

MEETING MINUTES



REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MARCH 4, 2026, 5:00 PM

1. ALL 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 Jarlsberg, Director Fick

Board Members Absent: Tom Floen

Staff Present: General Manager Johnson, Director of Finance Roman, Director of Administration Shook, Executive Assistant Thompson

Consultant(s) Present: Legal Counsel, Nicole Falcis, Public Outreach Consultant, Kathleen Radnich

Citizens Advisory Council Member(s) Present: David Carrillo

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Director Fick moved to approve the agenda, and Director Jarlsberg seconded the motion. Motion approved by the following vote:

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. DRAFT MINUTES – 02.18.26

Vice President Short made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar 02.18.26 draft minutes and seconded by Director Jarlsberg approved by the following vote:

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

6. ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION - None

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. PUBLIC OUTREACH REPORT

PRESENTED BY: PUBLIC OUTREACH CONSULTANT, KATHLEEN RADNICH

RECOMMENDED ACTION: FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY. NO ACTION IS TO BE TAKEN.

Public Outreach Consultant Kathleen Radnich provided a report on recent outreach activities and upcoming events.

Recent Activities

- On January 23, Radnich held a volunteer and docent meeting to assess plant growth and preparations for the upcoming March plant sale.
- On January 26, Radnich attended the Alliance for Water Awareness and Conservation (AWAC) Annual Meeting at Mojave Water Agency, where presentations were given on Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) and Community Organizations Active in Disasters (COAD).
- On January 30, Radnich attended a Native Plant Workshop at Joshua Tree National Park. Participants transplanted seedlings into larger pots in preparation for the upcoming plant sale.
- On February 18, Radnich attended the Morongo Basin First Responders meeting in Yucca Valley with Director of Administration David Shook.
- On February 20, Radnich returned to the Joshua Tree National Park nursery to inspect the District's native plant inventory and reported approximately 600 native plants prepared for this year's plant sale.
- On March 2, Radnich attended the Special CAC Meeting.

Upcoming Events

- **March 6** – Participation in the Careers in Water event. Radnich acknowledged HR & Risk Generalist Audriana Sheehan for assisting with educational handouts for participating eighth-grade students.
- **March 16** – AWAC's second annual meeting focusing on grant opportunities.
- **March 18** – Palm Vista Elementary School 5th-grade visit to the District demonstration garden for water conservation education. CAC Member Hannah Campbell will serve as lead instructor.
- **March 29** – 13th Annual Plant Sale from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; promotional flyers are currently being distributed.
- **April 11** – "Help Yourself, Help Your Neighbor" event at the Walmart Shopping Center. Director Floen expressed interest in participating, and additional volunteers are welcome. Event details will be included in the District newsletter.
- **April 19** – MBCA Landscape Tours at the District demonstration garden from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- **April 20–21** – District Tours hosted by the District. Promotion and sign-ups will be available through the District newsletter and the Farmers Market booth.
- **May (date TBD)** – Participation in the Water Education Festival with La Contenta Middle School, providing education to eighth-grade students on water conservation and the importance of water for health.
- **First four Fridays in May** – Radnich will host the District's annual Wild Crafting Course.

Additional Outreach Activities

- The Farmers Market outreach themes include "Grow Native" for March and "Water for Emergencies" for April. February's theme highlighted National Invasive Plant Week.
- Director Floen continues to conduct public outreach presentations at the Copper Mountain Mesa Community Association.

- CAC members and volunteers assisted Radnich with collecting petition signatures supporting the District’s Chromium 6 advocacy efforts. Radnich thanked the CAC and volunteers for their participation and assistance within a short timeframe.
- Radnich submitted the administrative research and narrative for the 2026–2027 Mojave Water Agency Strategic Partner Grant, which proposes funding for an emergency cargo container to store water and supplies for disaster response.

B. JANUARY 2026 CHECK REGISTER

PRESENTED BY: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, ANNE ROMAN

RECOMMENDED ACTION: APPROVE CHECK REGISTER.

Director Fick motioned to approve the January 2026 Check Register, seconded by Director Jarlsberg and approved by the following vote:

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

C. ESCHEATMENT OF UNCLAIMED MONEY INCLUDING POLICY

PRESENTED BY: DIRECTOR OF FINANCE, ANNE ROMAN

RECOMMENDED ACTION: ADOPT RESOLUTION 26-1082 INCLUDING ESCHEATMENT POLICY AND AUTHORIZE COMMENCEMENT OF ESCHEATMENT PROCESS

Director of Finance Anne Roman presented the Escheatment of Unclaimed Money and Policy. Roman reported that the District has unclaimed refunds that are at least three years old. Roman explained that, consistent with State law, the policy allows the District to publish notice of unclaimed funds and require claimants to submit claims. Funds not claimed after the notice and 45-day claim period may be transferred to the District’s General Fund. Roman noted that the list of unclaimed funds will be published in the local newspaper and on the District’s website, with a claim form available online. Roman also stated that Customer Support is aware of the process, and she will communicate directly with customers regarding claims.

Vice President Short motioned to adopt Resolution 26-1082, including Escheatment Policy and authorize commencement of the escheatment process, seconded by Director Fick and approved by the following vote:

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

D. BOARD REPORT: FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY – WASHINGTON DC

PRESENTED BY: GENERAL MANAGER, SARAH JOHNSON

RECOMMENDED ACTION: FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY, NO ACTION IS TO BE TAKEN.

