

**NOTICE AND AGENDA**

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

**SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO.1**

will be held at **3:00 P.M., Tuesday, March 18, 2025**

**1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, CA - Conference Room**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, was held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, in-person at 1070 Faraday Street.

Trustees Present:       Jeff Clay  
                                  Mike Burchardi  
                                  Brad Joos  
                                  Mark Moniot  
                                  Nick Urton

Trustees Absent:       None

Others Present:       Paeter Garcia       Racel Cota       Kylie Kelleher  
                                  Dan Drugan       Gary Kvistad

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:**

President Clay called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m., he stated that this was a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Cota conducted a roll call and reported that five Trustees were present.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

President Clay led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. REPORT BY THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTING OF THE NOTICE AND AGENDA:**

Ms. Cota reported that the Agenda for this meeting was posted in accordance with the California Government Code commencing at Section 54953, as well as District Resolution No. 340.

**4. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE AGENDA:**

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

President Clay welcomed any members of the public and offered time for members of the public to speak and address the Board on matters not on the Agenda. There was no public comment. Mr. Garcia reported that no written comments were submitted to the District for the meeting.

**6. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18, 2025**

The Regular Meeting minutes from February 18, 2025 were presented for consideration.

President Clay asked if there were any changes or additions to the Regular meeting minutes of February 18, 2025. There were no changes or additions requested.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0 voice vote to approve the February 18, 2025 Regular meeting minutes as presented.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

The Consent Agenda report was provided in the Board packet.

Mr. Garcia reviewed the Consent Agenda materials for the month of February.

It was MOVED by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0 voice vote to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

8. MANAGER REPORTS - STATUS, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

A. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

1. Financial Report on Administrative Matters

a) Presentation of Monthly Financial Statements – Revenues and Expenses

Ms. Cota announced that the Financial Statements were provided to the Board via email earlier in the day, included in the meeting handout materials, and posted on the District’s website.

Ms. Cota reviewed the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the month of February. She highlighted various line-items related to revenue and expense transactions that occurred during the month and for the eight months ending February 28, 2025. Ms. Cota stated that revenue exceeded expenses by \$157,950.13 and the year-to-date February 2025 net income was \$3,614,803.12.

b) Approval of Accounts Payable

Ms. Cota announced that the Warrant List was provided to the Board via email earlier in the day, included in the meeting handout materials, and posted on the District’s website.

It was MOVED by Trustee Clay, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0 voice vote to approve the Warrant List for February 19, 2025 through March 18, 2025.

c) Quarterly Statement of Changes in Cash and Investments and Proposed Transfer to Reserve Accounts

Ms. Cota presented the Statement of Changes in Cash and Investments, which summarized the change in cash and investments for the quarter ending December 31, 2024. The report provided an overview of the District’s cash and investments for all activities that occurred during the period October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. Ms. Cota reported that no activity occurred for the District’s Restricted and Unrestricted-Board Reserved funds during that period. She reported a total Unrestricted-Unreserved balance of \$12,603,949.20. Ms. Cota stated that in November 2024 the Board approved and accepted the FY 2023/2024 Financial Statements, resulting in \$2,976,179 in surplus revenues. She stated that management has reviewed the District’s Unrestricted Fund balance as of December 31, 2024 and recommends that the Board consider splitting the surplus balance 60/40 and transfer \$1,785,707.40 and \$1,190,471.60 to the Plant Expansion and the Repair and Replace Unrestricted-Board Reserved funds, respectively. The increased allocation of 60% to the Plant Expansion is in anticipation of funds needed to assist with covering a portion of the CR-6 water treatment plant expenses.

After a brief discussion, it was MOVED by Trustee Clay, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a 5-0-0 voice vote, to authorize the transfer of \$2,976,179 of Unrestricted Funds to be split 60/40 at \$1,785,707.40 and \$1,190,471.60 to the Plant Expansion and the Repair and Replace Unrestricted-Board Reserved funds, respectively.

2. Amendment to District Policy Regarding Suspension of Water Service for Nonpayment
  - a) Resolution No. 851: A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement No.1 amending the District's Policy For Suspension of Water Service for Nonpayment.

