MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AUGUST 19, 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, Director Floen, Director Fick, Director Jarlsberg (Attended Remotely)

Staff Present: Director of Finance Roman, Director of Administration Shook, Accounting Supervisor Rich, Executive Assistant Thompson, HR & Risk Generalist Sheehan

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 Jarlsberg moved to approve the agenda with the addition of a Closed Session item for the appointment of a General Manager Pro Tem pursuant to Government Code Section 54957, based on the matter requiring immediate action and coming to the District's attention after the agenda was posted and seconded by Director Floen and approved by the following vote:

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

4. **CLOSED SESSION -**

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT – GENERAL MANAGER PRO TEM (GOVT. CODE § 54957.6)

General Counsel Jeff Hoskinson reported that the Board unanimously appointed Anne Roman as General Manager Pro Tem for the duration of General Manager Sarah Johnson's leave pursuant to Government Code Section 54957. The motion was approved by a vote of 4/0.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT** –

See attached addendum for a summary of the public comments received during the meeting. The District also received 4 electronic public comments, which were provided to the Board as supplemental communications prior to the meeting. To view the recording of the meeting, please click here.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. DRAFT MINUTES – 08.05.26 – Director Fick requested that the minutes be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

7. **ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION**

A. DRAFT MINUTES – 08.05.26

Director Fick requested that the minutes be pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate consideration and requested that the written and oral public comments be included in the minutes. Director Floen requested that the minutes include instructions directing readers to the meeting recording on YouTube.

President Doolittle requested an amendment to her Director Comments to clarify that her appreciation for Vice President Short and his actions during the meeting was regarding his withdrawal of Items 7A and 7B.

Director Fick made a motion to approve the draft 08.05.26 meeting minutes with the following amendments: (1) include summaries of the written/electronic and oral/in-person public comments as an addendum to the minutes; (2) include instructions for accessing the meeting recording on YouTube; and (3) amend President Doolittle's Director Comments to clarify that her appreciation for Vice President Short was regarding his withdrawal of Items 7A and 7B, seconded by Director Floen and approved by the following vote:

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

B. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

A. CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CALPERS) CONTRACT AMENDMENT – UPDATE TO PEPRA PROVISIONS

PRESENTED BY: HR & RISK GENERALIST, AUDRIANA SHEEHAN

RECOMMENDED ACTION: APPROVE RESOLUTION 26-1098 TO AMEND THE CONTRACT BETWEEN CALPERS AND JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT TO UPDATE THE DISTRICT'S RETIREMENT CONTRACT LANGUAGE, AND AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT.

HR & Risk Generalist, Audriana Sheehan presented an update regarding the District's CalPERS contract amendment. Sheehan explained that the amendment, requested by CalPERS, clarifies and updates the retirement provisions applicable to District employees, including the 2% at 55 formula for applicable members and the 2% at 62 formula for new/PEPRA members. The amendment is a housekeeping matter and does not create or provide any new retirement benefits.

Director Fick made a motion to approve Resolution 26-1098 to amend the contract between CalPERS and Joshua Basin Water District to update the District's retirement contract language and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement , seconded by Director Floen and approved by the following vote:

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

B. <u>2025/26 BAD DEBT WRITE-OFF OF $53,968.56</u>
PRESENTED BY: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, ANNE ROMAN
RECOMMENDED ACTION: APPROVE THE 2025/26 BAD DEBT WRITE-OFF IN THE AMOUNT OF $53,968.56

General Manager Pro Tem/Director of Finance Anne Roman presented the 2025/26 Bad Debt Write-Off totaling $53,968.56 for 189 customer accounts. Roman explained that the write-off is an annual accounting action required for the District's audit and does not prevent future collection efforts. Roman noted that most of the bad debt resulted from unpaid final bills and that lien collections have slowed compared to prior years.

