
- b. Approve Quarterly Investment Report, Financial Report and Payment of Bills
- c. Consent to Sale of Certain Tax-Defaulted Properties

President Schultz asked if there were any items the Board, Staff or Public would like to remove for discussion, and there were none.

Director Ables moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Hall seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: Davis. Motion passed.

Item 7. General Manager's Report

Neisler reported on the following:

-He reviewed the additions to District Staff within the last year or so highlighting Hannah McKinzie, Administrative Assistant I, Garrett Frankland, Heavy Duty Mechanic, Joseph Sasia, Pipeline Maintenance II, Skylar Johnston, Controls & Emissions Specialist, Casey Horg, Equipment Operator, and

Brandon Kirby, GIS Technician. Graysen Oldham, Pipeline Supervisor, worked with the Agriculture Program at Tehachapi High School for summer interns and Russell Clayton, Carter Barthelmes, and Jacob Rubalcava, are recent high school graduates who were recruited for this opportunity. David Wesley Fowlkes has worked for the District for 33 years as a Heavy Duty Mechanic and is retiring this October. Overall, the District has been successful in filling positions and he could not be happier with the way things are going.

-The State Water Resource Control Board recently announced the 2026 August update to the Bay Delta Plan. The public water agencies have worked diligently to provide science that the unimpaired flows was not an effective management plan. That has been demonstrated time and again by the fact that fish are not prospering. The main focus of the original Bay Delta Plan was to protect the Delta smelt, which is now functionally extinct.

-The State produced the final version of the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Contract Amendments, which used to be the Voluntary Contract Amendments. These guidelines or regulations, virtually guarantee that the recently trumpeted 2028 California Water Plan, which will develop 9 million acre feet of additional water supply, cannot succeed.

-The El Nino conditions continue to strengthen as water temperatures in the eastern Pacific are unprecedented. Temperatures are more than 3 degrees Celsius above normal and that has never happened before. At the District, Staff is getting ready for flood-type events to be prepared.

-Golden mussels have continued to be a topic of concern and discussion. Curry attended a presentation from the Water Association of Kern County earlier this month, where it was estimated that in the next year, the cost to combat golden mussels in Kern County be \$36 million. This is a problem that has just come into being within the last couple of years, so no one has budgeted for it. Curry will discuss this further under his report but he has done a great job of representing the District and keeping us abreast of these things.

-There was a three-hour Member Unit Manager's meeting that came up and State Water Operations was discussed. It is the end of August and things should be wrapping up, however, 7,140 CFS is being exported through Bank's Pumping Plant into the system which is 100% of the maximum capacity. It has been operating at maximum capacity for about 13 days straight because there is too much water in the system as he has been reporting each month in the reservoir conditions charts. San Luis Reservoir is going to spill which is unprecedented this time of year. It should be approaching its low point for the year. This also means any carryover that water agencies may have for 2026 is at risk as well.

-The Table A Allocation is 50% currently, and the Member Unit Managers are proposing to DWR that they raise the allocation for 2026 simply because there is no place to put this water. Increasing the allocation this late the year has no benefit to this District as there is no place to put the water. He will keep the Board informed as these conditions make it very difficult to manage.

-Provost & Pritchard, our engineering consultant, submitted our Engine Replacement Project to several different organizations in the category of Outstanding Energy Project of the Year. They were awarded the ASCE regional award for that project, not only from the South San Joaquin branch of the ASCE, but also from the LA section branch. There will be presentations coming up for both of those awards.

Noelle Penner, the Provost & Pritchard project engineer, submitted her paper on that project to the US Committee on Irrigation and Drainage. They hold their annual conference in Reno in October, and she will be presenting that paper there. The District will be represented at all of those events.

-Staff is making provisions to correct some of these issues that have been encountered, and Curry will provide a more detailed explanation to that. The vast majority of the water that is imported is going to our customers. The recharge operations have only been used to assist operationally so far this year. It is anticipated that demand will begin diminishing in the next month. Supply will remain constant, and efforts will be directed more towards recharge.

