

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1601

**306 Second Street
Isleton, CA 95641**

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

December 16, 2025

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

President Sgarrella called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (Board) to order on December 16, 2025, at 9:03 a.m. ROLL CALL: In attendance: President Barry Sgarrella, Trustee Dave Huston and Trustee Jasbir Gill. District's 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., Mrs. Brooke Carter, Mr. Salvador Ramos, Ms. Ceci Giacoma, Mr. Tyler Anthony, Mr. Ian Jones and Mr. Richard Silva.

Attending by conference call, District's secretary Mrs. Linda Carter and Mr. Grayson Sandy.

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 November 18, 2025, regular meeting minutes as presented, 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 and Trustee Huston reviewed the accounts payable before today's meeting. See attached financial reports for details. Mrs. Tzintzun- Garibay informed the Board that the District had received a late invoice related to TW21-1.2 project from Asta Construction for \$ 53,294.16, also includes approval of retention. Mrs. Tzinztum-Garibay asked the Board to consider approving the invoice for payment today.

After some discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to approve accounts payable, transfers, DWR invoices, Asta Construction's late invoice (which includes retention) 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 RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE HIRING OF LWA, AN ENGINEERING GROUP WHO IS DEVELOPING A NEW ASSESSMENT FOR THE DISTRICT.

Mr. Chris Neudeck told the Board that KSN is still working on the District energy use analysis report and will have a completed report soon.

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

President Sgarrella told the Board that PG&E has appointed a different PG&E representative engineer, Mr. Garrett Chissie, to work with the District on issues with the transformer and the switchgear location. PG&E will be taking care of the transformer and they will be putting together a cost estimate for the transformer. It will not be a sealed transformer since PG&E does not purchase them anymore; they refurbish their own transformers. It will be cheaper and quicker to use a non-sealed transformer. The District may need to do some grading to make sure the base elevation is correct. President Sgarrella would like to investigate installing a 10' Long by 8'Wide building to go over the switchgear. TM Building is putting together an estimate for the building. A concrete pad to set the building on would also be needed. President Sgarrella said another issue came up; the District should not try to place the transformer on a concrete pad that is not approved by PG&E. PG&E has a list of approved companies to purchase the concrete pad from. Mr. Chissie told President Sgarrella that precast concrete pads are cheaper and better. President Sgarrella said he had talked with DSI and they agreed with PG&E.

President Sgarrella made a motion for the District to purchase a precast concrete pad acceptable to PG&E for the transformer, the District designs a concrete pad and footings for the switchgear and investigate the cost of a pre-engineered metal building to go over the switchgear, get a cost estimate and contract for grading. President Sgarrella withdrew his motion. President Sgarrella told the Board that the District has reached Safe Harbor by spending more than the 5% of the total cost of the project before December 31, 2025. Still to have the project completed and inspected by AHJ by December 31, 2027.

Mr. Neudeck discussed with the Board security ideas for the solar array and area around the pump station.

After some discussion Trustee Gill made a motion to approve authorizing President Sgarrella and Mr. Chris Neudeck to work together to assemble a change order with all of the following; to purchase a pre-cast concrete pad acceptable to PG&E transformer, the District design a concrete pad and footings to hold the switchgear, investigate the cost of a pre-engineered building to go over the switchgear, need for a contract for

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

7. GRAZING LEASES- THE BOARD TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON IT'S SOUTH CHEVRON POINT PROPERTY AND ITS EFFORTS ON LEASING THE PROPERTY. THE BOARD MAY APPROVE A FINAL LEASE.

Mr. Jesse Barton informed the Board that he has a fully executed lease and a check from Mr. Salvador Ramos Sr. for the lease on the South Point Chevron property.

Mr. Jesse Barton told the Board that Mr. Salvador Ramos Sr. would like to move goats on the property before January 1, 2026, when the lease comes into effect. After some discussion the Board decided and agreed, as long as the area is secured with a fence and Mr. Ramos Sr. provides the District with proof of Liability insurance they the Board would have no objections to having Mr. Ramos Sr. move his goats on to the property in December.

8. PUBLIC ENTITY AGREEMENT-SYSTEMWIDE MULTIBENEFIT PROJECT FOR SEVENMILE SLOUGH EROSION REPAIR PROJECT. 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 discussed with the Board the pre-construction project design and permitting for the Public Entity Agreement Systemwide Multibenefit Project Sevenmile Slough erosion repairs project. Plans were sent to DWR for their review. BA and culture work completed, permits applications to be drafted. Construction is scheduled for September 2026.

9. 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). BOARD WILL RECEIVE A STATUS UPDATE AND DISCUSS. THE BOARD MAY APPROVE CHANGE Order 001 TO THE CONTRACT WITH T&R RIPARIAN RESTORE FOR ADDITIONAL TULE HARVEST AND PLANTING.

