

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

March 19, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Eastside Water District Board Chairman Tim Johnson called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. at the Cortez Hall, 12937 North Cortez Avenue, Turlock, CA, 95380.

Directors Present: Cody Alldrin, Jon Beck, Carl Evers, III, Richard Gemperle, Tim Johnson, Wes Sperry, and Todd Turley.

Directors Absent: Ward Burroughs and Dino Rossini.

Others Present: Ken Braden – landowner, Alison Bryson – landowner, Cheri Escobar – landowner, Jay Fiori - representative (on-line), Alberto Flores – public, Mitchell Moreda – landowner, Matt Nunes – landowner representative, Michael – interested party (on-line), Michelle Reimers - Consultant, Brittney Schortzmann – landowner representative (on-line), Sebastian Silvera-landowner representative (on-line), Chad Tienken – Davids Engineering (on-line), Karen Whipp – Board Secretary, Sarah Woolf- General Manager, and Jeanne Zolezzi – Legal Counsel.

Item 2 **Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

Item 3 **Consent Calendar for Eastside Water District**
It was moved by Member Carl Evers III, seconded by Member Cody Alldrin, and carried unanimously to approve the consent calendar.

Item 4 **Infrastructure Reimbursement Program for 2025-2026**
Sarah Woolf, General Manager, reported there were no new projects or Sidegates this month. Replenishment Water is now available. The two Sidegates off the Highline Canal in Ballico Cortez Water District that were approved at the February meeting are on hold due to the storm. Landowners will have them ready to install at the end of the irrigation season. **This item was for information only.**

Item 5 **Projects**

- a. TID Replenishment Water –
 - i. Monte Vista Recharge- The pipeline is being installed today. **This item was for information only.**
 - ii. EARI Pipeline to Sand Creek and Mustang Creek from the Main Canal – Chad Tienken, Davids Engineering, gave an update on the 60% design. They met with TID, Merced and Stanislaus Counties to discuss the design, which is standard practice. The draft CEQA document is being prepared and should be ready by early May. EWD staff is working on the process to obtain easements. **This item was for information only.**
 - iii. Landowner Developed Projects in EWD– There was nothing to report this month. **This item was for information only.**
 - iv. Sand and Mustang Creek Landowner Meeting – Staff is planning on scheduling a meeting in May with landowners within Sand and Mustang Creeks to discuss the EARI Pipeline. **This item was for information only.**

- b. Merced Irrigation/Dry Creek
 - i. Monitoring Sites on Dry Creek – The GSA was approved for a permit to install a gauging station. Three monitorings have been completed. **This item was for information only.**
 - ii. Ongoing project development on private parcels along Dry Creek – There was a landowner meeting March 5th. MID water is available now and landowners are receiving it. **This item was for information only.**

Item 6

Update on East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

- a. Groundwater Use Fee True Up Schedule and Results 24/25 WY– The General Manager, reported that the True-up Invoices have been mailed. The board secretary is waiting for email confirmation of the mailing. Staff is prepared to provide grower support through phone calls and three scheduled Walk-in Help sessions. Next year there will not be deposit invoices mailed out. **This item is for information only.**
- b. Incentivized Fallowing Program – The General Manager, reported that the Incentivized Land Fallowing Program applicants have been notified. **This item is for information only.**
- c. MLRP pilot and full program – The General Manager, reported the application due date was extended to March 4, with 20 applications received from 18 applicants. The applications are being processed and scored and the Advisory Committee will provide input on March 24. She stated the applications will be brought to the board at their March meeting for consideration **This item is for information only.**

Item 7

Other Business

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

Chairman Tim Johnson closed the regular meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Item 8

Closed Session

Closed Session: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Chairman Tim Johnson opened the closed session at 9:52 a.m.

Pursuant to Gov. Code § 54956.9(d) Significant exposure to litigation: 3 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

c. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS**

Pursuant to Gov. Code § 54956.8

Property: Bledsoe and Keyes Road

Agency Negotiators: Sarah Woolf, Tim Johnson, Jeanne Zolezzi

Negotiating Parties: Landowners

Under Negotiation: Price and terms

Chairman Tim Johnson closed the Closed Session at 10:29 a.m.

Chairman Tim Johnson opened the regular meeting at 10:30 a.m.

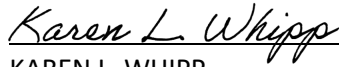
Item 9

Adjournment

Chairman Tim Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:31 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.

March 19, 2026



KAREN L. WHIPP

EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT BOARD CLERK