

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
GARFIELD WATER DISTRICT  
January 20, 2026**

1. President Pat Ricchiuti called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. In attendance were Directors Karl Kienow, Bill Smittcamp (arrived at 12:36 p.m.), and Palmer Lien. Director Mark Johnson was absent. Attorney Lauren Layne, Auditor Luis Perez, Engineer/Watermaster Dennis Keller, and Secretary Paul Woodworth were also present.

2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Karl Kienow and seconded by Palmer Lien to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2025 meeting. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Directors Smittcamp and Johnson were absent.

3. 2024-2025 District Financial Audit Report

Director Smittcamp entered the meeting at 12:36 p.m.

Mr. Perez presented the Independent Auditor's Report for the two-year period ending February 28, 2025. Mr. Perez reported the audit opinion, discussed the key and significant points of the report, and presented the audited financial statements. Mr. Perez also discussed the supplemental management report on controls. Mr. Perez answered questions from the Board members regarding the financial statements, audit process, and management controls.

It was moved by Palmer Lien and seconded by Karl Kienow to accept the Independent Auditor's Report as presented. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Director Johnson was absent.

4. Business and Presentations from the Floor

None.

5. Additions to the Agenda

None.

It was moved by Karl Kienow and seconded by Bill Smittcamp to approve the agenda. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Director Johnson was absent.

6. Potential Conflicts of Interest - Board members were asked if any conflicts of interest existed.

Pat Ricchiuti and Bill Smittcamp identified a potential conflict of interest on agenda Items 11(b) due to owning property within 500 feet and 12 (a) due to prior discussions on land development. Pat Ricchiuti also identified a potential conflict of interest on agenda item 12(b) due to owning property with 500 feet.

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7. Correspondence

A. Ray Smith & Son Handles, LLC Sales Flyer – Mr. Woodworth presented the sales flyer to the Board.

B. American Express Credit Card Offer - Mr. Woodworth presented the offer to the Board.

C. California Public Water Supply Systems – Continuing Education Flyer - –Mr. Woodworth presented the flyer to the Board.

8. Financial Reports

A-H. Mr. Woodworth presented the monthly financials. Mr. Woodworth updated the Board on the District’s operating funds cash balance, bank reconciliations, and profit and loss statement.

Mr. Woodworth notified the Board that the District received the November 2025 Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) water invoices. The District has not received the August or October 2025 invoices due to the recent government shutdown, which affects the District’s year-to-date water expenses.

Mr. Woodworth reviewed the assessment and water order accounts receivable ledgers with the Board. Mr. Woodworth contacted Chelsea Downs HOA and was informed the payment was mailed. Mr. Woodworth requested assistance from Mr. Keller on the collection of the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District invoice. Mr. Woodworth will contact Sunnyside 40, LLC on its outstanding water invoices.

Mr. Woodworth reviewed the interest earned on the US Bank money market account.

Mr. Woodworth informed the Board that the signature cards for the new Valley Strong Credit Union (VSCU) money market account were completed. Mr. Woodworth informed the Board that the check for the initial deposit drawn from the Community West Bank money market account is included with the monthly bill payments under Item 9.

It was moved by Palmer Lien and seconded by Bill Smittcamp to accept the monthly financial reports. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Director Johnson was absent.

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9. Bills to Pay

Mr. Woodworth provided the Board with the monthly bill payment report for approval. Mr. Woodworth provided details on the Krazan & Associates, Inc. and Microsoft invoices.

It was moved by Karl Kienow and seconded by Bill Smittcamp to approve the bill payments. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Director Johnson was absent.

10. Water Master Report

A. Mr. Keller reported no usage for December 2025. Friant Water Authority (FWA) also reported no usage. FWA reported year-to-date usage of 1,737 AF.

B. Mr. Keller notified the Board that the District has 41 AF of Class 1 water remaining. The District also has 400 AF of carry-over remaining. Mr. Keller stated the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) may issue Class 2 water as flood control releases. If excess precipitation occurs through the end of the water year and the BOR issues the Class 2 allocation, Mr. Keller will sell any remaining carry-over water for the District. If the water year remains dry, Mr. Keller recommends holding the remaining water allocation.

