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Board of Directors: Beverly Fickes - Chair
Logan Johnston, Vice Chair
Directors – Pam Beaver, Scott McVay, Terry Lincoln

General Manager: Dale Mancino

REGULAR MEETING: February 18, 2026, at 6:00PM: District Office Board Room

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: *Led by Chair Fickes*

ROLL CALL: *Director Johnston, Director Fickes, Director McVay, General Manager Dale Mancino, Administrative Assistant Emily King*
Absent: Director Lincoln, Director Beaver

OPEN TIME/PUBLIC COMMENT:

District Supervisor Chris Kelstrom provided an update regarding the dilapidated building located on Happy Valley Road near the Community Center. Supervisor Kelstrom reported that the current property owners do not intend to demolish the structure at this time. He advised that members of the public who have concerns regarding the safety of the building may contact Shasta County Code Enforcement to file complaints or report safety concerns.

Director McVay, on behalf of community member Sandy Winters, announced that the next Fire Wise meeting will be held on Thursday, February 26, at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

The Board adjourned from Regular Session at 6:05 PM and convened into Closed Session.

I. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

a. Public Employee Discussion – Government Code §54957(b)(1), §54957.6

The Board will meet in Closed Session with legal counsel to conduct a performance review of the General Manager.

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 6:12 PM. No reportable action was taken during Closed Session.

ADA Related Disabilities:

Contact the front office and speak with a Staff Member if special consideration is needed to attend any public meeting for disability related accommodations or aide is needed. Please give 72 hours - notice prior to the meeting to allow staff to meet your requests appropriately.

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CONSENT AGENDA

2. **Minutes from Meetings: January 21, 2026**
3. **Bills Paid: January 2026**
4. **Activity P&L Report: January 2026**

Director Fickes inquired about the water quality analyses required by the Distribution Department. In response, General Manager Dale Mancino stated that the Distribution Department conducts analyses related to well testing.

Director McVay commented that he would like to see a clearer bottom line reflected on the Profit and Loss reports.

*Director McVay, 2nd Director Johnston
Vote 3-0*

REGULAR AGENDA

5. **Grant Consultant Update**

Grant Consultant Jim Wadleigh provided a slideshow presentation updating the Board on current grant opportunities and funding considerations. Mr. Wadleigh reported that the District does not currently meet the high-risk criteria required to qualify for SAFER grant funding. He also discussed the limited availability and unpredictability of federal grant programs.

Mr. Wadleigh addressed the importance of project transparency, capital project fee structures, and overall financial readiness when pursuing grant funding. He advised that the USDA will serve as the District's primary capital funding partner moving forward.

Mr. Wadleigh stated that while the District will continue to pursue grant opportunities, it should not rely on them as guaranteed funding sources. He further emphasized that all outstanding audits should be completed promptly, as clean and current financial records are required for grant eligibility. Additionally, he recommended that the District adopt a realistic Capital Improvement Plan by spring in preparation for the Proposition 218 rate study.

Discussion took place regarding potential Capital Improvement Projects, including which projects may be completed in-house, along with preliminary cost estimates related to Pace Engineering's role in the development of the Capital Improvement Plan.

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6. Mid-Pacific Water Users Conference Report

Director Fickes provided a report on the Mid-Pacific Water Users Conference she attended in January. She shared that the experience was very positive and encouraged Vice Chair Johnston to consider attending in the future.

Director Fickes discussed a session she attended regarding the Klamath River and also referenced a solar company she met with that installs solar panels that floats on water at no cost to the District. General Manager Dale Mancino reported that he has contacted the company and is currently awaiting a response.

7. General Managers Report

General Manager Dale Mancino presented his monthly General Manager's Report, which included updates on financial and administrative improvements, progress related to the Centerville contract, and the overall stability and reliability of the District's operational systems.

8. Operations Oral Report

General Manager Dale Mancino presented the monthly Operations Report. He noted that arrears accounts decreased by 63 accounts, totaling \$11,369 in January compared to December. In response to Director Fickes, Administrative Assistant Emily King stated that she attributes the steady decrease to consistent practices and providing good customer service, working with customers to make payments rather than using threats.

General Manager Dale Mancino reviewed maintenance and repairs at the Water Treatment Plant. He reported that the radar level transmitter on Pond 2 has been completed. Staff are manually backwashing and adjusting chemicals due to a faulty actuator on Train 4. After inspection, Train 6 was found to be operating better than expected and is not as critical as initially believed.

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9. STANDING COMMITTEES & AD HOC COMMITTEES REPORT OUTS

- a. Agriculture Committee** – Meeting is scheduled for 3/25/26 at 6pm.
- b. Finance Committee** – Met 2/18/26, Director McVay stated they are making progress but there is still items that need to be corrected.
- c. Planning/Steering Committee** – Meeting is scheduled for 2/26/26 at 2pm.
- d. Personnel Committee** – Not Met.
- e. Centerville Contract Ad Hoc Committee** – Meeting monthly with good progress, current focus is fair charges during a drought with limited water allocation.

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f. **Proposition 218 Advisory Committee** – *First meeting is scheduled for 2/19/26 at 6:30pm.*

In response to a question from a member of the public, Director McVay provided a detailed explanation of what a Proposition 218 study entails.

10. BOARD ITEMS: *None*

11. ADJOURN THE MEETING: 7:30 PM

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