-In the upcoming General Election, there are three Director seats up for consideration, Division 1, Division 3, and Division 5. Directors Schultz and Ables applied for their respective seats and no one applied for Division 1 that is vacant. Adams is seeking direction from the Kern County Elections Department and our agency is not the only one in this situation.

-Last week he spoke at the Stallion Springs CSD Board Meeting to discuss their Banked Water Reserve Account and he congratulated them on fulfilling their obligation. He also discussed where the District is in terms of water supply and some other items later on today's agenda. He has a meeting scheduled with Bear Valley CSD next week and then he will make plans with Golden Hills CSD as well. He is happy to speak to the City of Tehachapi, but thinks their representatives are very well informed of where we are in this process.

-Next week he will be speaking to five junior high science classes, about 300 kids, to do a presentation on water and answer their questions. He thoroughly enjoys interacting with the kids and hearing what questions they come up with. He mentioned his family members and team members children who have come through these classes over the years.

-He announced his plans to retire in August of 2027 and read an Intent to Retire letter he wrote to the Directors stating the District is in a good financial and operational position and serving the District has been the greatest professional privilege of his life. Under the leadership of the Board of Directors, he envisions great things for the future of Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District. This extended notification will allow the Board to make the best choice for his successor and provide adequate time for a smooth transition. President Schultz appreciated everything he has done for the District and said he is a very dedicated, hard worker.

Director Hall asked if Neisler thinks it would be worthwhile to have the Board compose a letter of complaint to the Department of Water Resources (regarding the mismanagement of the State Water Project). Neisler stated that is a good idea and he suspects that would be much better served by a larger coalition of agencies and we could sign on to such a letter. He has every expectation that such protests are being made or will be being made.

President Schultz asked how much water is going to be left down the hill, and what date are they expected to shut the engines down. Neisler stated as of right now, the plan is to shut down the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. It becomes a safety issue to continue to operate much later in the year and we run out of places to store water. When water is no longer being delivered, the storage capability is limited to the lake and recharge facilities. At this point, the lake is low, and only 100 acre-feet of water has been recharged this year. If it's practical, and if the weather cooperates, which indications are that it will not, operations will continue to run. At that point, it becomes a cost of energy issue. Natural gas gets much more expensive as we get into the winter months back east. Overall, it is hard to tell at this point. Further discussion took place on operational constraints and storage.

Item 8. Operations Report

Curry reported on the following:

-As we move deeper into the importation season, the Operations Department continues to overcome many obstacles to keep the system up and running. The year started off with three seven-stage pumps here in the yard, and the last one was just put in at Pump Plant 1 and the rest were sent out that were damaged. The right-angle drives or gearboxes have had issues as well at Pump Plant 1 because those are still the old-style gearboxes. Repairs have a long lead time because pumps have to be sent to Oklahoma and gearboxes to Texas. This subject will be reviewed in the budget portion of the meeting.

-The Pipeline Department made repairs and restored the road crossing on the west side of Tucker Road near the Antelope Run bike path. This work was completed by Casey Horg and Joe Sasia and photos are included in the Staff Report. Members of the Public called in to say what a nice job was done.

-Brite Lake data from August 21, 2026, was elevation 4352.0', volume 1,003.3 AF, and level 26.0'. The importation system is operating on three-engines at 21 CFS and the Tehachapi Basin extraction wells were shut down on August 7th. The 19-Acres Recharge and Cummings Basin Wesley Recharge facilities are being operated as needed to alleviate pressure spiking that is occurring in Cummings

Valley. Staff is trying to try to eliminate and cushion everything they can as to not have another mainline break. There are pipeline inspections that are teed up for the off-season.

