



## THREE VALLEYS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 | 8:00 a.m.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The Board meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. at the District office located at 1021 East Miramar Ave., Claremont, CA. The presiding officer was President Mike Ti.

### 2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with a quorum of the Board present.

#### DIRECTORS PRESENT

Mike Ti, President  
Carlos Goytia, Vice President  
Jeff Hanlon, Secretary/Treasurer  
David De Jesus, Director  
Bob Kuhn, Director  
Jorge Marquez, Director  
Jody Roberto, Director

#### STAFF PRESENT

Matthew Litchfield, General Manager  
Steve Kennedy, Legal Counsel  
Dominique Aguiar, Operations Supervisor  
Brittany Aguilar, Finance Manager  
Nadia Aguirre, Executive Board Secretary  
David Dransfeldt, Water Resources Intern  
Freeman Ensign, Operations Supervisor  
Karen Harberson, Compliance Specialist  
Kirk Howie, Chief Administrative Officer  
Steve Lang, Chief Operations Officer  
Sylvie Lee, Chief Water Resources Officer  
Joshua Olivares, Finance Analyst  
Kevin Panzer, Engineer  
Robert Peng, I.T. Manager  
Viviana Robles, Human Resources & Risk Manager  
Marissa Turner, Admin. Communications Assistant  
Jose Velasquez, Chief Finance Officer

Virtual Attendees: Ed Chavez, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; Chris Diggs, City of Pomona; Kristi Foy, Arnold and Associates, Inc.; Ed Hilden, Walnut Valley Water District; Ben Lewis, Golden State Water Company; Bertha Perez, Walnut Valley Water District; Dave Michalko, Covina Valley Water Company; Thomas Monk, Walnut Valley Water District; Stephanie Moreno, Water Quality Authority; Gabby Palomares, Rowland Water District; Henry Woo, Walnut Valley Water District; 19095389296

In person attendees: John Bellah, Rowland Water District; Tom Coleman, Rowland Water District; James Cortes, Day One; Kelly Gardner, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster; Tony Lima, Rowland Water District; Jared Macias, Walnut Water District; Myra Malner, Rowland

Water District; Dusty Moisio, Rowland Water District; Dinny Rasmussen, League of Women's Voters; Sherry Shaw, Walnut Valley Water District

3. FLAG SALUTE

President Ti led the flag salute.

4. DIRECTOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION PURSUANT TO AB 2449

A. NOTIFICATION DUE TO JUST CAUSE

B. REQUEST DUE TO EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES

There were no requests submitted by any Directors for remote participation due to Emergency Circumstances, and therefore no motion was needed for this item.

5. AGENDA REORDER/ADDITIONS

No reorder or additions to the agenda were requested.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rowland Water District General Manager Tom Coleman provided public comment for Item 10.C.

7. PRESENTATIONS

A. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – ARNOLD AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

Ms. Kristi Foy reported that we are currently in the first year of the 2025-26 legislative session. The state budget deficit is unclear at this time due to the California wildfires, uncertainty with the stock market, and issues at the federal level. The Governor passed and signed a special budget bill this week that was mainly for extra funding to the state's Medi-Cal program until the budget is discussed in June. The Governor's revisions to the budget will be available on May 15 and the final budget by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

This year, forty-nine key bills will be tracked, one bill sponsored – AB 259, seven bills supported, and two bills opposed. Director Roberto testified at the first Policy Committee hearing on April 9, 2025. The bill passed out of the committee and will go to the assembly before moving forward to the Senate floor and the Governor's desk. SB 72 is a key bill that is being supported and was heard by the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee on April 8. The bill revises the contents of the California Water Plan and requires the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to develop a long-term water supply

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planning target for 2050. SB 72 has been passed to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The Three Valleys area Assembly representatives are John Harabedian, Blanca Rubio, Michelle Rodriguez, and Lisa Calderon. Senators are Susan Rubio, Sasha Perez, and Bob Archuleta. President Ti, Vice President Goytia, Secretary/Treasurer Hanlon, General Manager Litchfield, Chief Administrative Officer Howie, and Ms. Foy, visited with seven legislative offices in Sacramento on March 11, 2025 at the annual lobby day.