General Manager Johnson provided a report on the District's legislative trip to Washington, D.C. with Vice President Short and Director Floen. Johnson noted that the trip was productive and successful despite weather-related travel challenges. Johnson reported that meetings were held with Congressman Jay Obernolte, staff from Senator Alex Padilla's office, and Senator Schiff's office. The meetings were conducted with the support of the Rojas Group, which facilitates legislative advocacy for the District. Johnson stated that while they did not meet directly with the senators during the scheduled sessions, the team was able to present the District's needs, particularly regarding the Chromium 6 mandate, alongside other organizations seeking funding. At the ACWA conference, Johnson had the opportunity to speak directly with Senator Schiff, providing an overview of the District's Chromium 6 challenges and discussing potential support. The Senator expressed interest in visiting Joshua Tree. Johnson stated that the District will send a thank-you card, photos from the trip, and an invitation to tour the District, with the option for a private tour if the Senator is unable to attend the public event. Johnson shared photos from the trip and highlighted the importance of ongoing federal advocacy for the District's projects. Vice President Short reported that meetings with Congressman Obernolte and Senator Schiff's office were productive, with legislators showing interest in the District's Chromium 6 concerns. Short noted the importance of building long-term relationships and presenting the District as a resource on water issues. Books highlighting the Morongo Basin and local water information were provided to legislators as part of outreach. Short concluded that the trip advanced the District's federal advocacy goals.

8. DIRECTOR REPORTS/COMMENTS

President Doolittle

- None

Vice President Short

- Short reported that he attended the Washington, D.C. legislative trip with Director Floen and General Manager Johnson last week. Short commended Johnson for her hard work and dedication, noting that she arrived in Washington, D.C. by 5:00 a.m. Tuesday despite having to travel through a blizzard. Short also noted that the legislative trip was a positive experience.

Director Floen

- Absent

Director Jarlsberg

- Jarlsberg expressed that she was pleased that General Manager Sarah Johnson, Vice President Short, and Director Floen were able to attend the Washington, D.C. legislative trip.

Director Fick

- Fick inquired about the April 1st Special Board meeting and the planned sewer discussion with the County.

9. MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Report

Johnson reported on the following:

- Johnson reported on the Special CAC meeting held on Monday, March 2nd, focused on legislative advocacy. Johnson noted that the CAC was very successful, collecting approximately 200 signatures for the petition, which was subsequently sent to legislators. Johnson mentioned that the CAC undertook a letter-writing campaign led by Public Outreach Consultant Kathleen Radnich. While the CAC initially believed they had three months to

- complete the campaign, they realized they had only a short amount of time. Johnson thanked CAC Chair Carrillo and Radnich for their efforts in securing signatures in support of the letter.
- Johnson reported that the district received the full reimbursement check on February 3rd for the damaged recharge pipe.
 - Johnson noted that the district has scheduled two interviews for the Director of Operations position at the end of March. The candidates were sourced through the Water Workforce recruiting firm.
 - Johnson announced that the water education courses at CMC have received official approval from the SWRCB, making the college an authorized training provider. As a result, Continuing Units (CUs) can now be earned locally.
 - Johnson provided an update on Well 15, which is currently undergoing rehabilitation. Although the well is back in operation, positive samples are still being detected because it was idle for nine months. The team continues to flush and chlorinate the well until the water quality meets standards before fully returning it to the system.
 - Johnson reported that the State approved the District's chromium-6 compliance plan and granted a compliance extension through 2032. However, the regulatory deadline of October 1, 2027, remains in place, meaning the District could still potentially be subject to enforcement if it is not in compliance by that date. Johnson noted the situation appears somewhat contradictory but represents progress. Johnson also shared that the State engineer who approved the plan acknowledged receipt of the advocacy letters and asked that appreciation be relayed to the CAC, noting that the letters would be taken into consideration even though the October 1st deadline cannot be changed.
 - Johnson announced that she is scheduled to appear on the Z1077 Up Close show on April 3rd.
 - Johnson expressed appreciation to her team for supporting the District during her legislative trip to Washington, D.C., noting that their work allowed her to be away without concern. Johnson specifically thanked Director of Administration David Shook, Director of Finance Anne Roman, Interim Director of Operations Ray Kolisz, Accounting Supervisor Autumn Rich, and Executive Assistant Lisa Thompson. Johnson also thanked her husband for driving her through the night during a blizzard, which enabled her to make it to Washington, D.C.

10. AGENDA ITEMS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD

- President Doolittle – None
- Vice President Short – None
- Director Jarlsberg – None
- Director Fick – None

11. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Vice President Short, seconded by Director Jarlsberg, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah Johnson, General Manager & Board Secretary






3. .JBWD MINUTES TEMPLATE 1ST MEETING TEMPLATE 03.04.26

Final Audit Report

2026-03-19

Created:	2026-03-19
By:	LISA THOMPSON (lthompson@jbwd.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAigrM-tWbqBeQikt1CCm49wnXyehxazAZ

"3. .JBWD MINUTES TEMPLATE 1ST MEETING TEMPLATE 0 3.04.26" History

-  Document created by LISA THOMPSON (lthompson@jbwd.com)
2026-03-19 - 10:13:55 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Sarah Johnson (sjohnson@jbwd.com) for signature
2026-03-19 - 10:14:13 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Sarah Johnson (sjohnson@jbwd.com)
2026-03-19 - 10:41:19 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Sarah Johnson (sjohnson@jbwd.com)
Signature Date: 2026-03-19 - 10:41:31 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2026-03-19 - 10:41:31 PM GMT