Director Kienow inquired about potentially using the available water for recharge purposes in the District's ponding basin. Mr. Keller will keep the Board informed of any changes to the water schedule and if recharge is an option.

Mr. Keller stated that the preliminary BOR Class 1 water allocation for the 2026-2027 water year is probably not more than 70%, but this has not been finalized yet.

The Board took item 12(b) out of order.

12. B. P-R Farms, Inc. Turnout Construction Request

Director Ricchiuti recused himself from the discussion.

Mr. Keller presented the turnout request, stating the P-R 15 turnout is old and does not have a meter. Mr. Keller stated the current turnout connection line is 21", and that he may need to use a coupling reducer to connect to the existing 24" pipeline. Mr. Keller estimates the cost of the new meter and materials is \$30,000 to \$35,000. Director Kienow inquired on the timing, plans, and the contractor for the project, and whether it will delay the start of water deliveries. Mr. Keller noted the project does require going to bid and the only potential delay would be the procurement of the 24" ROMAX pipe.

It was moved by Palmer Lien and seconded by Bill Smittcamp to direct the District Engineer to move forward with obtaining bids to the replace the P-R 15 turnout and proceed with

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replacement at a cost not to exceed \$40,000.00. The goal is to fix this turnout prior to March. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Director Johnson was absent. President Ricchiuti abstained.

Director Smittcamp left at 1:22 p.m.

11. Continuing Business to consider and take action

A. North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Mr. Kienow stated the Board did not meet in December. No discussion or action taken. This item will be added to the next Board meeting agenda.

B. Copper Avenue Pipeline Replacement – Phase 3

Mr. Keller stated the project requires the replacement of up to 520' of pipe with an estimated cost of \$130,000. The current pipe size is 18", but Mr. Keller recommends reducing the pipe diameter to 12". The cost estimate is based on using a 12" pipe. Director Kienow requested Mr. Keller look at a slip line as an alternative in order to save cost. Mr. Keller noted the project may require a new easement with a property owner within the District or a redesign/relocation of the current pipeline location.

Mr. Keller requested a motion to go to bid and to explore alternative replacement options including the relocation of the pipeline in the bid.

As there were only three Directors remaining, the rule of necessity required President Ricchiuti to vote. It was moved by Palmer Lien and seconded by Karl Kienow to authorize the District's Engineer to go to bid and to explore alternative replacement options in the bid. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Director Johnson was absent.

12. New Business

Director Ricchiuti recused himself from the discussion. Director Smittcamp had already left.

A. Ad hoc Committee – City of Clovis – Mr. Keller notified the Board he completed his report. Mr. Keller also discussed the types of water usages allowed under the District's 9D contact.

Mr. Keller requested a meeting with the committee members to review and discuss the report. Ms. Layne identified that Director Kienow and Director Lien would comprise the new ad hoc committee on this matter due to Director Johnson's unavailability due to health. The Committee members scheduled a meeting with Ms. Layne and Mr. Keller at 10:00 a.m. on February 2, 2026 at Ms. Layne's office.

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No action taken. This item will be added to the next Board meeting agenda.

B. Taken out of order.

C. SCO FTR Report – Mr. Woodworth presented the draft State Controller’s Office (SCO) Financial Transaction Report (FTR) and supporting documentation to the Board. Mr. Woodworth discussed the five major segments of the report. Mr. Woodworth provided background on the general information section of the FTR report. Mr. Woodworth also identified and discussed the reconciling items between the District’s financials and the FTR report. Mr. Woodworth reviewed the footnote(s) of the FTR report.

It was moved by Karl Kienow and seconded by Palmer Lien to approve the SCO FTR and authorized Mr. Woodworth to file the report. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Directors Johnson and Smittcamp were absent.

13. Public Hearing

A. None.

14. Closed Session

The Board went into closed session at 2:08 p.m. to discuss anticipated litigation with legal counsel. The Board came out of closed session at 02:10 p.m. with no reportable action.

15. Next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2026 and it will be held at P-R Farms, 2917 Shepherd Avenue, Clovis, California at 12:30 p.m.

16. The meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.