- He provided details on the list of tasks and projects completed by the Pumping Systems and Pipeline Departments as listed in the Staff Report.
- Operations Staff attended safety training for a compressed gas cylinder, HazCom-GHS, and Good Housekeeping.
- He has been working on the current Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Staff attended the Golden Mussel Web Meetings with the Kern County Water Association, Kern County Water Agency, CDFW, and CalOES. He met with a golden mussel treatment provider to discuss detections and possible solutions for treatment. The first proposal came in today it is looking like costs will be between \$135,000/year and \$225,000/year.
- Two members of the Pipeline Staff attended Chlorination and Water Math training with California Rural Water Association.
- Operations Departments continue to queue up items on the FY 2026- 27 Capital Improvement Projects. The off-season task lists seem to get longer every time they meet and discuss them so there is plenty of work to be done.

Director Hall asked what CalOES stands for and Curry clarified that is the California Office of Emergency Services. President Schultz asked if there is much work to do on the new engines in the first few years of off-season versus the old engines that have a lot of hours on them. Curry stated that currently the new engines are still in the warranty period so any work or adjustments that have to be done outside of valve adjustments and things like that are done by the vendor. There is also a one-year warranty for the work that WM Lyles performs such coolant tank repairs. Overall, there is some maintenance work but not heavy work like with the older engines. Further discussion took place on service intervals and other routine maintenance on the engines.

President Schultz commented the Golden Mussels seem to gravitate to slow-moving water areas and asked about their impact on the lake. Curry stated the lake is interesting because there is only a single inlet and outlet. When it is time for regular maintenance, either next spring or the following, divers will be hired to come in and do an inspection of the screen and the lower rails that are submerged to evaluate that. So far, when cleaning the screens on the Tehachapi-side of the system, there has been no detection of mussels yet. Currently they are on the screens at Plant 1 and the scale coming off the pipes at Plant 4. Once they get to Brite Lake, it is likely an eradication treatment will need to be done to kill them and then continually treat.

Item 9. Conduct Public Hearing to Consider the Status of Vacancies, Recruitment and Retention (AB 2561)
a. (Close Hearing and Return to Regular Meeting)

President's Opening Remarks:

President Schultz stated this is a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors for the purpose of hearing the status of vacancies, recruitment, and retention efforts by Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District. The public hearing was declared in session at 3:50 p.m.

Staff Report:

Adams stated Assembly Bill 2561 came into effect January 1, 2025 and required public agencies present the status of job vacancies, recruitment, and retention efforts at a Public Hearing at least once per year, and it should be prior to adopting the Final Budget. Any recognized employee organizations are allowed to be present at the hearing. The District does not have any organizations or bargaining units, so that does not apply to us.

Vacancies

Currently, on the Authorized Position List, there are vacant positions for Controls and Emissions Technician, Operations Manager, and Administration Manager. All three of these positions have upper-level counterpart positions that, when filled, eliminate the need for the lower-level positions. Currently there is a Controls and Emissions Specialist, an Assistant General Manager of Operations, and an Assistant General Manager of Administration, so those lower-level positions are not needed currently. Operationally, there is one open position for a Pipeline Maintenance I position and recruiting has just begun for that position.

Recruitment

When the District is looking to fill a vacancy, the open position is advertised in the newspaper, on the website, social media platforms, and applicable recruiting agencies, such as Indeed. Then, the management team selects qualified candidates, performs initial screening, and then conducts in-person interviews with selected candidates. Once a job offer has been made and accepted, pre-employment screening is performed and the necessary paperwork is completed prior to the candidate starting work. The advertisement for the Pipeline Maintenance I position was just submitted, and Staff is actively recruiting for a Heavy Duty Mechanic in preparation for the announced retirement coming up.

Retention

The District's benefit package, policies, and work environment provide a career path that encourages long-term employment. The salary schedule offers competitive pay scales with annual opportunities for cost-of-living adjustments as approved by the Board of Directors and promotions within each pay range as approved by the General Manager. All employees and their dependents receive health insurance, dental insurance, vision insurance, and an employee assistance plan paid in full by the District. Permanent employees are enrolled in CalPERS retirement plan and have the opportunity to additionally contribute to a CalPERS 457 plan if they desire. Every five years of employment completed, employees receive a \$500 longevity award and employees are eligible to receive a \$500 safety award each year.

