

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
Eastside Water District Board of Directors**

September 18, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

Board Chair Tim Johnson called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. at the Cortez Hall, 12937 North Cortez Avenue, Turlock, CA, 95380.

Directors Present: Cody Alldrin, Ward Burroughs, Carl Evers, III (on-line), Tim Johnson, Dexter Long, Dino Rossini, Wes Sperry, and Todd Turley.

Directors Absent: Richard Gemperle

Others Present: Ken Braden – landowner, Eddie Valedajo – landowner (On-line), Alberto Flores – public, Liam – public (on-line), Sara Harper – Provost & Pritchard, Chase Hurley – Water & Land Solutions, Kathie Johnson – landowner (on-line), Michelle Reimers - Consultant, Brittney Schortzmann – representing landowner (on-line), Karen Whipp – Board Secretary, and Sarah Woolf- General Manager, Dennis Yotsuya - Ballico Cortez Water District, and Jeanne Zolezzi – legal counsel.

Emergency Circumstance

Board Member, Carl Evers, III contacted the General Manager, stating that he was ill and could not attend the meeting in person. He made a request to attend the meeting remotely. At the board meeting Member Evers, showed the board that he was able to participate through both audio and visual technology. He stated that he was the only person in the room. **It was moved by Member Ward Burroughs, seconded by Member Dino Rossini, and carried** to allow Member Carl Evers, III to attend the meeting as voting board member. **Roll Call Vote: Cody Alldrin-Yes, Ward Burroughs-Yes, Carl Evers, III (on-line)-Abstain, Tim Johnson-Yes, Dexter Long-Yes, Dino Rossini-Yes, Wes Sperry-Yes, and Todd Turley-Yes.**

Item 2 **Public Comment:** None.

Item 3 **Consent Calendar**

Chairman Johnson stated before calling for the vote, that the invoice for Provost and Pritchard had been pulled for payment. **It was moved by Member Ward Burroughs, seconded by Member Wes Sperry, and carried unanimously** to approve the consent calendar. **Roll Call Vote: Cody Alldrin-Yes, Ward Burroughs-Yes, Carl Evers, III (on-line)-Yes, Tim Johnson-Yes, Dexter Long-Yes, Dino Rossini-Yes, Wes Sperry-Yes, and Todd Turley-Yes.**

Item 4 **Infrastructure Reimbursement Program for 2025-2026**

Sarah Woolf, General Manager, reported:

- a. Chuck Dirkse Sidegate, pipeline, and pond – He is in discussion with TID for a Sidegate, and working with Waterford Irrigation to get designs and quote for a pond and pipeline. **This item was for information only.**
- b. Ballico Cortez – Sidegate to Kullar and neighbors – There have been meetings with Ballico Cortez landowners, Davids Engineering, Waterford Irrigation, and Chase Hurley about a project that includes some land in EWD. **This item was for information only.**

- c. Another project that will come back to the board next month will be the Escobar property. They just submitted their application and bids. **This item was for information only.**

Item 5

Projects

- a. TID Replenishment Water
 - i. The General Manager reported that landowners have taken 5,100-acre feet of water. Landowners can take water until the end of October. **This item was for information only.**
 - ii. Monte Vista Recharge- The pond has taken over 160 acre-feet to date. **This item was for information only.**
 - iii. EAR Pipeline to Sand Creek and Mustang Creek from the Main Canal – Davids Engineering gave an on-line report to the board of work completed (*preferred route, various surveys, GEO technical investigation, meetings, and coordination with TID*) and next steps (*30% design of plan and pump station, permit applications, CEQA*). They will be at the October board meeting to make a full presentation. **This item was for information only.**
 - iv. Landowner Projects in EWD – There was nothing new to report this month. **This item was for information only.**
- b. Merced Irrigation/Dry Creek
 - i. Use to date – The landowners are close to using all the 1,770 acre-feet water allocation. The majority this year has been used for irrigation. **This item was for information only.**
 - ii. Monitoring Sites on Dry Creek – the sites have been chosen. When irrigation season is done, the gaging stations will be installed. **This item was for information only.**
 - iii. Ongoing project development on private parcels along Dry Creek – Cody Alldrin reported their pump is installed for their pond. **This item was for information only.**
- c. Provost and Pritchard Streamflow Analysis on Mustang, Sand and Dry Creeks – Sara Harper gave a presentation evaluating the available surplus surface water supplies for potential appropriation. **This item was for information only.**

Item 6

Update on East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

- a. MOU for Member Agencies for Reimbursement – The legal counsel has reviewed the MOU. Mike Tietze, General Manager is now reviewing the MOU. **This item was for information only.**
- b. Reporting of Surface Water Use and Recharge in water year 24/25 WY on GAP- the Phase 2 Rules and Regulations were approved last month. This will include the type of credits you will get in 2025. For Surface Water 100 percent. For Recharge 87.5 percent. **This item was for information only.**
 - i. Help Workshop, Thursday, September 25, 2025, Tuesday, October 14, 2025, Thursday, October 23, 2025 – There is a workshop and Drop-in Services for help with Self-Reporting. **This item is for information only.**
- c. Development of Credit splits on infrastructure for surface and recharge credits for 25/26 WY - The ETS GSA is still working on the cost shares for 2026. Also, on the ETS GSA agenda is the request to approve an additional \$25,000 for ESA to add a function to the Groundwater Accounting Platform that will build smaller acreage of fallowed fields. **This item was for information only.**

d. MLRP pilots and full program – Also on the ETS GSA Board agenda is the Incentive Payment Procedures in the proposed Incentivized Fallowing Program. The General Manager also shared information regarding a Sustainable Groundwater Grant program through Google. The Request for Information is due the end of September. The focus will be for Lower Mustang Creek. **This item was for information only.**

Item 7

Other Business

There was no other business. **This item was for information only.**

Chairman Tim Johnson closed the regular meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Item 8

Closed Session

Chairman Tim Johnson opened the closed session at 10:47 a.m.

Closed Session: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Pursuant to Gov. Code § 54956.9(d) Significant exposure to litigation: 2 cases. No action was taken.

a. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS**

Pursuant to Gov. Code § 54956.8

Property: Lake Road; 37.62286° N, 120.69623° W

Agency Negotiator: Sarah Woolf

Negotiating Parties: Owner

Under Negotiation: price

b. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS**

Pursuant to Gov. Code § 54956.8

Property: Appropriative Water Right

Agency Negotiator: Sarah Woolf

Negotiating Parties: SWRCB

Under Negotiation: Water Right

Chairman Tim Johnson closed the Closed Session at 11:14 a.m.

Chairman Tim Johnson opened the regular meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Item 10

Adjournment

Chairman Tim Johnson adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

I hereby certify that this is a full and correct copy of the minutes of the Board of Directors of the Eastside Water District of Merced and Stanislaus Counties, California.

September 18, 2025

Karen Whipp

KAREN L. WHIPP

EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT BOARD CLERK