MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JUNE 17, 2026, 5:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

   President Doolittle called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. **DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM & ATTENDANCE**

   Board Members Present: President Doolittle, Vice President Short, Director Floen, Director Jarlsberg, Director Fick

   Staff Present: General Manager Johnson, Director of Administration Shook, Accounting Supervisor Rich, Executive Assistant Thompson

   Consultant(s) Present: Legal Counsel, Jeff Hoskinson, Public Outreach Consultant, Kathleen Radich

   Citizens Advisory Council Member(s) Present: David Carrillo

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

   Director Floen moved to approve the agenda and seconded by Director Jarlsberg and approved by the following vote:

1st / 2nd	Floen/Jarlsberg
Ayes:	Doolittle, Short, Floen, Fick, Jarlsberg
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
   A. DRAFT MINUTES – 06.03.26 – President Doolittle requested that the minutes be pulled from the Consent Calendar.
   B. CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE
   C. STATUTORY AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENT FOR BOARD-ADOPTED SALARY SCHEDULE
   D. CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH WEST COAST CIVIL, INC. FOR AS-NEEDED ENGINEERING SUPPORT SERVICES

   Director Jarlsberg made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar and seconded by Vice President Short, approved by the following vote:

1st/ 2nd	Jarlsberg/Short
Ayes:	Doolittle, Short, Floen, Jarlsberg, Fick
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

6. ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION

A. DRAFT MINUTES – 06.03.26

President Doolittle requested a correction to the draft minutes by revising the first bullet point under the General Manager's report to replace "requested by the Board President" with "requested by the Board".

Director Jarlsberg made a motion to approve the draft 06.03.26 minutes, seconded by Director Floen, and approved by the following vote:

1st / 2nd	Jarlsberg/Floen
Ayes:	Doolittle, Short, Floen, Jarlsberg, Fick
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

7. <u>DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS</u>

A. <u>TEMPORARY LABOR STAFFING AGREEMENT WITH waterTALENT</u>
PRESENTED BY: GENERAL MANAGER, SARAH JOHNSON
RECOMMENDED ACTION: AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WATERTALENT, LLC TO STAFF POSITIONS AS NEEDED

General Manager Sarah Johnson presented the proposed agreement with waterTALENT, LLC for temporary staffing support while the District recruits for the Director of Operations and Maintenance Supervisor positions. Johnson noted that the firm specializes in water utility staffing and may have qualified candidates available.

Vice President Short made a motion to authorize the General Manager to execute a professional agreement with waterTALENT, LLC to staff positions as needed, and seconded by Director Jarlsberg, approved by the following vote:

1st/ 2nd	Short/Jarlsberg
Ayes:	Doolittle, Short, Floen, Jarlsberg, Fick
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

B. <u>CONSIDER WATER AVAILABILITY (STANDBY) CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027 AND COLLECTION VIA THE COUNTY TAX ROLLS</u>
PRESENTED BY: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, ANNE ROMAN
RECOMMENDED ACTION: ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 26-1089, ESTABLISHING WATER AVAILABILITY CHARGES FOR 2026/2027 AND AUTHORIZING COLLECTION BY SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY.

Director of Finance Anne Roman presented the annual Water Availability (Standby) Charges for Fiscal Year 2026/27 and the proposed collection of the charges through the County tax rolls. Roman noted that legal counsel determined a public hearing was not required since no changes to the charges were proposed. Roman also reported that the charges generate approximately 9% of the District's budgeted revenues.

President Doolittle expressed concern with language in the resolution referencing "steadily increasing overdraft" and suggested the wording be updated to reflect current conditions. Staff and legal counsel indicated the language could be revised.

Following discussion, the Board directed staff to amend paragraph 4 of the resolution by removing the phrase "in light of steadily increasing" and adding the word "from".

Vice President Short made a motion to adopt Resolution 26-1089 with amendments to paragraph 4 of the resolution, Establishing Water Availability Charges for 2026/2027 and authorizing collection by San Bernardino County, seconded by Director Floen and approved by the following vote:

1st/ 2nd	Short/Floen
Ayes:	Doolittle, Short, Floen, Jarlsberg, Fick
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

C. <u>ANNUAL RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY TO COLLECT COPPER MOUNTAIN MESA (CMM) ASSESSMENT DISTRICT CHARGES VIA THE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX ROLLS</u>
PRESENTED BY: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, ANNE ROMAN
RECOMMENDED ACTION: REVIEW AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 26-1090

Director of Finance Anne Roman presented the Annual Resolution to Authorize the County to Collect Copper Mountain Mesa (CMM) Assessment District Charges Via the County Property Tax Rolls. Roman explained that the resolution is adopted annually to recover the assessment district's bond debt service and related administrative costs, which are estimated not to exceed $260,000.

