

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1601

306 Second Street
Isleton, CA 95641

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

March 17, 2026

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

President Sgarrella called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (Board) to order on March 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. ROLL CALL: In attendance: President Barry Sgarrella 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.

Absent: Trustee Dave Huston.

Also attending. Mr. Ricky Carter Sr., Mrs. Brooke Carter, Mr. Salvador Ramos, Ms. Ceci Giacomina, Mr. David Julian, Mr. Tyler Anthony and Mr. Richard Silva.

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

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.

Mr. David Julian requested for the Board to move agenda item number 12, "DWR Agreement Subsidence Mitigation Funding Agreement "SMFA)" up to the front of the agenda today, so it can be heard early in the meeting, due to Mr. Julian was expecting a telephone call. The Board agreed to move agenda item number 12, so it could be addressed earlier in the meeting.

3. MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING.

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

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 Gill, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: Trustee Huston, motion carried.

5. BOARD TO REVIEW AND POSSIBLY APPROVING AND SIGN CAL OES FORM 130-DESIGNATION OF APPLICATION AGENT RESOLUTION FOR NON-STATE AGENCY,

Mr. Chris Neudeck discussed with the Board the resolution CAL OES Form 130-Designation of Application Agent for non-state agency is for the District's disaster 2023 claim.

After some discussion Trustee Gill entertained a motion to approve CAL OES Form 130-Designation of Application Agent resolution for non-state agency and authorize District Secretary Mrs. Linda Carter to sign and certify the document, motion seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: Trustee Huston, motion carried.

6. BOARD TO DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY CONSIDER MAKING CHANGES TO MR. RICHARD SILVA'S LEASE UNDER THE HUNTING PROVISION.

Mr. Jess Barton reminded the Board that at last month's meeting Mr. Richard Silva asked the Board to put on the agenda for him to speak with the Board about changing the conditions to his lease under the hunting provision. Mr. Barton handed out copies of Mr. Silva's lease. On page 3 Section 5 Special Provisions paragraph 3 of the lease last sentence, reads; Lessee may also hunt waterfowl on the premise, but only after receiving prior written approval from District each season Lessee wishes to hunt District may impose any reasonable restrictions on hunting. Mr. Silva told the Board that he would like to not have to come to the Board each season (year) and ask permission to hunt he would prefer to be able to call the District's superintendent and let him know who is hunting.

If the Board decides to make any changes, the Board will have to approve a amendment to the lease. A new hunter list with names along with signed waiver of liability for each hunter for 2025-2026 will be needed from Mr. Silva. If board approves Mr. Barton will give Mr. Silva a permission form that does not expire. After some discussion the Board decided to have Mr. Barton write a draft amendment to the lease for the Board to review and possibly consider approving at next month's meeting.

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

Mr. Jesse Barton told the Board that he and Mr. Chris Neudeck received a request from LWA for some information. LWA requested cash flow summary for the District's Solar Array project, for the three-year period for the special projects Setback Levee project, SMFA project and the completed seepage drainage analysis report. LWA needs to have the actual numbers that have been spent on these projects, then a projection will be made and used to make a budget. Mrs. Perla Tzintzun- Garibay told the Board she will send over the accounting information she has to KSN Inc.

8. SOLAR POWER-THE BOARD WILL DISCUSS RISING ELECTRICITY COSTS. THE BOARD WILL RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE SOLAR ARRAY PROJECT. THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER APPROVING A CHANGE ORDER TO INCLUDE GRADING AND THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL MATERIALS.

President Sgarrella discussed with the Board that the District will be receiving a 30% rebate on the base of the 10% on the renewable American products and there is a question on the amount from the low-income rebate. Mrs. Perla Tzintzun -Garibay asked if there is a deadline for these rebates since there have been so many changes. President Sgarrella told the Board that the law states for Washinton DC, in order to qualify the project had to be safe harbored by July 4, 2026, which means 5% of the total project cost had to be spent. Which clearly has happened and the project needs to be completed which the District has complied with. And the project needs to be approved by the HAJ, which is the Sacramento county authority and has written their approval of the system and is now ready to be interconnected by PG&E. It doesn't have to be interconnected. Need to have the HAJ approval by December 31, 2027.

Mr. Chris Neudeck discussed with the Board about the elevated platform pad for the PG&E's transformer and the District's switchgear to be placed on.