Mr. Chris Neudeck discussed with the Board the need for a change order for the T&R Riparian Restore contract for work associated with the harvesting and planting of 12,400 more tules.

Mr. Neudeck asked the Board to authorize change order 001 with T&R Riparian Restore for work associated with the harvesting and planting of 12,400 more tules for \$31,124.00.

After some discussion Trustee Huston made a motion to approve change order to the contract with T&R Riparian Restore, motion seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

10. 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). BOARD WILL RECEIVE A STATUS UPDATE AND DISCUSS. THE BOARD WILL HOLD A DISCUSSION ON THE DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL'S CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION AND FINDING AND AUTHORIZE THE FILING OF THE CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION.

Mr. Chris Neudeck reviewed with the Board the bid summary for the San Joaquin River Setback Levee. Mr. Neudeck asked the Board to award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder -The Dutra Group.

After some discussion Present Sgarrella made a motion to approve awarding the San Joaquin River Setback Levee Reach 6 Phase 1 bid to The Dutra Group for \$ 5,595,434.00, motion seconded by Trustee Gill, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

Mr. Neudeck told the Board that the documentation to support the DSC Consistency Determination is under internal review. Mr. Neudeck went over with the Board the Delta Stewardship Council's Consistency Determination and findings. Mr. Neudeck asked the Board to authorize the filing of the consistency determination.

Construction is still anticipated to start May 2026.

Mr. Barton asked the public for comments on the DSC Consistency Determination. The public gave their positive support. President Sgarrella and the Board thanked KSN, Mr. Neudeck and Mr. Eric Almass for all the years of work they had put in on this project. After some discussion President Sgarrella made a motion to approve submitting a certification of Consistency to the Delta Stewardship Council, motion seconded by Trustee Huston, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

11. 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.

Mr. Grayson Sandy with Department of Water Resources (DWR) gave the Board an update on SMFA project. Mr. Sandy is working on renting a marsh master for the Wetlands project to make fire breaks with. Mr. Sandy had no updates for the Rice project.

12. THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER ALLOWING THE DISTRICT'S SUPERINTENDENT TO TAKE THE DISTRICT'S PICK-UP TRUCK HOME WITH HIM AND ONLY USE IT FOR DISTRICT USE, ENABLING HIM TO PURCHASE ITEMS FOR THE DISTRICT AND COMMUTE TO THE DISTRICT AND BACK TO HOME.

After some discussion the Board decided to table this matter until the next meeting.

13. ENGINEERING REPORT: MR. Chris NEUDECK.

- I. Project Funding Agreement TW-21-1.2 TIMES /TWERP Project.
 - A. Look under item number 9.
- II. Project Funding Agreement TW-24-1.0-SP Phase II of District Multi-Benefit
Look under item number 10.
- III. District Pump Station Solar Array.
 - A. Look under item number 6.
- IV. Systemwide Multi Benefit Project Sevenmile Slough Erosion Repairs.
 - A. Look under item number 8.

14. 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.
- Ordered skid steer used on placing rock at the District solar array pad to fill in the low spot areas. Used two transfers loads of fill.
- Removed blackberry bushes off the levee.
- Submitted water use report for Districts siphons.
- Worked on valves in the rice project, so water could be used to put the peat fire out. Waiting for parts for the valves.
- Worked on security cameras after someone broke a camera and took some batteries from the sheep camp and Mr. Rodriguez quad near the NOAA trailer.
- Worked with the sheriff boat patrol on removing a boat off the rocks on Threemile Slough. Mr. Carter Jr. gave the sheriff department a copy of the requested camera footage.
- Asta Construction replaced a valve on a siphon at Levee Station 469+00 for the SMFA wetland project, so the wetlands could be flooded.
- Mr. Carter Jr. had Gornto Ditching come out and use their long reach to clear a pipe crossing at C-1 and C-2 canal.

The Board discussed with Mr. Grayson Sandy about renting a large pump to pump water into the rice project to put the peat fire out and this would be paid out of the SMFA project account. Mr. Sandy told the Board to do everything they can to get the fire out. After the meeting Mr. Carter Jr. will speak with Mr. Sandy about putting the peat fire out.

Mr. Chris Neudeck told the Board the DWR ponds keep leaking and adding electrical cost to the Districts electrical bill. Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. needs to keep track of the leaking ponds also the usage of DWR siphons in the project areas.

Mr. Carter Jr. told the Board Mr. Danny Villegas that he has received doctor notes for him. Mr. Carter Jr. will send copies of the notes to Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay and Mr. Jesse Barton will receive copies as well. Mr. Villegas' doctor notes will not be put out for public view.

15. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be called to order.
January 20, 2025, at 9:00 am, the regular meeting was adjourned at 10:49 am.


Presiding Trustee of the Regular Meeting December 16, 2025, certifies the above
minutes.


Linda Carter
Secretary