

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1601

306 Second Street
Isleton, CA 95641

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

April 21, 2026

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

President Sgarrella called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (Board) to order on April 21, 2026, at 9:06 a.m. ROLL CALL: In attendance: President Barry Sgarrella, Trustee Dave Huston and Trustee Jasbir Gill. District superintendent Mr. Ricky Carter Jr., District's engineer with KSN Mr. Chris Neudeck, District's attorney Mr. Jesse Barton and District's accountant/treasurer Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay with Butterfield and Company.

Also attending. Mr. Ricky Carter Sr., Mr. Salvador Ramos, Ms. Ceci Giacomina, Mr. David Julian, Mr. Ian Jones and Mr. Richard Silva.

Attending by conference call, District's secretary Mrs. Linda Carter, Ms. Otome Lindsey and Mr. Tyler Anthony.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: ANY PERSON MAY SPEAK ON ANY TOPIC INCLUDING ANY AGENDA ITEM LISTED BELOW, PROVIDED IT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF RD 1601.

Nothing to report.

3. MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING.

Trustee Gill entertained a motion to approve the March 17, 2026, regular meeting minutes as amended, motion was seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

4. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE.

Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay discussed the accounts payable, accounting notes and financial statements with the Board. President Sgarrella reviewed the accounts payable before today's meeting. See attached financial reports for details.

Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay reported to the Board that the rent for the Isleton office has increased. The District's new portion of the rent is \$ 375.00 per month.

After some discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to approve accounts payable, transfers, DWR invoices, that was presented today and warrants, motion seconded by Trustee Huston, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

5. BOARD WILL REVIEW THE DRAFT AMENDMENT TO MAKE CHANGES TO MR. RICHARD SILVA'S LEASE UNDER THE HUNTING PROVISION AND POSSIBLY CONSIDER APPROVING MAKING CHANGES TO MR. SILVA'S LEASE.

Mr. Jesse Barton reminded the Board that at last month's meeting Mr. Richard Silva asked the Board if he could have his lease with the District amended to allow hunting in a way that was easier to administer. The way his lease is written now, Mr. Silva must come before the Board prior to each hunting season and ask for permission prior to the hunt. Somehow it was difficult for Mr. Silva to come to the Board for permission. So last month Mr. Silva asked the Board if he could just go through the District's superintendent Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. and the Board seemed to be in favor of this and that is how Mr. Barton wrote up the new draft amendment.

Today, Mr. Silva said he asked if he could get it approved permanently. Mr. Silva does not want to make any phone calls about the hunts due to him possibly forgetting to make the call each year. Mr. Barton said that he had misunderstood it and he understood that Mr. Silva wanted to go through Mr. Carter Jr. and himself and not the Board.

Mr. Barton said he wrote the draft amendment under the understanding that Mr. Silva wanted to just go through Mr. Carter Jr. for the hunting information. Mr. Barton handed out a copy of the draft amendment and went over it with the Board. Mr. Barton said the Board seemed to be in favor of this and this is how Mr. Barton wrote up the new draft amendment to the lease and prior to the meeting he had sent out copies to the Board, Mr. Carter Jr. and Mr. Silva. The changes involve two documents. First one is a release, Mr. Silva had asked Mr. Barton if he would put the names of the hunters for the release that he had for 2024. Mr. Barton added the names and phone numbers of the ones who signed the 2024 waiver of liability. Mr. Barton believes it is a good idea for Mr. Carter Jr. to know who is hunting in advance. The second is the lease amendment.

Trustee Gill said he understood the way Mr. Barton has put it together in the draft amendment. But the way he hears it now the Board is basically taking the condition out so then Mr. Silva will have hunting permission until Mr. Carter Jr. finds something wrong with it and puts a stop to the hunting. In other words, the Board is reversing the existing lease condition and allowing hunting. Mr. Carter Jr. stated that there have been problems in the past with hunters on DWR ground and in the rice project. It turned out to be a free for all they would stay out hunting all night long.

After some discussion the Board decided to have the hunting permission item added to the agenda annually in September. Mr. Barton will make changes to the draft amendment for the Board to consider approving the new second draft amendment at the June meeting. The changes will include a correct list of hunters and signed waivers of liability for each year and will be addressed annually at the September meeting. And give Mr. Carter Jr. authority to revoke the hunting if there is any problems with the hunt.

