

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
ARVIN-EDISON WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
August 21, 2025**

Director Martinez called to order the special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Arvin-Edison Water Storage District at the hour of 1:00 p.m. at District Headquarters, 20401 East Bear Mountain Boulevard, Arvin, California, with a quorum being then and there present to wit:

CALL TO ORDER

Dennis Johnston, Secretary-Treasurer
Catherine Fanucchi
Matthew Vickery
Derek Yurosek
Catalino Martinez
Scott Spitzer

There were three absent Directors:

Edwin Camp, President
Jeffrey Giumarra, Vice President
Brian Kirschenmann

District staff:

Jeevan Muhar, Engineer-Manager
David Nixon, Deputy General Manager
Samuel Blue, Resource Manager
David Grant, Controller*
Mark Dawson, Engineer*
Chris Reedy, Project Manager*

District Consultants:

Joseph Hughes, Esq., Klein DeNatale Goldner, LLP
Randy Hopkins Provost & Pritchard*
Herb Simmons, Provost & Pritchard (via teleconference)*
Anona Dutton & Christina Lucero, EKI Consultants, Inc. (Via teleconference)*

Visitors and Guests:

John Gaugel, Wonderful (via teleconference)*
Steve Jackson, Next Gen Water, Inc. (via teleconference)*
Maddie Reyes, Illume Ag (via teleconference)*
Megan Harper, Nuveen Natural Resources (via teleconference)*

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Note: *Departed at start of Closed Session at 2:10 p.m.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

All visitors were recognized and formally introduced.

CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA OF ITEMS, AS AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT CODE §54950 et seq.

Mr. Muhar stated the Resolution numbers were incorrect (No. 25-13 & No. 25-14) and the correct numbers should be (No. 25-16 & No. 25-17).

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (Government Code §54854.3)

Mr. Muhar introduced Chris Reedy, the District's new Project Manager, and mentioned the celebration of Director Spitzer's birthday this month.

CONSENT MATTERS

Director Martinez noted items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by staff and will be approved by one motion. The following items were listed on the Consent Agenda, which items were detailed with staff reports in the Board packet:

6. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on July 8, 2025
7. Approval of Treasurer's Report for July 31, 2025, Unaudited Internal Financials for Period Ending June 30, 2025, and Delinquency List in the amount of \$4,122.12
8. Approval of 2024 Land Use Survey
9. Approval of 2024 JM Lord Report

After brief discussion about comparison of evapotranspiration methods, Director Vickery motioned, seconded by Director Fanucchi, and unanimously carried to approve four (4) Consent Agenda items.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution No. 25-16, ORDERING PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS (July 2025 - Warrant Numbers 50956-51091)

Mr. Grant reported on the July disbursements totaling approximately \$3.8M. Mr. Grant then presented a form of Resolution; whereupon, Director Johnston motioned, seconded by Director Vickery, and unanimously approved Resolution No. 25-16, ORDERING PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS (July 2025). A copy of Resolution No. 25-16 is on file in the Resolution book and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

Approval of Drilling Two (2) New Wells - Well Replacement Program (\$3.13M)

Mr. Muhar provided the background Well Replacement Program status, which is currently behind schedule and thus the recommendation to continue the current drilling contract for two (2) new wells (additional details in Board packet). Staff and consultants are reviewing four well sites (map is available in the Board packet) and will select two sites

after evaluating several conditions including power service, pipeline extensions, earthwork pads, etc. A budget summary for the costs to construct and complete two additional wells is presented below:

Cost Summary	
Item	Cost
Drill and Equip Two New Wells	\$2,100,000
Site Electrical (Estimated)	\$525,000
Engineering Design and Construction Management	\$223,000
Contingency / Earthwork (10%)	\$284,000
Total	\$3,132,000

Staff recommends the Board of Directors approve a contract change order for drilling and equipping of two additional wells and direct staff to execute the related attendant costs (electrical, P&P Task Order, power, earthwork, etc.). Director Vickery motioned, seconded by Director Yurosek, and unanimously carried to approve the drilling of two (2) new wells along with other items in staff's recommendation.