Overall, the District's vacancy status is favorable and its recruiting and retention efforts have been successful. There are no changes or proposed changes to the District's policies, procedures, or recruitment activities. Currently, 62% of Staff has been employed with the District longer than five years, and of that 62%, half have been employed longer than 10 years.

Adams introduced the exhibits as follows:

Exhibit A: Authorized Positions List - This is the approved positions for the District and it is followed by the salary ranges for each position.

Exhibit B: Proof of Publication- This Notice of Hearing was published in the Tehachapi News for two weeks. (August 5th and August 12th)

Exhibit C: Declaration of Posting Notice: Notice of Hearing was posted in the District's bulletin board, the City of Tehachapi and Golden Hills CSD.

She offered to answer any questions and there were none.

(Close Hearing and Return to Regular Meeting)

President Schultz declared the hearing closed at 3:55 p.m. and returned to the Regular Board Meeting.

President Schultz moved that the Board approve Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District's status of vacancies, recruitment and retention efforts per Assembly Bill 2561. Director Ables seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None. Motion passed.

Item 10. Adopt Resolution 11-26 Approving the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Final Budget, Appropriations Limit and Reserves Policy

Sampson stated adoption of the attached Resolution will approve the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Final Budget. This includes updated information from the County and others, for a more accurate budget forecast than was approved in the Preliminary Budget on June 17, 2026. Reserve fund balances were also updated to reflect actual versus estimated activity for the last quarter of FY 2025-26. The Ad-Hoc Budget Committee met to review the proposed Budget changes on August 4th. Attachment A provides details of recommended changes noted at the general ledger account level, showing the changes from the Preliminary Budget to the Final Budget. She provided further details on the summary of changes listed in the Staff Report. She reviewed the Operating Budget highlighting subtractions from Operating Revenues, Nonoperating Revenues, Salaries & Benefits Expenses, and Operations & Maintenance Expenses. There was an overall increase in Capital Outlay Expenses and those are shown in Attachment B. The net change in the General Fund from the Preliminary Budget to the Final Budget was a decrease in the net position of about \$317,000, and this is causing expenses to exceed revenues by \$291,650 prior to transfers. The District's Operating Budget would be considered balanced if it were not for an intentional strategic increase to the capital outlay budget that is being funded through a spend-down of reserve funds. This has been done to harden critical infrastructure assets to maintain a reliable water supply for customers. So, with that, transfers will be needed into the General Fund (70) from the Major Repairs and Overhaul Fund (81).

She reviewed the additions and subtractions to the Other Board-Designated and Restricted Reserve Funds. The net change in those funds, excluding the Operating Budget, will result in a decrease in the net position of \$886,000. This is an improvement of nearly \$1 million over the Preliminary Budget. The decrease in the State Water Payment Fund helped offset that. The District Total net position as a whole, will decrease by \$646,550, which is an improvement over the Preliminary Budget. The net change for the FY 2026-27 activity reflected in the District Total Budget plus the revision to the Reserve Fund balances is expected to result in an additional \$2.5 million being added to reserves for the year ending June 30, 2027.

The fiscal impact is a \$646,000 reduction in Total Reserve Fund balances, and that includes the decrease in net position in the General Fund of about \$17,000 and accounts for the \$300,000 transfer from the Designated Reserve Fund for the Capital Outlay increase. The Ad-Hoc Budget Committee met on August 4, 2026, and recommends the Board approve the Final Budget, Appropriations Limit and Reserves Policy.

Curry reviewed the Capital Expenditure Budget revisions listed in Attachment B. Some projects were able to be set aside until the next budget cycle while other costs were amended from initial estimates. The largest change is the addition of \$600,000 to purchase and replace the four gear heads, motor supports, couplings and all the associated equipment at Pump Plant 1. Staff will replace two the first year, maybe three, depending on the length of time it takes to get those pieces of equipment from Philadelphia Gear. President Schultz clarified that the decision to include purchasing the gear heads all at once rather than piecemealing them over a number of years, was to avoid trying to deal with a manufacturer that may or may not still have the expertise and additionally there was a recent gear head failure. Curry agreed and added that the goal is to have them manufactured exactly like the ones from Plants 2 and 3 because we are having great success with those gear heads. Ordering all four at one time also saves money.