KSN Inc. received a change order request from Panelized Construction Inc. dated March 10, 2026, asking for a change order for \$109,600.00. It includes the pad, prefab concrete pad, the task of running electrical lines etc. Mr. Neudeck is suggesting that the Board approves in total \$109,600.00 but only authorizing \$71,670.00, only because the District does not have the final approval from PG&E. Because the District needs to have PG&E's approval before Sacramento County will come and inspect the utility trenches. Mr. Neudeck is asking the Board to approve \$110,000.00 today with an additional \$10,000.00 in case there is an additional cost for any unexpected cost such as covering up a bank and giving President Sgarrella authority for \$120,000.00 and give President Sgarrella responsibility and authority to sign the contract change order which includes the \$71,670 for the fill also adjustments made over time.

After some discussion Trustee Gill entertained a motion to approve giving President Sgarrella the authorization to sign change order number three with Panelized Structures Inc. for \$77,000.00, motion seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: Trustee Huston, motion carried.

After some discussion Trustee Gill entertained a motion to approve giving President Sgarrella the authorization to sign change order number four with Panelized Structures Inc. for a cap of \$50,000 for additional work that may be required to be done after the PG&E and Sacramento County inspections, motion seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: Trustee Huston, motion carried.

President Sgarrella told the Board that an onsite meeting is scheduled with PG&E on Tuesday March 27, 2026.

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 permits and preparation for the application.

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 DISCUSS APPROVING A CHANGE ORDER FROM STILLWATER SCIENCES FOR ADDITIONAL WORK. THE BOARD WILL ALSO DISCUSS DELAYING PAYMENT ON SOME INVOICES.

Mr. Jesse Barton discussed with the Board two updates. The Board will discuss approving change order from Stillwater Sciences for additional work. At last month's meeting the Board discussed that the project had run out of funds to pay Stillwater Sciences and T&R Restore. The Board asked Mr. Barton to notify DWR to put the brakes on, because the District has had to pay this with debt. Mr. Barton informed Ms. Otome Lindsey and she said that she had no issue with this approach. So, Mr. Barton reached out to Stillwater Sciences who was asking for the change order their change is asking for an increase of \$50,000.00, change order number 3, for monitoring and reporting plan. Ms. Lindsey and Mr. Neudeck discussed with the Board that the 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.

After some discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to approve change order number 3, for additional work and increase of \$50,000.00, and a change from 60 days to 180 days payment due with no interest due, motion seconded by Trustee Gill, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: Trustee Huston, motion carried.

Ms. Otome Lindsey told the Board that she has sent in for an advance payment and the District should receive a check by April.

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. THE BOARD WILL DISCUSS APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH PG&E TO MOVE POWER POLES TO ACCOMMODATE THIS PROJECT.

Mr. Jesse Barton and Mr. Chris Neudeck spoke to the Board about the PG&E contract for power pole relocation for the total amount of \$210,376.18, minus \$5,000.00, which had already been deposited making the payment amount \$205,375.18 due.

Mr. Neudeck told the Board that KSN Inc. is finalizing the necessary legal description and plan to accompany PG&E's easement deed language and will be seeking approval from DWR Real Estate Division.

After some discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to approve the PG&E contract for power pole relocation and payment in the amount of **\$205,376.18**, motion seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: Trustee Huston, motion carried.

KSN Inc. is continuing to work on pre-construction submittals with Dutra Construction. Construction is still anticipated to start in May 2026.

The advance funding payment for 2026 Q1 & 2 has been received from DWR in the amount of \$2.79m (\$3.1m request-10% retention). DWR is processing our advance funding payment request for 2026 Q3 & 4 in the amount of \$4.4m. Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay told the Board that she just received a check today for the advance payment of \$3.96M, net of retention withheld, that was sent in January.

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 HEAR AN UPDATE ON THE EAST END WETLANDS PROJECT TULE BURN.