The board packet included a red-lined draft of the proposed updates to the District's Policy For Suspension of Water Service for Nonpayment, as well as a final draft of the Resolution adopting the proposed updates.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Moniot, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, to adopt Resolution No. 851, a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement No.1 amending the District's Policy For Suspension of Water Service for Nonpayment. Resolution No. 851 passed by the following roll call vote:

**Ayes, Trustees:** Mark Moniot  
Brad Joos  
Nick Urton  
Mike Burchardi  
Jeff Clay

**Noes, Trustees:** None  
**Abstain, Trustees:** None  
**Absent, Trustees:** None

3. Refugio 3 Pump Replacement Project

Mr. Drugan presented a Staff Report regarding a recommended bid award for the District's Refugio 3 Booster Pump Replacement Project. He reported that the District received two bids in response to the Request for Bids issued by the District on February 18, 2025. The bidders were Tierra Contracting at \$191,090.00 and Hanly General Engineering at \$156,100.00. Staff's recommendation was to award the Project to Hanly General Engineering as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Discussion ensued and staff addressed several questions asked by Board members.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Moniot, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0 voice vote to authorize award of the District's Refugio 3 Booster Pump Replacement Project to Hanly General Engineering and authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Hanly General Engineering in the amount of \$156,100 to complete the Project.

**B. OPERATIONS:**

1. General Update

Mr. Drugan reported on various operational matters being undertaken by the District, including but not limited to comprehensive water quality sampling, an operational meeting with CCWA personnel, well maintenance, and commencement of the Madera Yard Fence Replacement Project.

**9. REPORT, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:**

**A. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT**

1. Eastern Management Area (EMA) Update

Mr. Garcia reported that he and Trustee Joos attended the February 27, 2025 meeting of the Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EMA GSA), and the March 7, 2025 joint meeting of the EMA GSA, CMA GSA, and WMA GSA. Copies of those meeting

notices and agendas were included in the board packet. Mr. Garcia also noted that the EMA GSA and EMA Citizens Advisory Group are hosting a Public Workshop on March 20, 2025 to share information about proposed groundwater production charges to be adopted by the EMA GSA. The Workshop will also present information regarding potential well registration and well metering policies to be adopted by the EMA GSA.

**10. REPORTS BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMITTEE REPORTS, AND OTHER MATTERS AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

Mr. Garcia briefly discussed the Family Farm Alliance monthly newsletter as well as two articles from the Santa Barbara Independent that were included in the Board packet.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE: GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FILING OF VARIOUS ITEMS:**

The Correspondence List was received by the Board.

**12. REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:**

The Board requested that, to the extent available, staff present educational information they are developing to include as part of the District's participation in the Annual Airport Day and other community events.

**13. NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

President Clay stated that the next Regular Board meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for April 15, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

**14. CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board adjourned to closed session at 4:36 p.m.

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**

[Subdivision (d)(1) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – 2 Cases]

1. Name of Case: Adjudicatory proceedings pending before the State Water Resources Control Board regarding Permit 15878 issued on Application 22423 to the City of Solvang, Petitions for Change, and Related Protests
2. Name of Case: Central Coast Water Authority, et al. v. Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, et al., Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. 21CV02432

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - POTENTIAL LITIGATION**

[Subdivision (d)(4) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – Potential Initiation of Litigation By the Agency – One Matter]

**15. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:**

[Sections 54957.1 and 54957.7 of the Government Code]

- A. Report (if any) on Closed Session Agenda Items 14.A – 14.B

The Board reconvened to open session at approximately 5:29 p.m. Mr. Garcia announced that the Board met in closed session in accordance with Agenda Items 14.A through 14.B. He reported that there was no reportable action regarding any of the closed session Agenda Items

**16. ADJOURNMENT:**

Being no further business, it was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a 5-0-0 voice vote to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:29 p.m.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

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Racel Cota, Secretary to the Board

**ATTEST:**

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Jeff Clay, President

**MINUTES PREPARED BY:**

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Kylie Kelleher, Executive Administrative Assistant