President Schultz moved for adoption of Resolution 11-26, Approving the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Final Budget, Appropriations Limit, and Reserves Policy. Director Hall seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None. Motion passed.

Item 11. Adopt Resolution 12-26 For Transfer of Funds

Sampson stated approval of this Resolution will approve the transfer needed for the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Budget. During the Budget review process, the Reserves Policy is reviewed and no revisions were necessary this year. Within the Reserves Policy, reserve targets and balances are described for the next Fiscal Year.

At the August 4, 2026, Ad-Hoc Budget Committee Meeting this transfer was reviewed as part of the Final Budget discussion and the Committee recommended that \$300,000 be transferred from the Major Repairs and Overhaul Fund (81) to the General Fund (70). This transfer is necessary to fund the intentional strategic increase to the capital outlay budget for hardening critical infrastructure assets to maintain a reliable water supply for customers. With that transfer considered, the forecast for the June 30, 2027, year-end for all the reserve targets would be that all full reserve targets would be met for all designated reserve funds, except for the two funds. One is the Major Repairs and Overhaul Fund and it will be at its interim reserve target level, about \$130,000 less than full target, so still well-funded. The other is the Equipment Infrastructure Replacement Upgrade Fund (83) as it will be below the interim reserve target threshold. At the end of Fiscal Year 2025-26, you may recall that Reserve Funds were transferred from that fund to the Engine Project Fund (73) to complete that multi-year infrastructure project. Transfers between the Reserve Funds, including into funds that are below the full reserve target, will be considered during the Mid-Year Budget review.

Director Hall moved that the Board adopt Resolution 12-26, For Transfer of Funds. Director Ables seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None. Motion passed.

Item 12. Accept Bids and Authorize General Manager to execute Contract, including an Allowance for a Maximum of 10% of Contract Value for Change Orders for Parking Lot Sealing Project

Curry stated that Staff sent bid notices to asphalt paving and seal contractors for the parking lot sealing project after Board authorization at the July 15th Regular Board Meeting. Staff is asking the Board to accept bids, authorize the General Manager to execute a contract, and include an allowance for a maximum of 10% of contract value for Change Orders for the parking lot sealing project. Attachment A is the bid notice. Two bids were received by the August 13th submittal deadline, Kern Asphalt Paving and Sealing at \$37,629 and VSS International at \$75,120. The Bidder's List is Attachment B, and you can see Kern Asphalt is in Bakersfield and VSS bid it out of their Sacramento office which Staff believes is the reason for large gap between prices. Curry did check with both bidders to verify their numbers and they confirmed everything was correct as bid. Kern Asphalt was the contractor who did the paving and seal coat project at the office and yard in 2020.

The 2026-27 Capital Expenditure Budget includes \$70,000 for this project so this bid is well under that. Attachment C is the Public Works Contract. He offered to answer any questions.

President Schultz asked why the 10% allowance was put in right from the start and was concerned it is announcing the District will pay more. Neisler replied it would only be paid after the General Manager's authorization. This was a direct result of the lengthy conversations on Change Orders on the Engine Project and getting those to the Board in a timely manner to allow the work to proceed in an efficient fashion. This is a standard condition that is added to public works contracts, and nothing gets approved without the responsible party's authorization. Neisler displayed the section of the contract stating

Change Orders will not become effective until approved by the General Manager in writing. The contractor shall proceed with the additional work upon receipt of an approved contract Change Order.

President Schultz moved that the Board accept bids and authorize General Manager to execute contract with Kern Asphalt Paving and Sealing, including an allowance for a maximum of 10% of contract value for Change Orders for Parking Lot Sealing Project. Director Hall seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None. Motion passed.