Director Floen made a motion to adopt Resolution 26-1090 and authorize the County to Collect Copper Mountain Mesa (CMM) Assessment District Charges via the County Property Tax Rolls and seconded by Director Jarlsberg, approved by the following vote:

1st/ 2nd	Floen/Jarlsberg
Ayes:	Doolittle, Short, Floen, Jarlsberg, Fick
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

8. DIRECTOR REPORTS/COMMENTS

President Doolittle

- Doolittle inquired whether the District had any information or updates regarding the Santorini project. She expressed interest in having the General Manager provide verbal updates to the Board on developments and projects progressing within the District, such as the Santorini project.
- Doolittle stated that she remains concerned about the General Manager's safety and well-being while out in public.
- Doolittle reported that she serves on an ACWA Affordability Committee and summarized that the group is focused on improving affordability and developing more reliable, long-term funding mechanisms for water infrastructure, particularly for smaller and disadvantaged agencies. Doolittle noted the committee is also discussing grant management support, technical assistance, and coordination of state and federal funding programs, and that the committee meets every two weeks and will be developing recommendations for the ACWA Board later this year.
- Doolittle noted, while signing checks, that she observed staff training activity and inquired whether an employee had obtained or was currently working toward a D2 certification.
- Doolittle noted that she is preparing for the first Water & Growth Standing Committee meeting scheduled for July 8 at 9:00 a.m.
- Doolittle reported that she presented at a Community Science Collective meeting on June 16th, where she discussed Joshua Tree's water sources and basin and aquifer structure. Doolittle noted there was strong interest from attendees in groundwater recharge and related topics.
- Doolittle reported attending the ASBCSD meeting in Chino on June 15th, where the Inland Empire Water Agency presented on outreach efforts. Doolittle noted emphasis on building long-term community trust, promoting water education, and encouraging interest in water-related careers through tours and youth programs.

Vice President Short

- Short attended the Mojave Water Agency Board meeting last week, which included a brief review of its Urban Water Management Plan. Short also expressed appreciation for the thoroughness of the District's board meeting materials and acknowledged staff's efforts in preparing them.
- Short inquired about the status of adding AI and data center topics to the list of future agenda items. General Manager Johnson clarified that both topics are already included in the District's Business Plan.
- Short inquired about the status of a request made by a member of the public during public comment at the previous Board meeting.

Director Floen

- Floen attended the Copper Mountain Mesa Association breakfast the previous Saturday and noted it was a successful opportunity to engage with community members.
- Floen attended the Copper Mountain Mesa Board meeting.

Director Jarlsberg

- Jarlsberg reported that she and Vice President Short had made some progress with the Ad Hoc Committee for the Board Retreat.
- Jarlsberg attended the Basin Wide Foundation luncheon, where she was officially elected to its Board of Directors. Jarlsberg noted that the position provides an opportunity to increase the District's visibility and stated that she believes it is worthwhile.
- Jarlsberg inquired about the outcome of the Lovemore Ranch court case and whether they had any contact with the District.

Director Fick

- Fick inquired whether any information provided by Lovemore Ranch to the District regarding its development project is public information.
- Fick clarified that, in speaking with a reporter regarding the Lovemore Ranch court hearing, he was representing himself as a member of the MBCA; however, the article identified him as a Director of the District. Fick also acknowledged the efforts of the Joshua Tree Village Neighbors and noted that information obtained through his contacts had been shared with the attorney representing Joshua Tree Village Neighbors.

9. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Johnson prepared and distributed a written manager's report which is included as an attachment to the minutes. In addition to the written report Johnson reported:

- Johnson wished the board and staff a Happy Fourth of July.
- Johnson stated that the next board meeting is scheduled for July 15th..

10. **AGENDA ITEMS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD**

- Doolittle – None
- Short – None
- Floen – None
- Jarlsberg – None
- Fick – None

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION (Govt Code § 54956.9(d)(1))
Name of case: City of Indio v. Eric Oppenheimer, Fresno County Superior Court, Case No. 24CECG04779

Meeting paused for a closed session at 6:08 pm
Returned to open session at 7:08 pm

Legal Counsel Jeff Hoskinson reported the Board, by a vote of 4-1, with President Doolittle and Directors Floen, Jarlberg, and Fick voting yes, Vice-President Short voting no, authorizing the initiating of an appeal in the agendized City of Indio Matter.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Director Floen, seconded by Director Jarlsberg, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Johnson, General Manager & Board Secretary

Managers' Report

PRESENTED ON: June 17, 2026

Proudly providing water from an ancient source…well into the future

PURPOSE:
The Managers' Report provides the Board of Directors with a summary of noteworthy activities, meetings attended, and updates from the General Manager, Operations, Administration, Finance, and other District functions. The report is not intended to be all-inclusive and does not replace separate staff reports or agenda items for matters requiring Board discussion or action. The Managers' Report will be provided at least monthly and may be presented more frequently as needed.