Director Jarlsberg made a motion to approve the 2025/26 Bad Debt Write-Off in the Amount of $53,968.56, seconded by Director Fick and approved by the following vote:

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

C. <u>COLLECTION ENFORCEMENT, LIENS, AND BAD DEBT WRITE-OFF POLICY</u>
PRESENTED BY: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, ANNE ROMAN
RECOMMENDED ACTION: REVIEW AND ADOPT RESOLUTION #26-1096 AND POLICY.

General Manager Pro Tem/Director of Finance Anne Roman presented the Collection Enforcement, Liens, and Bad Debt Write-Off Policy. Roman explained that the proposed policy would establish guidelines and controls for post-delinquency collection activities, including liens, bankruptcies, and bad debt write-offs.

President Doolittle made a motion to continue the item to a future meeting for further discussion as a workshop and seconded by Director Fick, approved by the following vote:

1st/ 2nd	Doolittle/Fick
Ayes:	Doolittle, Jarlsberg, Fick
Noes:	Floen

Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

D. GUARANTEE DEPOSIT REQUIREMENTS
PRESENTED BY: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, ANNE ROMAN
RECOMMENDED ACTION: REVIEW AND CONSIDER REDUCING THE CUSTOMER GUARANTEE DEPOSIT. IF DESIRED, ADOPT RESOLUTION 26-1097 TO AMEND THE RULES & REGULATIONS ARTICLE 1.11.

General Manager Pro Tem/Director of Finance Anne Roman presented the Guarantee Deposit Requirements. Roman explained that the current deposit is based on approximately three months of average residential water charges and recommended reducing the calculation to two and one-half months to better reflect current rates and reduce the standard residential deposit by approximately $68.

Director Floen made a motion to adopt Resolution 26-1097 to Amend the Rules and Regulations, seconded by Director Fick and approved by the following vote:

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

E. CUSTOMER APPEAL RULES & REGULATIONS ARTICLES 1.2,1.3,1.9.1
PRESENTED BY: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION, DAVID SHOOK
RECOMMENDED ACTION: UPHOLD THE DISTRICT'S RULES & REGULATIONS AS APPLIED AND DENY THE REQUESTED VARIANCE

Director of Administration David Shook presented the customer appeal regarding Rules & Regulations Articles 1.2, 1.3, and 1.9.1. Shook reviewed the applicable provisions and the process for appealing a staff decision or requesting a variance.

Mr. Scully addressed the Board during public comment regarding his appeal. Following discussion, the Board denied the requested variance.

Director Floen made a motion to deny the requested variance and seconded by President Doolittle and approved by the following vote:

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

F. JBWD BOARD MEMBER VACANCY

PRESENTED BY: GENERAL COUNSEL, JEFF HOSKINSON

RECOMMENDED ACTION: GOVERNMENT CODE § 1780 PROVIDES THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY WITHIN 60 DAYS EITHER (1) FILL THE VACANCY BY APPOINTING A NEW MEMBER OR (2) CALLING AN ELECTION THAT WILL BE HELD ON THE NEXT STATUTORILY ESTABLISHED ELECTION DATE THAT IS SCHEDULED MORE THAN 130 OR MORE DAYS AFTER THE DATE THE BOARD CALLS THE ELECTION. SINCE THE SEAT IS ALREADY PART OF THE UPCOMING NOVEMBER 2026 ELECTION, THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF "CALLING FOR AN ELECTION" WOULD BE TO DEFER TO THE SEAT BEING FILLED BY VOTERS AT THE NOVEMBER 2026 ELECTION, AND A RESOLUTION WOULD PREPARE FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION AFFIRMING SUCH INTENT.

IF APPOINTMENT - IDENTIFY TARGET DATE FOR APPOINTMENT METHOD OF INITIAL SCREENING (AD HOC COMMITTEE, SPECIAL BOARD MEETING).

IF ELECTION - SEAT WILL BE FILLED AT THE UPCOMING NOVEMBER 2026 AS ALREADY SCHEDULED.