6. BOARD TO DISCUSS SOUTH CHEVRON LEASE AND PLAN TO REMOVE THE BLACKBERRIES.

Mr. Jesse Barton told the Board that in Mr. Salvador Ramos Sr. lease there are a couple of conditions. First, condition is that the District gets a plan by April 1, on how they are going to remove the blackberries and maintain the blackberries. Second, the blackberries need to be removed by June 2026. Mr. Barton received the plan Mr. Carter Jr. told the Board he and President Sgarrella had received a copy of the plan. The blackberries are being removed and there have been a few equipment breakdowns, but the cleaning of the blackberries is continuing.

7. BOARD WILL RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE FINDINGS OF LWA, AN ENGINEERING GROUP WHO IS DEVELOPING A NEW ASSESSMENT FOR THE DISTRICT.

Mr. Chris Neudeck reported to the Board that KSN Inc. is working on the runoff associated with the District's power usage. President Sgarrella reminded the Board that LWA had requested the budget and the expenses on what the cost is to complete the Solar Array and cash flow summary. He asked where does that information stand? Mr. Neudeck told the Board that he thought President Sgarrella was going to respond to this request from LWA. President Sgarrella has not yet spoke with Mr. Jeff Muller with KSN Inc. President Sgarrella said he will speak to Mr. Muller about the requested financial information for the District's Solar Array project.

8. SOLAR POWER-THE BOARD WILL DISCUSS RISING ELECTRICITY COSTS. THE BOARD WILL RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE SOLAR ARRAY PROJECT.

Trustee Gill told the Board that for all the other projects the District knows how much money the District has and how much has been spent on each project, they are listed in the District's financial notes report, except for the District's Solar Array project. Trustee Gill asked Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay if she would include the Solar Array project in the monthly financial report. Mrs. Tzintzun-Garibay told the Board that she will add the Solar Array project to the monthly financial report. Also, President Sgarrella will work on the budget and the expenses on what the cost is to complete the Solar Array and cash flow summary with KSN Inc.

Mr. Chris Neudeck gave the Board an update on what has been completed, the elevated platform for PG&E transformer and the District's switchgear has been completed. It raised the left bank of the District canal to receive the new transformer and the District's switchgear that was pulled out of the pump house and now it's down on the ground. Mr. Neudeck went over the change order request for a change order from Panelized Structures Inc. for \$60,000. This request is for cost associated with the following work, the grading, the replacement of the panel on to the pad as well as the placement of the new transformer.

After some discussion Trustee Gill entertained a motion to approve change order number five with Panelized Structures Inc., for WCD-09 for scope refinement according to PG&E approved design layout for \$60,000, motion seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

President Sgarrella told the Board he met with PG&E representative and they brought their construction people; they looked over the situation at the Solar Array. The next step will be to have the trenching done and then PG&E needs to inspect the trenching and Sacramento County needs to inspect the trenching before placing the conduits. Should be online sometime in May.

9. PUBLIC ENTITY AGREEMENT-SYSTEMWIDE MULTIBENEFIT PROJECT FOR SEVENMILE SLOUGH EROSION REPAIR PROJECT (EXPIRES 6/30/2028). THE BOARD WILL RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THIS PROJECT THAT WILL FUND THE REPAIR OF EROSION DAMAGE TO THE SEVENMILE SLOUGH LEVEE.

Mr. Chris Neudeck reported to the Board that KSN Inc. is still working on environmental permitting.

10. PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT TW-21-1.2, PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE PLANNING ENGINEERING, AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE TWITCHELL ISLAND WETLAND ENHANCEMENT AND RESTORATION PROJECT. (TWERP) (EXPIRES 12/31/2027). THE BOARD WILL RECEIVE A STATUS UPDATE AND DISCUSS. THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER APPROVING CHANGE ORDER #2 TO T&R CONTRACT FOR THE TWERP PLANTING & IRRIGATION PROJECT.

Mr. Chris Neudeck told the Board that T&R Restore's 3-year maintenance period for irrigation and planting is underway. T&R Restore is continuing to work but is delaying the submittal of invoices until the District has received the advance funding payment from DWR. Approval by the RD 1601 Board of Trustee of change Order # 2 to T&R Restore's contract in the amount of \$63,360.89, is being requested. This change order includes additional work authorized by DWR including the procurement of a vacuum pump to facilitate priming the existing siphon and the procurement, handling, transport, and installation of additional plants left over from DWR's Grizzley Slough Project. Ms. Otome Lindsey spoke to the Board about the plants that were obtained from RD 348 (New Hope) that could not be planted last year. RD 348 worked with RD 1607 (Grizzley Slough) to obtain the plants from them. The plants are the same type and size that was planned to be planted in this project. T&R Restore bought the plants from RD 348 and RD 348 received credit back to their project.