Mr. David Julian told the Board that he did not attend the burning of the tules, but he does know what has been told to him and pictures he has seen. Mr. Ricky Jr. was there and he gave a summary of what happened. First, they met at the burn site and went over a few things about what they were going to do. Dixon Marine Service had come out and cut a couple fire breaks. The plan was to start burning ¼ acre that the Dixon Marine Service had cut fire breaks for. There was a 125-gallon tank with water in back of someone's pickup truck with a pump on it and a hose for fire suppression. Two men went into the tules with propane torches, the fire took off right away. There were about eight people there at the burn. Due to late notice, there was not enough time to schedule extra personnel, Fire Chief Paul Cutino from River Delta Fire District came to the burn at the start of the fire and there were no fire trucks at that time due to the short notice. It was Mr. Ricky Carter Jr., Mr. Ricky Carter Sr, Fire Chief Cutino, Mr. Salvador Ramos, Mr. Tyler Anthony, Burn Boss, Ms. Molly Ferrell and another man attended the burn. Soon after they started the fire in the ¼ acre area section the fire quickly jumped the fire break into the next area that was to be burned later, The fire kept jumping the fire breaks and ended up burning the whole 40-acres in matter of minutes. Fire Chief Cutino moved up onto the levee so he could observe the situation and told Mr. Carter Jr. to let

the fire burn to the green grass on the berms. Fire Chief Cutino also told Mr. Carter Jr, he was going to call his fire department to come out in case the fire jumps any more fire breaks. Mr. Carter Jr. tried to put the fire out with one of the fire hoses hooked up to the 126-gallon tank. Mr. Carter Sr. and Fire Chief Cutino told Mr. Carter Jr. what he was doing was not helping so he stopped. Someone from River Partners had waders on and went into the water and he grabbed the hose. He thought you needed to be closer to the fire when putting the fire out. The water was waist deep and the tules next to him caught on fire. Two more people jumped into the water with 5-gallon buckets and the water went up to their shoulders, they then had to swim out. Mr. Carter Jr., Mr. Carter Sr., Mr. Salvador Ramos, and Fire Chief Cutino decided to get out of the burning area, it wasn't safe. They waited in the distance for the fire trucks to show up. Rio Vista Fire Department with a fire engine and River Delta Fire District with a brush unit showed up. The fire departments held the fire on the south side of the ponds. It's too soon to know if there are any peat fires in the area. The Board reviewed River Delta Fire District's After-Action Review (AAR) report. Mr. Ricky Carter Sr. and Mr. Carter Jr. were concerned about no one having the proper personal protective equipment (PPE). Everyone involved needs to have more advance notice when the burn is going to be taking place, so let everyone plan and have everyone and everything in place. Also, need to place all necessary phone calls to Sacramento County Air Quality, Solano County Dispatch, Rio Vista Fire Department (for Delta Fire District) and River Delta Fire District. Mr. Carter Jr. told the Board that when the District burn their burn pile the wind is 3 miles per hour or under the winds that day it was 6 to 8 miles per hour. Mr. Tyler Anthony told the Board there were many lessons that was learned from this burn. From what the protocol is for calling in the burn, using the GO-NO-GO-List that was provided by River Delta Fire District. Need to have the water lowered in the ponds. Mr. David Julian said that communication needs to be improved. President Sgarrella asked will there be a need to have a another tule burn take place again. Mr. Julian told the Board yes, it will, because after 15 years of tule growing the tules need to be controlled. Whether it's burning the tules or having the marsh master cut the tules. Something needs to be done the tules have become a fire hazard. May have another burn in the fall.

There was a question about why the District's personnel were at the tule burn. After some discussion Trustee Gill said his understanding is it's a Department Water Resources (DWR) SMFA project. He would like to have the District's staff there to monitor, but this was not a District project. The District personnel were there to monitor the tule burn. The District did not issue DWR any permits. But District personnel need to be compensated by the SMFA project fund.

It was decided that Mr. Jesse Barton will draft an encroachment permit for DWR, and this matter will be addressed again this fall. Mr. Julian asked to have a working group put together to work on developing procedures for the next burn, he asked Mr. Carter Sr. if he would like to be included in the group. Mr. Carter Sr. said he agreed to contribute to the group.

Mr. Julian told the Board the rice project fire is out the next thing he wants to do is to have a damage assessment done but he doesn't know where to start. He asked for ideas.

Mr. Carter Jr. told the Board that a few days ago the boards were pulled. Mr. Chris Neudeck said he could go to a soil firm and have some test done on the soil Maybe contact ENGO or Kleinfelder name a few.

Mr. Barton told the Board he has not heard from Cal State.

13. THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER APPROVING THE WRITTEN POLICY ALLOWING THE DISTRICT'S SUPERINTENDENT TO TAKE THE DISTRICT' PICK-UP TRUCK HOME WITH HIM AND ONLY USE IT FOR DISTRICT PURPOSES.