Legal Counsel Jeff Hoskinson provided an update regarding the Division 1 Board vacancy created by Vice President Tomas Short's resignation on August 6, 2026. Hoskinson reviewed the options available to the Board, including appointment of a successor or allowing the vacancy to be filled through the November 2026 election.

Director Jarlsberg made a motion to consider appointing a successor to fill the remainder of the term and agendize the matter for discussion at the September 16, 2026, Board meeting seconded by Director Fick and approved by the following vote:

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

C. DIRECTOR REPORTS/COMMENTS

President Doolittle

- Doolittle thanked the Directors for their Director reports.
- Doolittle thanked the staff and public for attending and for their patience during the lengthy meeting.
- Doolittle stated that she prepared additional comments regarding the August 5th Board meeting and the process leading to the proposed Board reorganization and censure. Due to General Manager Sarah Johnson's absence, Doolittle stated that she would reserve comments and questions regarding Johnson's conduct until her return.
- See Doolittle's full statement attached to minutes.

Director Floen

- Floen reminded the public that the District has a booth at the Farmers Market every Saturday and encouraged members of the public to stop by, speak with him, and share their comments.

Director Jarlsberg

- Jarlsberg noted that individuals may submit comments regarding the Lovemore Ranch project. Jarlsberg reported communicating with Atlas of JT Village Neighbors regarding the project and suggested that a template letter could be used to submit personal comments opposing the project.
- Jarlsberg reported attending the Building Industry Association (BIA) event on August 14, 2026. Jarlsberg noted discussions regarding relationships between developers and utilities and shared that panelists discussed the costs and considerations of renovating existing buildings compared to constructing new buildings.
- Jarlsberg attended ASBCSD dinner on August 17th, which included a legislative presentation.

Director Fick

- Director Fick reported attending the Building Industry Association (BIA) event on August 14th, 2026. He noted that the event was initiated by the Mojave Water Agency to promote interaction with the building industry and was attended by approximately 300 people, including Susan Kennedy, President and CEO of Cadiz.
- Fick attended the ASBCSD dinner on August 17th and noted that that Rojas Pubic Affairs lobbyist group who presented at the meeting.
- Fick reported being contacted by JT Village Neighbors regarding the Lovemore Ranch project and requested an update on the project's status. Fick requested that the project be placed on the September 2nd Board meeting agenda and that the District consider providing a comment letter to the County by the September 3rd deadline.

D. **MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Pro Tem Roman prepared and distributed a written manager's report which is included as an attachment to the minutes.

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

- Doolittle – None
- Floen – None
- Jarlsberg – None
- Fick – Lovemore Ranch status & copies of the project to the Board next week

F. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Director Floen, seconded by Director Fick, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNE ROMAN (Sep 7, 2026 00:33:11 PDT)

Anne Roman, General Manager Pro Tem & Board Secretary

TO VIEW THE MEETING RECORDING ON YOUTUBE, CLICK HERE:

PRESIDENT STACY DOOLITTLE

DIRECTOR REMARKS AGENDA ITEM 9

August 19, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting, JBWD

I had prepared more extensive comments tonight about August 5 and the process that led to the proposed reorganization of this Board and censure of me.

Given the absence of General Manager Sarah JOHNSON, I am going to reserve questions and comments specifically concerning her conduct until Sarah Johnson is here to respond.

But I am not going to allow August 5 simply to disappear. There was almost zero transparency regarding these two motions to reorganize the board or censure me. I, nor the public,were given any meaningful documents prior to this meeting and I am still waiting to receive any to this day. Not only was there no transparency, there was no accountability either.

More people attended that meeting than any other JBWD meeting in known history. The Board ultimately voted 4–1 to withdraw both items. From the public comments we heard then, and continue to hear, it is clear the public expects answers.

We have a responsibility to provide them.