Item 13. Adopt Resolution 13-26 Amending and Restating the District's Rules and Regulations for the Sale, Use and Distribution of Water

Neisler stated the District's water service rules and regulations were last amended in November of 2016 by Resolution 25-16. Since that time, further resolutions have been adopted making minor revisions, therefore, it is necessary to amend the Rules and Regulations and there is a desire to amend the District's form of Term M&I Agreement, as well. Adoption of Resolution 13-26 will do both. The Term M&I Agreement revisions are in accordance with the Settlement Agreement that was signed by the City of Tehachapi and the District to resolve the ongoing four cases of litigation. Once the Rules and Regulations are revised, the revised Term M&I Agreement between the City and the District will be brought back to both parties for approval. He will then continue reaching out to the other public agency partners, Stallion Springs CSD, who he has already talked to, and their board, Bear Valley CSD, and Golden Hills CSD. This is the next step in this ongoing resolution of litigation process. The revisions to the Rules and Regulations are shown in Attachment A. Attachment B is the clean version of those revisions. Attachment C is the redlined version of the Term M&I Agreement template that will be included as an exhibit to the Rules and Regulations. Attachment D is the Resolution whereby all of these changes are accomplished. Appendix 2 is the Application for Water Service form used for new customers applying for water service. Appendix 3 is a template for Voluntary Water Banking Agreements. Now that the Amended and Restated Judgment for Cummings Valley is in place, this agreement form can be used for other customers.

President Schultz began reviewing questions he had on sections of the agreement, terms and misleading references. Neisler and Kuhs began reviewing the questions and President Schultz suggested it would be best to set up a committee to review these documents with Staff more thoroughly. The other Directors agreed. President Schultz stated he was not able to sufficiently review the documents and did not feel comfortable approving them without that review. Director Ables stated it was hard to review all the redline versions and documents on the computer. The committee was set with President Schultz and Director Ables to coordinate a review with Staff. Kuhs requested the Board send in their comments so they can all be collated in the review and suggested that some of these items are relics of prior versions and he is happy to get together and make the necessary edits.

Item 14. Authorize Director Attendance at ACWA Regions 6 & 7 San Joaquin Valley Water Tour and 2026 Fall ACWA Conference

Neisler stated the ACWA JPIA Fall Conference will be at the Anaheim Convention Center on December 1st-3rd and he included the information that is available at this time in the Staff Report. The ACWA Regions 6 and 7 Water Tour will be leaving Harris Ranch in Coalinga on Friday, October 9th. The tour will be looking at a number of facilities on the west side of the valley and Central Valley Project facilities. Neisler will be attending as he is on the Board for Regions 6 and 7 and this event is open to District Directors to attend as well. Director attendance for events must be approved in advance by the Board for expense reimbursements.

The ACWA Conference registration fee is \$999 for the full conference with meals included. He estimated \$600 per Director for the Water Tour to include registration, one night hotel stay, and mileage reimbursement. Director Hall has advanced approval to attend the JPIA portion of the ACWA Conference

as the District Representative. Discussion took place on Directors availability and event details. It was determined that Director Hall will attend the JPIA Conference, Directors Schultz and Ables will attend the Fall ACWA Conference and two Directors to be determined later may attend the Water Forum.

President Schultz moved that Directors Schultz and Ables be approved to attend the Fall 2026 ACWA Conference and approve two Directors, to be named, to attend the Regions 6 and 7 San Joaquin Valley Water Tour. Director Hall seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None. Motion passed.