GENERAL MANAGER

MWA TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

GM Johnson attended the MWA TAC meeting on June 4. Presentations included updates on the Former George Air Force Base environmental restoration effort, HDWD's booster station rehabilitation project, the Jubilee/Center water meter project, legislative updates, and upcoming Watermaster hearings. While the presentations were informative, none of the items discussed were directly related to current JBWD business. However, we will continue to monitor any items that may affect District operations, planning, or Board interests.

CSDA GM CONFERENCE UPCOMING ATTENDANCE

GM Johnson will attend the CSDA General Manager Leadership Summit the week of June 28, 2026. The conference provides an opportunity to participate in professional development, discuss emerging issues affecting special districts, connect with other general managers, and learn about best practices and resources that may benefit the District.

OPERATIONS

CRVI PILOT UPDATE

On June 15, 2026, District staff and consultants met to review logistics for the CRVI pilot testing at our first two well sites. The group confirmed that pilot testing can begin once site preparation is complete. To support consistent pilot operations, the District purchased backflow preventers and holding tanks to provide a reliable water supply during periods when the wells are not running.

The group also reviewed sampling procedures, including the District's request to collect PFAS samples in addition to Phibro-Tech's standard testing. Staff and consultants further emphasized the importance of completing all five well pilots and related technical reports by December 31, 2026, in order to remain on schedule with the District's compliance plan.

OPERATIONS LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

As of June 15, 2026, Interim Director of Operations Ray Kolisz officially completed his contractual assignment with the District and is no longer serving as Director of Operations. The District appreciates Mr. Kolisz's leadership, operational expertise, and contributions during his tenure, particularly in supporting the organization through a period of transition. Following his departure, the District has temporarily redistributed operational responsibilities among existing staff, with the GM assuming primary oversight of the Operations Department. This arrangement will remain in place while the District evaluates its long-term organizational needs and works toward filling the position.

ADMIN	
RISK AND RESILIENCE UPDATE	Staff is wrapping up our Risk & Resilience (or RRA), the first part of our required Emergency Response Plan with Jacobs Engineering. Jacobs provided an overall positive assessment of JBWD’s risk and resiliency posture, noting that the District rated well above standard compared to more than 30 similar utilities nationwide. Director of Admin Shook had the opportunity to visit every site within our District, and see firsthand vulnerabilities, even though minor, still important to acknowledge and help mitigate. Jacobs specifically highlighted the District’s strong physical security, security culture, secured facilities, daily closing checklist, cameras and motion sensors at all sites, and clean, well-maintained facilities. The District was also noted as financially resilient. The primary vulnerability identified is seismic risk, particularly related to older tanks and incomplete seismic valve coverage. Shook was asked, "What keeps you up at night?" to which he answered "Earthquakes". We'll research how best to safeguard our assets and keep our precious water safe. Additional recommendations include standardizing security signage, developing physical security design standards, locking the server rack during the day, placing daily-use vehicle keys in a lockbox, supervising chemical deliveries, and evaluating potential funding options for A1 tank road improvements. We've already begun brainstorming ways to improve our signage to continue ensuring the security of our sites. The draft RRA is expected June 22, with a walkthrough meeting scheduled for June 23, and certification to EPA required by June 30. Lastly, Shook would like to thank and commend Kenny Ware, Production Supervisor, for his professionalism and ability to answer questions on the go and his assistance with this project. Working with Jacobs has been a great experience and we are looking forward to certifying that we've completed the RRA and to begin work on the Emergency Response Plan with them.
FINANCE	
SUPPLEMENTAL EARTHQUAKE INSURANCE UPDATE	The District applied for and was approved for supplemental earthquake insurance brokered through ACWA/JPIA. This item was presented to the Board for consideration and approval in April 2026. During completion of the binding process, staff learned that the original quote included optional terrorism coverage, which significantly increased the quoted premium. The final policy was issued without terrorism coverage, resulting in an annual savings of approximately $40,000 while maintaining the earthquake coverage sought by the District.
OTHER	No Report

JBWD MEETING MINUTES 06.17.26

Final Audit Report 2026-07-16

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