Director Roberto thanked Ms. Foy for her assistance when she testified at the hearing.

#### B. DAY ONE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

James Cortes from Day One presented the organization's environmental justice work, focusing on two key programs – Safe, Clean Water Program and the San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network. The Safe, Clean Water Program funds projects to increase water supply, improve water quality, and provide community benefits. The San Gabriel Valley Greenway Network Implementation Plan aims to expand environmental benefits that improve stormwater capture and connect waterways with recreational paths. The draft plan is available on the website for review and comments by April 26, 2025.

#### 8. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board considered consent calendar items 8.A – 8.E: (8.A) Receive, Approve, and File Minutes – March 3, 2025 (Special Workshop), March 5, 2025, and March 19, 2025; (8.B) Receive, Approve, and File Financial Reports and Investment Update, March 2025; (8.C) Imported Water Sales, March 2025; (8.D) Miramar Operations Report, March 2025; (8.E) Approve Director Expense Reports, March 2025

Moved: Director Marquez	Second: Director Roberto
Ayes: De Jesus, Goytia, Hanlon, Kuhn, Marquez, Roberto, Ti	
Noes:	
Abstain:	
Absent:	
Motion No. 25-04-5518 Approval of Consent Calendar Items 8.A – 8.E	
Motion passed 7-0-0-0	

#### 9. PUBLIC HEARING PURSUANT TO AB 2561 – JOB VACANCIES, RECRUITMENT, AND RETENTION

President Ti opened the public hearing at 8:35 a.m.

Human Resources Manager Robles reported on the implementation of AB 2561, which requires public agencies to conduct a public hearing each fiscal year to address job vacancies, recruitment, and retention efforts. The intent of this legislation is to support transparency and proactive workforce planning by identifying recruitment challenges or potential policy improvements. The district does not have any job vacancies that are open, and all authorized positions are currently filled. The district remains committed to being effective in recruitment practices, employee retention strategies, and continuous improvement to hiring processes to ensure long-term organizational stability. The public hearing notice was published in the San Gabriel Valley Tribune on April 9, 2025.

The public hearing closed at 8:40 a.m.

## 10. ACTION AGENDA

### A. APPROVE SALARY SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025

The Board discussed the proposed salary schedule effective July 1, 2025, which includes market adjustments up to 10% to the salary ranges and a 3.06% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) based on the 2024 Consumer Price Index. The Board requested a more detailed analysis and comparison with other agencies. A special workshop will be held to further discuss the salary ranges and market adjustments.

Director Roberto made a motion to increase the salary schedule only by the COLA for this year. Director Hanlon seconded the motion and requested to include the General Manager's recommended changes listed in the staff report.

Director Roberto amended the motion to increase the salary schedule only by the COLA of 3.06% for this year, remove the administrative job classifications that are not currently budgeted, reclassify the Engineer position to Principal Engineer, eliminate the salary range for the General Manager position and just state the actual salary, and correct the Instrumentation/Electrical System Operator midpoint. Director Hanlon seconded the amended motion.

Moved: Director Roberto	Second: Director Hanlon
Ayes: De Jesus, Goytia, Hanlon, Kuhn, Marquez, Roberto, Ti	
Noes:	
Abstain:	
Absent:	
Motion No. 25-04-5519 Approval to Increase the Salary Schedule Only by the COLA of 3.06% Effective July 1, 2025	
Motion passed 7-0-0-0	

## B. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FY 2025/26 BUDGET

Chief Finance Officer Velasquez presented for consideration of approval the final FY 2025/26 budget. The budget is based on MWD's adopted 10-year financial forecast for 2025, 2026 rate setting cycles at overall rate increases of 8.5% for both years. Projected water sales are based on Three Valleys member agency input for their estimated 2025-30 demands and assumes maximum efficiency flows from the Miramar Plant. The proposed budget establishes a solid plan to reach minimum reserve funding levels within two fiscal years. A surcharge of \$32 per acre foot (AF) in addition to MWD's rate for CY 2026 for treated and untreated water is proposed. Three Valleys total treated rate for CY 2026 would be \$1,560/AF and untreated rate at \$1,016/AF. In addition, a gradual 1% increase from the current 10% fixed charge is proposed to support consistent and reliable revenue.