Item 15. Authorize Staff to Circulate Request for Proposals for SCADA Platform Upgrade Project

Curry stated he spoke about the SCADA project earlier in the Capital Expenditure Budget discussion and Staff is requesting the Board of Directors authorize Staff to solicit requests for proposals for the SCADA Platform Upgrade Project. The project was approved by the Board as part of the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Capital Expenditure Budget and the project will replace the District's current Rockwell SCADA platform with the Inductive Automation Ignition Platform. The current Rockwell "Factory Talk", which is our base program for SCADA, is at least 15 years old, and has limitations operationally and he explained the shortcomings. Currently, double programming of sites is required because of the unit in the control room. Changes have to be made in one spot and then changes have to be made in another spot. With the Ignition Platform in the control room, the change is made in the field and it has unlimited individual pages. That will help a lot with breaking down data, reporting, and many other features to greatly expand the data collection and controls capabilities. Another advantage is once the logic programming is completed in the control room, it will no longer have to be replicated at the sites.

Staff believes this project is needed and would like to proceed with Request for Proposal (RFP) circulation and the RFP is Attachment A. The Capital Expenditure Budget includes \$175,000 for this project. Director Ables asked if this will be for hardware and software and Curry confirmed it is and stated parts of the system are fiber optic and other parts are radio. Curry added a few years ago they had a study done on the fiber optic lines and they were still in great shape.

President Schultz moved that Board authorize Staff to Solicit Requests for Proposals for the SCADA Platform Upgrade Project. Director Hall seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None. Motion passed.

Item 16. Board of Directors Comments

There were none.

Item 17. Adjourn to Closed Session

President to reference Closed Session items as presented on Agenda, then Board to adjourn to Closed Session.

- a. In Accordance with Exhibit A Attached hereto, TCCWD v. City of Tehachapi *Et al.*
- b. In Accordance with Exhibit B Attached hereto, TCCWD v. City of Tehachapi
- c. In Accordance with Exhibit C Attached hereto, DWR v. All Persons Interested in Authorization of WaterFix Revenue Bonds, et al.; DWR v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Authorization of Delta Program Revenue Bonds, et al.
- d. In Accordance with Exhibit D Attached hereto, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD *Et al.* v. Kern County Water Agency *Et al.*
- e. In Accordance with Exhibit E Attached hereto, City of Tehachapi vs. TCCWD
- f. In Accordance with Exhibit F Attached hereto, City of Tehachapi vs. TCCWD

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 4:59 p.m.

Item 18. Return to Open Session

The Board returned to Open Session at 5:21 p.m.

Report Action Taken in Closed Session:

- a. No reportable action.
- b. No reportable action.
- c. No reportable action.
- d. No reportable action.
- e. No reportable action.
- f. No reportable action.

Item 19. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m. on a motion made by Director Hall, seconded by President Schultz and carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None.


Robert W. Schultz, Board President
Catherine Adams, Board Secretary



Tehachapi-Cummings
County Water District

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CLOSED SESSION ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

(Gov. Code § 54954.5)

A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54956.8.)

Description of Property: _____
Proposed District Negotiator: _____
Negotiating Parties: _____
Subject of Conference: _____

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (Gov. Code § 54956.9.)

1. Existing Litigation Gov. Code §54956.9(d)(1): County of Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 34-2022-80003892
Name of Case: Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District v. City of Tehachapi *Et al.*
2. Anticipated Litigation: _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9 (d)(2): _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9(d) (4): _____

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (Gov. Code § 54957.)

1. Appointment: _____
Title: _____
2. Employment: _____
Title: _____
3. Performance Evaluation: _____
Title: _____
4. Discipline/Dismissal/Release: _____

D. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54957.6.)

Agency Negotiator: _____
Employee Organization: _____
Unrepresented Employee: _____



Tehachapi-Cummings
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CLOSED SESSION ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

(Gov. Code § 54954.5)

A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54956.8.)

Description of Property: _____
Proposed District Negotiator: _____
Negotiating Parties: _____
Subject of Conference: _____

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (Gov. Code § 54956.9.)

1. Existing Litigation Gov. Code §54956.9(d)(1): KCSC Case No. BCV-25-103013
Name of Case: _____
City of Tehachapi _____

2. Anticipated Litigation: _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9(d)(2): _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9(d)(4): _____

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (Gov. Code § 54957.)

