

MEETING MINUTES



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY 11, 2026, 1:00 PM

1. ALL TO ORDER

President Doolittle called the meeting to order at 1:09 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 Finance Roman, Director of Administration Shook, Accounting Supervisor Rich, Executive Assistant Thompson, Interim Director Ray Kolisz (remote)

Consultant(s) Present: None

Citizens Advisory Council Member(s) Present: None

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Doolittle moved to approve the agenda, with Agenda Item 7B, Business Plan, moved into the workshop format along with Agenda Item 7C, and seconded by Director Jarlsberg and approved by the following vote:

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT –

Joshua Tree resident Thomas Fjallstam, a ratepayer and Citizens Advisory Council member, spoke about reducing water waste and improving customer access to water usage monitoring. He shared his experience with Flume devices becoming incompatible after the district upgraded to iPERL meters. Fjallstam encouraged the district to prioritize implementation of an AMI system to allow customers to monitor water usage more quickly and help detect leaks and reduce water loss.

Joshua Tree property owner Jacqui Masson expressed concern about water waste and the delay in detecting leaks, particularly for rental properties whose tenants may be away for extended periods. Masson shared an example of a significant leak that resulted in a large water bill for tenants and encouraged the district to prioritize implementation of an AMI system or identify compatible monitoring devices for customers using the iPERL meters.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. DRAFT MINUTES – 04.15.26

President Doolittle requested that the 04.15.26 draft minutes be pulled from the Consent Calendar to allow corrections to her director's comments.

6. ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION –

A. DRAFT MINUTES – 04.15.26

President Doolittle requested that the minutes be edited. Director Jarlsberg made a motion to approve the 04.15.26 meeting minutes with amendments that President Doolittle described, seconded by Vice President Short, and approved by the following vote:

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

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. PUBLIC SERVANT APPRECIATION

PRESENTED BY: GENERAL MANAGER JOHNSON

RECOMMENDED ACTION: RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPT RESOLUTION 26-1084 HONORING PUBLIC SERVANT APPRECIATION

Director Floen suggested including the Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) in future resolutions but proceed this year as written. Director Jarlsberg also recommended adding staff to future resolutions and changing the wording from “servant” to “service.”

Vice President Short motioned to adopt Resolution 26-1084 honoring Public Servant Appreciation, seconded by Director Floen, and approved by the following vote:

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

B. ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN WORKSHOP

PRESENTED BY: GENERAL MANAGER, SARAH JOHNSON

RECOMMENDED ACTION: REVIEW AND REVISE ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN

General Manager Sarah Johnson presented the annual Business Plan, sharing that it was developed to align with the strategic plan pillars. The Board reviewed and discussed proposed revisions to the plan. Johnson stated she will return the Business Plan to the second budget workshop on May 18th for final review and any additional revisions.

The meeting paused for a break at 3:01 pm and resumed at 3:19 pm.

The meeting paused for a break at 4:50 pm and resumed at 4:59 pm.

C. BUDGET WORKSHOP #1: 2025/26 REVISED OPERATING BUDGET AND 2026/27 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

PRESENTED BY: GENERAL MANAGER JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE ROMAN, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION SHOOK, AND INTERIM DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS KOLISZ

RECOMMENDED ACTION: REVIEW, REVISE, AND RECOMMEND APPROVAL AT A FUTURE MEETING

Director of Finance Anne Roman presented the budget workshop #1 2025/26 revised operating budget and 2026/27 proposed operating budget. Roman provided an overview of the departmental summary, operating budget, projected reserves, and salary-and-benefits summary. After the presentation, the Board of Directors was given the opportunity to ask questions during a Q&A session, followed by brief comments.

8. DIRECTOR REPORTS/COMMENTS

President Doolittle

- Doolittle reported attending the California Rural Water Expo 2026 in April and provided her written report to the Board.
- Doolittle attended the ACWA Spring Conference last week and provided her written report to the Board.
- Doolittle announced the formation of a temporary Ad Hoc Board Retreat Preparation Committee to assist with planning for the upcoming Board retreat, including discussion topics, strategic priorities, and governance and operational matters. The committee will serve in an advisory capacity only and will dissolve upon completion of its purpose or within six months. Director Jarlsberg and Vice President Short were appointed to the committee.

Vice President Short

- Short reported attending the District tours and noted that there was a good turnout. Short stated that the tours provided sufficient information and were engaging and informative.
- Short reported attending the meeting with Senator Adam Schiff and noted that it was a positive opportunity to build relationships and increase awareness of the District's needs. Short stated that Senator Schiff was engaged, asked thoughtful questions, and that Interim Director of Operations Ray Kolisz represented the District well. Short also mentioned that additional information regarding the Chromium 6 issue is available through a recent Z1077 article and the District's Chromium 6 workshop posted on YouTube.
- Short reported attending the Water for Emergencies event with Director Floen and noted that there was consistent community engagement throughout the event. Short stated that many attendees shared they did not have emergency preparedness plans in place, and he felt the event was valuable in helping raise awareness and encourage residents to be better prepared.

Director Floen

- Floen reported participating in the Water for Emergencies outreach event at Walmart and noted that the event was successful.

Director Jarlsberg

- Jarlsberg reported attending the MWA Board meeting on April 23rd and noted that it was a very informative meeting, and will report at the next board meeting.
- Jarlsberg requested that the PFAS concerns discussion be added back to the list of future agenda items requested by the Board because of future water concerns.

Director Fick

- Fick reported attending the Alta Loma project meeting and noted that the project is located within a wildlife linkage area surrounded by conservation land. Fick stated that limited information was provided and that he was not impressed with the presentation.
- Fick reported attending a meeting at JTNPA, where discussions included funding mobile water tanks intended for fire protection purposes that currently lack a system to refresh the stored water. Fick stated that once the District hires a Director of Operations, he would like to revisit his previous suggestion regarding a helicopter water feed system at one of the District's southern reservoirs.

9. MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Report

Johnson reported on the following:

- Johnson reported that the district tours were successful and received positive feedback. Johnson noted that holding the tours in the fall may be more beneficial because attendees can better observe the recharge water sites, and legislators may be more available to participate during their fall recess.
- Johnson thanked the staff and board members who participated in Senator Schiff's visit on May 4th. Johnson stated that, despite the tour being reorganized on short notice, the event was successful and resulted in the Senator signing a letter of support for the district's project.
- Johnson reported that z1.077 visited the district office on May 5 to interview her regarding concerns about Chromium 6.
- Johnson reported that Interim Director of Operations Ray Kolisz's last day in that role will be June 16th. Johnson stated that she will assume the Director of Operations responsibilities while the position remains vacant. Johnson also shared that the headhunter is working to find a person for the position. In addition, Johnson is preparing a new contract for Kolisz to assist with a backlog of work, which will be brought to the Board for consideration in the near future.

10. AGENDA ITEMS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD

- President Doolittle –
 1. CEQA Review in the budget for \$100,000
 2. Nitrates presentation
- Vice President Short – None
- Director Floen - None
- Director Jarlsberg – Add PFAS concern discussion back on the list
- Director Fick – None

11. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Director Short, seconded by Director Floen, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at: 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah Johnson, General Manager & Board Secretary






2. .JBWD MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING AMENDED BY BOARD 05.11.26

Final Audit Report

2026-05-19

Created:	2026-05-19
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"2. .JBWD MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING AMENDED BY BOARD 05.11.26" History

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