The District did not emerge from August 5 looking good. Public confidence was damaged, and questions have been raised about District leadership. We need an honest accounting of how these actions were initiated and developed, who participated, what information supported them, and whether our processes worked as they should have.

But what hasn't been spoken of is that for some time, I felt pressure to go along to get along. I raised concerns internally because I wanted to preserve working relationships and Board cohesion. In doing so, I hesitated to publicly raise District issues I believed were important. Those

doubts and conflict remained private, and the public didn't know enough about what was happening to understand why I was pushing for answers.

That was my mistake.

I was elected by the people of this District. My fellow directors did not elect me, and they cannot define my participation so narrowly, at the District's urging, that it creates a chilling effect on my ability to ask hard questions, seek information, and raise issues important to this District's future.

So that boundary between governance and operations?

That boundary runs both ways.

I believe this past year that District leadership crossed further into Board governance and drove a wedge into this Board. There is a lot to say about this and hopefully I, and the public, will figure out what happened so it won't happen again, but there is a troubling question of transparency and accountability here.

I also disagree with a director's July comment that the board should wait for district management to tell us what issues deserve our attention. That is clearly putting the cart before the horse. The directors were elected by the people to provide independent oversight of Joshua Basin's water district. The important word there is *Independent*.

And I think we've lost our way there.

The District was involved along with two board members in the publishing of a proposed censure containing serious unsubstantiated allegations about my conduct. Although it was never adopted and was withdrawn 4–1, those unsubstantiated allegations remain in the public record.

Members of this community have repeatedly urged me to respond.

PRESIDENT STACY DOOLITTLE
DIRECTOR REMARKS AGENDA ITEM 9
August 19, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting, JBWD

I have resisted because I did not want to deepen the divisions here. But silence should not be mistaken for acceptance. We will address this in the future.

Now we have to rebuild.

We need clearer governance policies, meaningful access to public records, minutes that fairly reflect what occurred, and confidence that District records will be preserved when conflicts arise.

We are stewards and watchdogs for the public. We cannot perform that role without information, independence, and the freedom to ask difficult questions.

A Board should never try to silence one of its members simply because those questions make District leadership "uncomfortable."

Transparency. Respect. Accountability. Integrity.

Those JBWD values have to apply even when it is "uncomfortable" — especially then.

Those JBWD values matter most when things are difficult. Not just when it's easy! Let's not forget them in the future.

To everyone who showed up, wrote to us, and continues to participate: I heard you. This hasn't been easy – at all. I will keep doing this hard work for as long as I am able.

This is your District. Please keep paying attention.

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT

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

Managers' Report

PRESENTED ON: 08.19.26

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

OPERATIONS

ADMIN

District staff attended a kick-off ERNIE (Emergency Response Network of the Inland Empire), which is a mutual aid network made up of water and wastewater agencies. ERNIE's purpose is to help coordinate mutual aid, offer support for trainings and exercises, communicate protocols for emergencies, and assist with documentation.
Staff will review an omnibus mutual agreement to bring to the Board for review and a recommendation to participate. More information to come and there is an open house scheduled for October 28, 2026, in Eastvale, California for in-person networking and information sharing.

Staff has received a portion of the AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) Propagation Study from Sensus. Once all of the information is received, staff will prepare a thorough report to bring to the Board for discussion.

FINANCE

The District had planned to complete a prepayment ("bond call") for the Copper Mountain Mesa Assessment District in September. However, the bondholder, USDA, has been experiencing "system issues" and has been unable to verify our payoff calculations. After consulting with NBS, the District's bond administrator, we have decided to postpone the bond call until March 2027 while we continue working with USDA to reconcile its records and confirm the correct payoff amount.

OTHER

2. JBWD MINUTES MEETING 08.19.26

Final Audit Report 2026-09-07

Created:	2026-09-03
By:	LISA THOMPSON (lthompson@jbwd.com)
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