BOARD OF DIRECTORS

828 7th Street, Eureka CA 95501

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, July 9, 2026, 1:00 p.m. • 828 7th Street, Eureka, CA 95501

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Roll Call

President Fuller called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Roll call was conducted. Directors Fuller, Rupp, Wheeler, and Woo were present. General Manager Michiko Mares, Director of Operations and Maintenance Dale Davidsen, Deputy Director of Operations and Maintenance Ryan Chairez, Director of Finance and Human Resources Chris Harris, and Board Secretary Contessa Dickson were present. Director Stevens was absent.

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

President Fuller led the pledge of allegiance.

1.3 Accept Agenda

ACTION: Motion #26-041 to accept the Agenda
Maker: Director Woo
Second: Director Rupp
Vote: 4-0 to approve

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION: Motion #26-042 to approve the Consent Calendar less item 3.3
Maker: Director Rupp
Second: Director Woo
Vote: 4-0 to approve

3.1 Approve the Draft Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 11, 2026

3.2 Approve Updated CalOES Form 130 – Designation of Applicant's Agent Resolution

~~3.3 Approve Informational Memo Regarding the Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury Report – Funding the Future of Water and Sewer Systems~~

3.4 Approve Lease Agreement with Ruth Mutual Water Company for Well Site and Related Facility Use

3.5 Approve Informational Memo Regarding Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Inspection and Risk Assessment Workshop

4. PRESENTATIONS

Non-Action Item

None.

5. DISCUSSION AND ACTION

5.1 Informational Memo Concerning the Former McNamara and Peepe Mill Site

Non-Action Item

Director Woo recused herself due to a conflict of interest.

Ms. Mares provided an update on the former McNamara and Peepe Mill Site. She reported on recent activities, including groundwater sampling, DTSC's ongoing review of technical reports and the Human Health Risk Assessment, and continued coordination with project stakeholders.

5.2 Discuss and Consider Approval of Withdrawing from FEMA HMGP DR-4569-PA0538-008R, R.W. Matthews Dam Advance Assistance Project Grant

ACTION: Motion #26-043 to approve withdrawing from FEMA HMGP DR-4569-PA0538-008R, R.W. Matthews Dam Advance Assistance Project Grant

Maker: Director Rupp
Second: Director Wheeler
Vote: 4-0 to approve

Ms. Harris presented this item and provided background on the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Advance Assistance Project for R.W. Matthews Dam. She noted that the District had not received approval for the requested budget increase, time extension, or clarification requests necessary to complete the project. She explained that moving forward under the current conditions would not be financially responsible and recommended withdrawing from the grant. Ms. Harris reported that work associated with the project will continue through the August 28, 2026, period of performance, all outstanding invoices from GEI Consultants will be paid, and any remaining grant funds will be returned to the project account and may be reallocated in the future. Staff responded to the Board's questions. After discussion and staff's responses to Board questions, the Board approved withdrawing from FEMA HMGP DR-4569-PA0538-008R, R.W. Matthews Dam Advance Assistance Project Grant.

5.3 Discuss and Consider Approval of June Financial Statement & Vendor Detail Report

ACTION: Motion #26-044 to approve June Financial Statement & Vendor Detail Report in the amount of $289,095.70.

Maker: Director Woo
Second: Director Wheeler
Vote: 4-0 to approve

Ms. Harris presented the draft June financials, explaining that the County had not yet finalized year-end processing and that final June financial statements would not be available until after August 9. In the interim, Ms. Harris presented the May Financial Statement and Vendor Detail Report, noting a general account balance of approximately $800,000, investments totaling $13.5 million, $1.4 million in advance charges, and $5.2 million in general reserves Following discussion, the Board approved the June Financial Statement & Vendor Detail Report in the amount of $289,095.70.

5.4 Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

ACTION: Motion #26-045 to approve Informational Memo Regarding the Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury Report – Funding the Future of Water and Sewer Systems
Maker: Director Woo
Second: Director Rupp
Vote: 4-0 to approve

Director Woo pulled Agenda Item 3.3, Informational Memo Regarding the Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury Report – *Funding the Future of Water and Sewer Systems*, from the Consent Calendar. Director Woo thanked staff for the work they put into preparing the informational memo and expressed appreciation for compiling the information for the Board's benefit. After discussion, the Board approved the Informational Memo Regarding the Humboldt County Civil Grand Jury Report – Funding the Future of Water and Sewer Systems.

6. REPORTS

1. **Staff Reports**

Non-Action Item

a. **Operations & Maintenance Report**

Mr. Davidsen presented the June Operations Report. He provided updates on Ruth Lake conditions, hydroelectric generation, and domestic water operations, noting that all water quality standards continued to be met. Mr. Davidsen also reported on maintenance activities, staff training, the completion of the Fieldbrook reservoir replacement project, Collector 4 dive work, Part 12D Comprehensive Assessment inspections, and the progress of several ongoing infrastructure projects, including the TRF generator project, RLCSD decontamination station, and Essex standby generator installation.

b. **Management Report**

Ms. Mares presented the General Manager's Report, providing updates on regulatory compliance, permitting, infrastructure reliability, and strategic initiatives. She reported no workplace injuries during the reporting period and stated the District remained in full compliance with all state and federal drinking water regulations. Ms. Mares also provided updates on the Dunes Maintenance Right-of-Way Environmental Impact Report (EIR), noting that public review is anticipated in August and September, with a public meeting planned for early September. She further reported that the Korblex Tank Seismic Upgrade project has been completed.

2. **Active Ad-Hoc Committee Reports**

   a. **GM Evaluation Committee**

   President Fuller reported that the GM Evaluation Committee (Directors Fuller and Woo) met on June 17. Director Woo was unable to attend. President Fuller stated that the committee plans to meet with the consultant to determine whether to proceed with Phase 2 of the General Manager Evaluation Process.

Director Reports

   a. **Vice-President Woo**

   No comment.

   b. **Director Wheeler**

   No comment.

   c. **Director Rupp**

   No comment.

   d. **President Fuller**

   No comment.

3. **Organizations on Which [District Abbreviation] Serves**

   a. **Association of CA Water Agencies (ACWA)**

   Director Rupp reported attending two ACWA Finance Committee meetings and noted there were no significant items to report.

   b. **Association of CA Water Agencies/Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA-JPIA)**

   Director Rupp reported on the ACWA JPIA meeting he attended. He noted that the meeting included a discussion of workers' compensation and that there will be no changes to workers' compensation rates.

7. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Non-Action Item

a. Information Management System

Ms. Mares reported that staff are working with a new IT provider to update the District's information management systems. She stated that staff are implementing recommendations from the District's cybersecurity assessment, with a follow-up report anticipated this fall.

b. Artificial Intelligence Policy

No update.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Attest:

Michelle Fuller

Michelle Fuller, Board President

Contessa Dickson

Contessa Dickson, Board Secretary