

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Strathmore Public Utility District
Thursday, January 8, 2026 – 6:30 P.M.
19626 Orange Belt Drive, Strathmore, CA 93267
P.O. Box 425 Strathmore, CA 93267

Meeting in person at:

Strathmore Public Utility District Office: 19626 Orange Belt Dr. Strathmore, CA 93267

ATTENDEES:

Christina Lightner, President
Nicholas Martinez, Vice President
Allaney Briggs, Treasurer
Adrian Ordonez, Board Clerk/Manager
Adele Sanchez, Bookkeeper/Secretary
Dennis Keller, District Engineer
Julia Lew, District Counsel

QUORUM? Yes

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 6:33 P.M.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
No public present.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
Review of minutes from the Board's regular meeting on Thursday, December 11, 2025.
Motion to approve minutes: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

4. **FINANCIAL REPORT:**
Presented by MRS. SANCHEZ.

5. **APPROVAL OF BILL AND PAYROLL PAYMENTS:**
Approval of district bills and payroll through February 1, 2026.
Motion: LIGHTNER Second: BRIGGS 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

6. **TERMINATION AND/OR ABANDONMENT OF SERVICES:**
(a) Review of extensions or waivers of payments requested in writing by delinquent customers.

Account # 10145-00
Motion to grant or deny customer request: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED
UNANIMOUS

Description (if customer request granted):
Customer is requesting a new amortization agreement. She has written a letter stating she has fallen behind due to car problems and health issues. The Board is granting customer the ability to pay an additional \$25.00 per month on top of normal monthly bill. If customer does not agree to terms, the bill will stand as is. If customer does not keep to the agreement, it will be voided and the bill will fall under normal district ordinance.

(b) Review list of customers with delinquent accounts.

Motion to terminate services: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

7. **SUSPECTED UNAUTHORIZED SERVICE CONNECTIONS:**

Staff has discovered suspected illegal connections within the district boundaries. 19907 Orange Belt Drive, legal service connections one (1) possibly using four (4), 19634 Orange Belt Drive legal service connections three (3) possibly using five (5), 23072 Bruce Drive legal service connections one (1) possibly using two (2) District counsel has provided the letters to district staff for mailing to suspected customers.

8. **WATER USAGE/SUPPLY 2025-2026:**

Monthly usage: 22 acre feet 345 Year-to-date: acre feet.

Engineer Keller updated the Board with the water supply forecast for the upcoming year 2024-2025.

9. **CROSS VALLEY CANAL DELIVERY ALTERNATIVE:**

The board will discuss a proposal to deliver the District's CVC water supply through an alternative delivery mechanism. Engineer Keller informed the board that the state has issued the new cost to wheel the water for \$139/acre foot. Negotiations have been happening to work water exchange that saves around \$70.00 to \$80.00 per acre foot. Motion to authorize Engineer Keller to add Strathmore PUD into the negotiations of water wheeling.

Motion: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

10. **STATE WATER RESOURCE CONTROL BOARD DEFICIENCY LETTER:**

Information only, Engineer Keller has provided a response to the request from the State Water Resources Control Board letter dated October 22, 2025, regarding the inspection conducted at the water treatment plant.

11. **WATER STORAGE TANK:**

The board will discuss the options of repair or replacement or both. Engineer Keller will communicate with Paso Robles Tank on the best option for repairing the current storage tank.

12. **STORAGE TANK ROOF REPAIR PROJECT AND LETTER TO THE COUNTY:**

Letter composed to Tulare County expressing interest in applying for funds via the Department of Housing and Community Development Community Development Block Grant Disaster Relief program, to repair or replace the current storage tank.

13. **TULARE COUNTY WATER SUPPLY REQUEST:**

The County of Tulare is looking into the possibility of providing water for various communities through a water allotment that is being returned to them. The District composed a letter requesting 100 acre-feet annually of the prior Fasineto Farms 400 acre-foot Tulare County Subcontract, including Cross Valley Canal Conveyance rights..

14. **PORTERVILLE CITRUS ANNEXATION:**

The board will discuss proceeding with the request to annex lands in LINDMORE IRRIGATION DISTRICT to the STRATHMORE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT. District counsel Lew will draft a letter to be given to PCI for possible annexation and a deposit for associated fees.

15. **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT; PROVOST AND PRITCHARD PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT QUESTIONS:**

The board will discuss and provide response to policy questions posed by Provost and Pritchard. In order to complete next steps in the planning process. Engineer Keller will meet with P&P with answers to some of the questions regarding the PER.

16. MONITORING WELL NETWORK WORK PLAN:

The board will discuss the requirements of the RWQCB with regards to an update to the Wastewater Treatment Plant monitoring well network, work plan. Engineer Keller will draft a letter to the Regional Board in regard to the monitoring well network. The District will request if the regional board can undo the compliance issue until the District determines if they will be building a new plant in the current location or a new location. At that time, the district will provide a plan to either build new monitoring wells at the current location or the new location.

17. STRATHMORE PUD AND LINDSAY-STRATHMORE ID AGREEMENT DISCUSSION:

Discussion regarding the operation and maintenance of the water treatment plant between Strathmore Public Utility District and Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation District. Counsel Lew will draft a preliminary agreement for review by engineer Keller and the board.

18. PROP 218 BUDGET INSTRUCTIONS:

The board will provide responses and instructions to the draft base, Proposition 218 budget (handed out at the December 11, 2025 board meeting.) Keller will provide a timeline for a proposition 218 rate increase. Engineer Keller will proceed with building the budgets and rate fee structure.

19. UPDATE/ REPORTS:

20. CLOSED SESSION ITEM:

Time in: 8:52 p.m. Time out: 9:23 p.m.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL CONCERNING SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION. [GC 54956.9(d)(2): Two cases, facts not known to potential plaintiff

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL CONCERNING POTENTIAL INITIATION OF LITIGATION. [GC 54956.9(d)(4)] Three cases.

21. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS [GC 54956.8]

Property: Water Tower, Strathmore California.

Agency Negotiator: Adrian Ordonez and Julia Lew. Negotiating Parties: Strathmore Public Utility District and TowerPoint.

Under Negotiation: Terms for purchase agreement.

Action taken: No reportable action.

22. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

Time: 9:24 p.m.

Note: California Government Code § 54957.5 requires all public agencies to make available to the public any documents provided to at least a majority of the agency's elected officials or distributed to those officials within seventy-two hours of a regular meeting. Copies of such documents shall be made available to the public no later than the time they are distributed at the following address: 19626 Orange Belt Drive, Strathmore, CA 93267.