

**Minutes of the Regular Joint Quarterly Meeting of the
Eastside Water District Board of Directors
and
Ballico Cortez Water District Board of Directors**

April 16, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Eastside Water District Board Chairman 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, Jon Beck, Ward Burroughs, Carl Evers, III (on-line), Richard Gemperle, Tim Johnson, and Dino Rossini.

Directors Absent: Wes Sperry, and Todd Turley.

Others Present: Ken Braden – landowner, Alison Bryson – landowner, Chuck Dirkse – landowner, Cheri Escobar – landowner, Alberto Flores – public, Earl Haringa – landowner, Chase Hurley – landowner representative, Matt Nunes – landowner representative, Kathie Johnson – landowner, Michelle Reimers - Consultant, Brittney Schortzmann – landowner representative (on-line), Chad Tienken – Davids Engineering (on-line), Matt Veneman – Waterford Irrigation, Karen Whipp – Board Secretary, Sarah Woolf- General Manager, and Jeanne Zolezzi – Legal Counsel.

Emergency Circumstance

Board Member, Carl Evers, III informed the board 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 Cody Alldrin and carried to allow Member Carl Evers, III to attend the meeting as voting board member. Abstain- Carl Evers, III.**

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

Item 3 **Consent Calendar for Eastside Water District**
It was moved by Member Dino Rossini, seconded by Member Jon Beck, and carried unanimously to approve the consent calendar. Roll Call Vote: Cody Alldrin - Yes, Jon Beck - Yes, Ward Burroughs – Yes, Carl Evers, III (on-line) - Yes, Richard Gemperle - Yes, Tim Johnson - Yes, and Dino Rossini - Yes.

Item 4 **Consent Calendar for Ballico Cortez Water District**
No action by Eastside Water District.

Item 5 **Eastside Water District 2024-2025 Fiscal Audit**
Independent Auditor, Kip Hudson, presented the 2024-2025 audit report to the board for review. The audit will be presented to the board for approval at their May 21 board meeting. **This item was information only.**

Item 6 **Ballico Cortez Water District 2024-2025 Fiscal Audit**
No action by Eastside Water District.

Item 7

Infrastructure Reimbursement Program for 2025-2026

Sarah Woolf, General Manager, reported there were no new projects or Sidegates this month. Landowners are receiving replenishment water now. The General Manager encouraged everyone that will have Sidegates to install after irrigation season, to have your project ready to go as soon as the season ends. **This item was for information only.**

Item 8

Projects

- a. TID Replenishment Water – The current storm was very beneficial for replenishment water. **This item was for information only.**
 - i. Monte Vista Recharge- The pipeline is installed with gravity flow. The pond is receiving replenishment water, with approximately 1 ft a day in recharge. **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. It is nearing 60% completion, including the regulating basin and pumping station. The draft CEQA document is being updated to include the basin, and Mustang and Sand Creeks. Staff plans to submit design to the board for review in mid-to-late May. **This item was for information only.**
 - iii. Sand and Mustang Creek Landowner Meeting –Sand and Mustang Creeks landowners have been invited to a meeting May 12 at Cortez Hall to discuss the EARI Pipeline and potential projects. **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 monitoring events have been completed. **This item was for information only.**
 - ii. Ongoing project development on private parcels along Dry Creek –MID water is available now and landowners are receiving it. **This item was for information only.**

Item 9

Update on East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

- a. Groundwater Use Fee True Up Schedule and Results 24/25 WY– The General Manager reported on the number of invoices sent, total amount assessed and due. The General Manager also reported on the results of groundwater target reduction and actual reduction, which included fallowing, cover crops, and replenishment water use. **This item is for information only.**
- b. Water Accounting Balance True Up Process with ETSGSA and TID – The General Manager reported the reporting period for replenishment water will be extended due to TID’s invoicing schedule for surface water. **This item is for information only.**
- c. Incentivized Fallowing Program – The General Manager, reported that the Incentivized Land Fallowing Program agreements are being processed. **This item is for information only.**
- d. MLRP pilot and full program – The General Manager, reported the pilot agreements have been completed and are in the signing phase. The full program applicants are going through the CEQA and project design process. **This item is for information only.**

Item 10

Other Business

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

Chairman Tim Johnson closed the regular meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Item 11

Closed Session

Closed Session: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Chairman Tim Johnson opened the closed session at 10:23 a.m.

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: Appropriative Water Right

Agency Negotiator: Sarah Woolf

Negotiating Parties: SWRCB

Under Negotiation: Water Right

b. **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 10:46 a.m.

Chairman Tim Johnson opened the regular meeting at 10:46 a.m.

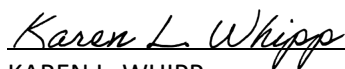
Item 12

Adjournment

Chairman Tim Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:47 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.

April 16, 2026



KAREN L. WHIPP

EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT BOARD CLERK