Mr. Coleman commented that it was not clearly defined in the process that Three Valleys would start charging an untreated water surcharge, which is a significant increase.

Mr. Velasquez stated for the record that the process of increasing the surcharge for treated and untreated rates has been transparent, as the information was provided in the staff report, PowerPoint presentations, and during member agency manager meetings.

General Manager Litchfield stated for the record that he appreciates Mr. Coleman's comment and assured the Board that staff has been 100% transparent and open with the member agencies with the budget and any other issues.

Moved: Director De Jesus	Second: Director Hanlon
Ayes: De Jesus, Goytia, Hanlon, Kuhn, Marquez, Ti	
Noes: Roberto	
Abstain:	
Absent:	
Motion No. 25-04-5520 Approval of FY 2025/26 Budget	
Motion passed 6-1-0-0	

## C. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 25-04-1005 WATER RATES AND CHARGES FOR CY 2026

The base rates are effective from January 1, 2026, and the surcharge will be \$32/AF in addition to MWD's rate for the calendar year.

Director Roberto asked the board to consider a lesser amount as requested by the member agencies. The Board agreed to be flexible and revisit the surcharge amount next year if the reserve goals are met sooner than expected.

Moved: Director Marquez	Second: Director Kuhn
Ayes: De Jesus, Goytia, Hanlon, Kuhn, Marquez, Ti	
Noes: Roberto	
Abstain:	
Absent:	
Motion No. 25-04-5521 Approval of Resolution No. 25-04-1005	
Motion passed 6-1-0-0	

D. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 25-04-1006 INITIATING PROCEDURES TO FIX, ADJUST, LEVY, AND COLLECT A WATER STANDBY CHARGE FOR FY 2025/26

Finance Manager Aguilar reported that the district is authorized to assess a levy on properties within the district's jurisdiction in order to fund the MWD readiness to serve charge. The district worked with Harris and Associates to determine the amount per equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) for the standby charge of \$29.41 for FY 2025/26. This is the maximum amount the district can collect according to legislation. The estimated shortfall of \$1.2 million will be collected from the member agencies.

Moved: Director Roberto	Second: Director Marquez
Ayes: De Jesus, Goytia, Hanlon, Kuhn, Marquez, Roberto, Ti	
Noes:	
Abstain:	
Absent:	
Motion No. 25-04-5522 Approval of Resolution No. 25-04-1006	
Motion passed 7-0-0-0	

11. DIRECTORS' / GENERAL MANAGER'S ORAL REPORTS

Director De Jesus reported that San Diego and MWD will hold a meeting on April 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss a draft for a potential resolution to the lawsuit. In addition, the MWD Board of Directors elected not to support AB 523.

Director Roberto reported that on April 4<sup>th</sup>, Three Valleys hosted the first official SGV California Special District Association Chapter event, the Legislator of the Year ceremony for Assembly member Blanca Rubio. Several agency representatives were present, and she received many positive comments. Director Roberto thanked General Manager Litchfield,

Chief Administrative Officer Howie, and Administrative Communications Assistant Turner for their support.

President Ti thanked Director Roberto for going to Sacramento to testify on AB 259.

## 12. CLOSED SESSION

The Board did not convene into closed session; therefore, the following items were not discussed:

### A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]

Name of Case: Chino Basin Municipal Water District v. City of Chino, et al., San Bernardino County Superior Court Case No. RCV RS 51010

### B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]

Name of Case: San Diego County Water Authority v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, et al., San Francisco County Superior Court Case No. CPF-14-514004 (Consolidated with Case Nos. CPF-16-515282 and CPF-18-516389)

## 13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were requested.

## 14. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

President Ti adjourned the meeting at 9:34 a.m. to the next regular board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 7, 2025.



Mike Ti  
*President, Board of Directors*



Recorded by: Nadia Aguirre  
Executive Board Secretary