Mr. Jesse Barton handed out a draft copy of the District Driver Safety Policy with comments and edits from Trustee Huston and Mrs. Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay. Trustee Huston has asked in the comments if the District wants to have higher liability requirements than the California minimum, because those insurance requirements of \$15,000 or \$30,000 aggregate or for bodily injury, which will not cover an emergency vehicle (ambulance) either. Not counting property damage. Mr. Barton did not make any changes to this section.

Trustee Huston's second comment is on page 3, his comment is, at Department Water Resources employees must take a 2- hour online Defensive Drivers Training course every 4 years regardless of driving record. Trustee asked should the District establish a similar requirement for the District.

From Mrs. Tzintzun-Garibay comments to Mr. Barton on page 4, Mr. Barton added the following: if the Board does approve business use of a personally owned vehicle, the Board may also consider reimbursing that use at the IRS standard rate upon submission of request with proper documentation (i.e., mileage log).

Mr. Barton said in his cover email he explained about the Employer Pull Notice Program (EPN program) with the California Department of Motor Vehicles, he explains the insurance company requirements and it is probably a good idea. Public agencies typically require an EPN. It would allow the District to pull their employees driver license record to see if they have been pulled over for speeding, driving under the influence and so on. President Sgarrella didn't see any problems with Trustee Huston's comments, he believes the Board should accept them as is. President Sgarrella believes that the District's liability insurance coverage amount needs to be checked in to. Mrs. Tzintzun-Garibay told the Board the District has \$1m in general liability insurance. She doesn't recall how much the auto policy is for. The Board discussed that Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. will have to report personal use of the business vehicle (i.e. commuting miles) annually as part of his taxable wages prior to the end of the calendar year. He will also need to keep track of mileage when he uses his personal vehicle for District business and submit the mileage information to Mrs. Tzintzun- Garibay for reimbursement.

After some discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to approve the District Driver Safety Policy with Trustee Huston's, Mrs. Tzintzun- Garibay and the Boards comments, edits and changes made and discussed at today's meeting. And Driving Safety Class will be taken every 4 years, motion seconded by Trustee Gill, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: Trustee Huston ABSENT: None, motion carried. This matter is effective now.

14. 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.

15. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT AND UPDATE ON CURRENT EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE: 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. Beaver session ends on March 31, 2026. After that if the District has anymore beaver activity the District will need to get a depredation permit.
- Worked on SMFA project recirculating pumps. To be able to add water in ponds prior to the cultural burn in the East Wetland Ponds.
- Checked and removed some boards in the Rice Project to be able to pump some of the water off.
- Cleaning toe ditches.
- Mr. Carter Jr. called KSN Inc. to schedule a bird survey for Levee Station 232+00 to Levee Station 270+00. This way, District can spray and mow the milk thistle on the levee slope. Bird survey was completed 3/5/2026, no bird activity reported. Mowing was completed 3/13/2026. Spraying will be completed by 3/19/2026.
- Mr. Carter Jr. worked on getting quotes for compaction wheel and flail mower. Cost for a compaction wheel is \$7,000.00, and \$7,577.00 for a flail mower.
- Worked on security cameras. Slowly replacing the old cameras with new cameras and new sims cards.
- Went to town for new air compressor for the District's Ford 2016, old compressor went out.

After some discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to purchase the compaction wheel for \$7,000.00 and the flail mower for \$7,577.00. motion seconded by Trustee Gill, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: Trustee Huston, motion carried.

Mr. Carter Jr. told the Board on March 25, 2025, he and Mr. Salvador Ramos will be attending an ICS class in Sacramento.

President Sgarrella told the Board he had talked with Mr. Danny Villegas yesterday. Mr. Villegas told President Sgarrella that he is doing good, he's walking and wearing shoes. Mr. Villegas will be seeing the doctor next week and he will be asking the doctor to release him so he can go back to work.

**16. CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-
ANTICIPATED LITIGATION SIGNIFICANT EXPOSED TO LITIGATION
PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF SUBDIVISION (D) OF SECTION 549569.**

At 11:11 am the Board went into closed session.

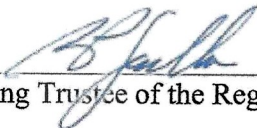
At 11:14 am the Board came out of the closed session.

No reportable action was taken in closed session.

17. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be called to order.

April 21, 2026, at 9:00 am, the regular meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.



Presiding Trustee of the Regular Meeting March 17, 2026, certifies the above minutes.



Secretary