After some discussion Trustee Huston entertained a motion to approve change order number 2, T&R Restore contract for the TWERP planting and irrigation project, for additional work authorized by DWR including the procurement of a vacuum and the procurement, handle, transport and installation of plants left over from RD 348 and an increase of \$63,360.89, motion seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

Ms. Lindsey told the Board she had sent Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay forward an email from DWR's account saying a advance payment check was cut last month but it has not

been received by the District, this makes Ms. Lindsey worried. She will be checking with the controller's office.

11. PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT TW-24-1.0-SP-PHASE 2 OF THE SAN JOAQUIN SETBACK LEVEE MULTI-BENEFIT PROJECT. THE AGREEMENT WITH DWR WILL IMPROVE DISTRICT LEVEES ALONG THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER. (EXPIRATION 12/31/2028). THE BOARD WILL RECEIVE A STATUS UPDATE AND DISCUSS.

Mr. Chris Neudeck reported to the Board KSN Inc. is wrapping up pre-construction submittals with Durta Construction. KSN Inc. has submitted the revised legal description and plans to accompany PG&E's easement deed language, and we're awaiting approval by PG&E before we seek approval from DWR Real Estate Division. Construction is still anticipated to start in May 2026. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for today at 1:00 pm April 21, 2026. The advance funding payment for 2026 Q3 & 4 has been received from DWR in the amount of \$3.96M (\$4.4M less 10% retention). Everything looks like a go.

12. DWR AGREEMENT "SUBSIDENCE MITIGATION FUNDING AGREEMENT" (SMFA) (WETLAND DEVELOPMENT/SUBSIDENCE REVERSAL AND CARBON SEQUESTRATION PROJECT) (EAST END AND RICE PROJECT) (SMFA EXPIRES 12/31/2030). THE BOARD WILL RECEIVE A STATUS UPDATE AND AN UPDATE ON THE NEED FOR THE PROJECT EQUIPMENT. THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER APPROVING TWO CONTRACTS WITH UNIVERSITIES TO STUDY WATER QUALITY WITHIN THIS PROJECT. THE BOARD WILL ALSO CONSIDER EXTENDING A CONTRACT TO PERFORM GREENHOUSE GAS AND CARBON CREDIT EVALUATIONS.

Mr. Jesse Barton gave the Board an update on the two contracts with the universities to study water quality with this project. Cal State's contract is mostly done, but there were a bunch of blanks in the contract. Such as the scope of work and the cost. Mr. Barton sent it back requesting more information, he doesn't know who to speak to about the critical information he needs. Mr. Tyler Anthony told the Board and Mr. Barton he will check and see what up-to-date information he has and he will forward it on to Mr. Barton. Mr. Barton said he has had no communication with Cal Berkley. Mr. David Julian said that he would continue to work on this.

Mr. Jesse Barton told the Board DWR needed to hire a company to measure the greenhouse gas and carbon credits evaluations associated with this project. The contract is due to expire in a couple of weeks. The cost is \$3,600.00, and they need additional time.

After some discussion Trustee Gill entertained a motion to approve the addendum for the Assessment Service Agreement extending a contract to perform greenhouse gas and carbon credit evaluations with Scientific Certification Systems, Inc., d.b.a. SCS Global Services (SSC), motion seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

Mr. David Julian will be speaking to Mr. Jesse Barton in between the meeting about preparing an encroachment permit between DWR and the District. Mr. Julian told the Board that he has been coordinating with Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. on the maintenance of the East End ponds. It seems the beavers are doing more damage. Mr. Julian will be obtaining depredation permit for the wetlands due to the beaver damage.

13. BOARD TO CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF FREE FILL MATERIAL TO BOLSTER THE LEFT BANK OF CANAL C-1 AND TO HIRE ASTA TO ASSIST IN DOZING THE MATERIAL.

Mr. Chris Neudeck discussed with the Board about the possibility of approving accepting free fill material and placing it on the left bank of Canal C-1 and hiring ASTA Construction to assist the District in dozing the material. The material will become available April 27th, weather permitting. The duration of hauling is roughly 10 to 15 days. Up to 100 loads, which equals 2,500 tons per day can be delivered per day. Super dumps will be used at 20-25 tons per load, totaling approximately 28,000 tons. The depth of fill over the left bank of Canal C-1 is 3 feet. Golden State Trucking Service will be doing the hauling. Having ASTA Construction in cooperation with the District's dozer, the District will need to use a less than \$25,000 contract with ASTA Construction.