Public Hearing to hear comments or objections regarding the 2025 Groundwater Sustainability Plan

- a) Consider adoption of the 2025 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for Kern County Subbasin
- b) Consider approving the Third Amended Kern County Subbasin Coordination Agreement

Director Martinez opened the hearing, and Mr. Muhar announced EKI Consultants Christina Lucero and Anona Dutton were present (via teleconference) to present the updated GSP for the Kern County Subbasin. Ms. Lucero reviewed a PowerPoint presentation of the updated GSP (details included in the Board packet) noting the 2025 GSP has changed as compared to the 2024 GSP due to continued collaboration with the SWRCB, other agencies/organizations, and the public.

There was discussion including mention of the first dry well application in the Kern Subbasin, which is in the Arvin GSA and staff is investigating with others. There were **no** public comments or objections to the Adoption of the 2025 GSP.

Consistent with the South of Kern River Executive Committee's recommendation, consultants and staff recommend the Board of Directors approve the 2025 GSP for the Kern County Subbasin, and the execution of the Third Amended Kern County Subbasin Coordination Agreement.

Director Yurosek motioned, seconded by Director Vickery, and it was unanimously carried to approve the Adoption of the 2025 Groundwater Sustainability Plan and the execution of the Third Amended Kern County Subbasin Coordination Agreement.

Approval of the Fourth Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Kern Non-Districted Land Authority (KNDLA)

Mr. Muhar noted In May 2024, the District joined the KNDLA by

executing the Third Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the Kern Non-Districted Land Authority Joint Powers Agreement (KDNLA JPA), and in order to address the State Water Board's concerns, the following revisions are to be made 1) Removal of the two (2) year term of the agreement, which is now "evergreen," and 2) Change the member withdrawal notice timeline from 90 days to 180 days.

Director Yurosek motioned, seconded by Director Vickery, and unanimously carried to approve the Fourth Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement.

Approval of Resolution No. 25-17, AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CUSTODY ACCOUNT WITH U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AND AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES FOR ARVIN-EDISON WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

Mr. Nixon presented a form of Resolution authorizing the establishment of a custody account with U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association and authorizing District signatures. Director Fanucchi raised concerns about the Resolution, as presented, authorizing not only establishment of the account but also deposits and withdrawals. Legal Counsel then provided alternative language that addressed such concerns limiting the Resolution to only establishment of the account.

Director Fanucchi motioned, seconded by Director Yurosek, and unanimously carried the approval of Resolution No. 25-17, AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CUSTODY ACCOUNT WITH U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AND ARVIN-EDISON WATER STORAGE DISTRICT subject to final corrections by legal counsel. Resolution No. 25-17 is on file in the Resolution book and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

STAFF REPORTS

District Operations

Mr. Blue reviewed year-to-date delivery summary, in-district demand, wellfields, groundwater and surface supplies for the year, groundwater level information and recent rainfall/snowpack info.

CLOSED SESSION
CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Legal Counsel Hughes then advised the Board it would be appropriate to enter closed session to discuss matters existing litigation and anticipated litigation, namely:

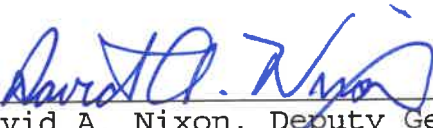
Potential litigation (One Item);
Arvin-Edison WSD vs. J.R. Simplot, et al (123TCP);

based upon advice from Legal Counsel, discussing such matters in open session would cause prejudice to the District; therefore, the Board adjourned into closed session in accordance with Government Code Sections 54957 and 54956.9 at 2:10 p.m. After returning to open session at 2:45 p.m. no reportable action was taken.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION §54954.2
(RELATING TO ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE POSTED AGENDA); AND ADJOURNMENT

Director Martinez asked if there were any further matters that needed to be brought before the Board of Directors and there being none, Director Fanucchi motioned, seconded by Director Vickery, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 2:46 p.m.





David A. Nixon, Deputy General Manager
/Assistant Secretary-Treasurer