1. Appointment: _____
Title: _____
2. Employment: _____
Title: _____
3. Performance Evaluation: _____
Title: _____
4. Discipline/Dismissal/Release: _____

D. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54957.6.)

Agency Negotiator: _____
Employee Organization: _____
Unrepresented Employee: _____



Tehachapi-Cummings
County Water District

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CLOSED SESSION ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

(Gov. Code § 54954.5)

A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54956.8.)

Description of Property: _____
Proposed District Negotiator: _____
Negotiating Parties: _____
Subject of Conference: _____

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (Gov. Code § 54956.9.)

1. Existing Litigation Gov. Code §54956.9(d)(1): Two Cases
Names of Cases: _____
DWR v. All Persons Interested in Authorization of
WaterFix Revenue Bonds, et al.; DWR v. All Persons
Interested In The Matter of the Authorization of Delta
Program Revenue Bonds, et al.

2. Anticipated Litigation: _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9 (d)(2): _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9 (d)(4): _____

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (Gov. Code § 54957.)

1. Appointment: _____
Title: _____
2. Employment: _____
Title: _____
3. Performance Evaluation: _____
Title: _____
4. Discipline/Dismissal/Release: _____

D. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54957.6.)

Agency Negotiator: _____
Employee Organization: Not Applicable
Unrepresented Employee: _____



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CLOSED SESSION ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

(Gov. Code § 54954.5)

A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54956.8.)

Description of Property: _____
Proposed District Negotiator: _____
Negotiating Parties: _____
Subject of Conference: _____

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (Gov. Code § 54956.9.)

1. Existing Litigation Gov. Code §54956.9(d)(1): KCSC No. BCV 21100418 TSC
Name of Case: Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD *Et al.* v. Kern County Water Agency *Et al.*

2. Anticipated Litigation: _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9 (d)(2): _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9 (d)(4): _____

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (Gov. Code § 54957.)

1. Appointment: _____
Title: _____
2. Employment: _____
Title: _____
3. Performance Evaluation: _____
Title: _____
4. Discipline/Dismissal/Release: _____

D. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54957.6.)

Agency Negotiator: _____
Employee Organization: _____
Unrepresented Employee: _____



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County Water District

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CLOSED SESSION ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

(Gov. Code § 54954.5)

A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54956.8.)

Description of Property: _____
Proposed District Negotiator: _____
Negotiating Parties: _____
Subject of Conference: _____

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (Gov. Code § 54956.9.)

1. Existing Litigation Gov. Code KCSC Case No. BCV-23-104134
§54956.9(d)(1): _____
Names of Cases: City of Tehachapi v. Tehachapi-Cummings County
Water District

2. Anticipated Litigation: _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9 (d)(2): _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9 (d)(4): _____

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (Gov. Code § 54957.)

1. Appointment: _____
Title: _____
2. Employment: _____
Title: _____
3. Performance Evaluation: _____
Title: _____
4. Discipline/Dismissal/Release: _____

D. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54957.6.)

Agency Negotiator: _____
Employee Organization: Not Applicable
Unrepresented Employee: _____



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County Water District

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CLOSED SESSION ITEM DESCRIPTIONS

(Gov. Code § 54954.5)

A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54956.8.)

Description of Property: _____
Proposed District Negotiator: _____
Negotiating Parties: _____
Subject of Conference: _____

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL (Gov. Code § 54956.9.)

1. Existing Litigation Gov. Code §54956.9(d)(1): KCSC Case No. BCV-24-101512
Names of Cases: City of Tehachapi vs. Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District
2. Anticipated Litigation: _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9 (d)(2): _____
Gov. Code § 54956.9 (d)(4): _____

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (Gov. Code § 54957.)

1. Appointment: _____
Title: _____
2. Employment: _____
Title: _____
3. Performance Evaluation: _____
Title: _____
4. Discipline/Dismissal/Release: _____

D. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (Gov. Code § 54957.6.)

Agency Negotiator: _____
Employee Organization: Not Applicable
Unrepresented Employee: _____