After some discussion the Board approved and directed Mr. Neudeck to accept 20 loads of the free fill material and have it placed at the dredged placement sight.

14. BOARD TO DISCUSS DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO INTERVIEW AND POSSIBLY HIRE A NEW EMPLOYEE.

Mr. Jesse Barton informed the Board that as of last month, Mr. Danny Villegas has quit working for the District and will be working for his father. Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. reported to the Board that he has 3 or 4 candidates to interview and asked for the Board to appoint a Board member that will help in the interviews and hiring of a new person. After some discussion the Board felt that Mr. David Julian needs to be involved in the hiring of the SMFA employee. Mr. Carter Jr. will be involved in the interviews and Mr. Barton will continue to do the background checks.

After some discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to approve delegating to Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. the ability to interview and make the conditional offer to the SMFA candidate wage range from \$25 to \$30 per hour. Mr. Carter Jr. will coordinate with Mr. David Julian to interview the person and will work with Mr. Jesse Barton and Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay after Mr. Carter Jr. has offered conditional employment, motion seconded by Trustee Huston, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABESNT: None, motion carried.

15. ENGINEERING REPORT: MR. CHRIS NEUDECK.

- I. Project Funding Agreement TW-24-1.0 SP Phase II of District Multi-Benefit.
 - A. Look under item number 11.
- II. Project Funding Agreement TW-21-1.2 TIMES/TWERP Project.
 - A. Look under item number 10.

- III. District Pump Station Solar Array.
 - A. Look under item number 8.
- IV. Free Fill For Drainage Canal Left Bank on Canal C-1.
- V. A. Look under item number 13.

16. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: MR. RICKY CARTER JR.

- Routine levee patrols are made daily.
- Routine pump maintenance made daily. Checked oil in the pumps located at the pump station.
- Performed rodent control of beavers and squirrels.
- Mowing District levees.
- Turned on pumps in the wetland.
- Mowing SMFA wetland roads.
- ASTA Construction came out and built and completed with the transformer and switchgear pad.
- Put SMFA position back on Indeed and called and interviewed for the position.
- Took delivery of compaction wheel for the District's excavator. Took compaction wheel over to Lira's Welding and had Mr. Louie Lira set the compaction wheel up with a quick connection.
- Mowed Threemile Slough for the quarterly inspection.
- Went to Sacramento for an ICS class.
- Completed a pesticide safety class with Bowman.
- Fixed toe ditch crossing that failed. Had ASTA Construction truck bring out and place material. And put in a longer pipe for the crossing.
- Called for quotes for a long-reach excavator to rent. Holt of California has one for \$16,850 plus tax and fees (cost for one month).
After some discussion the Board approved renting the long-reach excavator from Holt to clean the District's canals for the month of May. Also, to be used to remove the crossing at Canal C-2 and C-1.

**17. CLOSED SESSION: PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE REVIEW.
TITLE: EQUIPMENT OPERATOR/LABOR.**

At 10:30 am the Board went into closed session.

**18. REPORT AFTER CLOSED SESSION: THE BOARD WILL DISCUSS
ADJUSTING LABOR COMPENSATION AFTER THE PERFORMANCE
REVIEW.**

At 11:07 am the Board came out of the closed session.

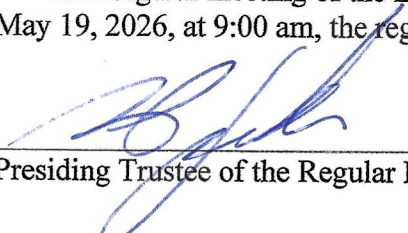
Mr. Jesse Barton reported that Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. had made a recommendation to the Board to consider promoting Mr. Salvador Ramos to the position of Assistant Superintendent.

After some discussion Trustee Huston entertained a motion to promote the District's Equipment Operator/Labor to the District's Assistant Superintendent title and increase compensation in the amount of 7% (\$2.00 per hour), effective starting April 16th -April

30th pay roll period. Also, the new Assistant Superintendent will not be considered for another increase in compensation until June 2027, motion seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried

19. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be called to order.
May 19, 2026, at 9:00 am, the regular meeting was adjourned at 11:11 am.



Presiding Trustee of the Regular Meeting April 21, 2026, certifies the above minutes.



Secretary