MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Strathmore Public Utility District
Thursday, June 25, 2026 – 6:30 P.M.
19840 Orange Belt Drive, Strathmore, CA 93267

Meeting in person at:
Strathmore Middle School Auditorium: 19840 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/ Office Secretary
Dennis Keller, District Engineer
Julia Lew, District Counsel

QUORUM? Yes

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

2. PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED WATER RATE INCREASES:

Members of the public may comment at this time. The Board President may set a time limit for the public comment period, as well as time limits for individual customer comments. Public hearing for Proposed Water Rate Increases necessary to recover costs to operate and maintain the District Water System.

Public hearing open: 6:33 p.m. Public hearing closed: 7:03 p.m.

Naomi – Understand we have to raise rates, is there any way we can get grants to help with the cost? Strathmore really doesn't receive help with things such as streets, carwashes, other facilities. Porterville is receiving grants.

I believe the water bill is very expensive. The water is not drinkable, it smells like chlorine and when my daughter drinks it, it makes her stomach hurt. I can not utilize the water for necessary things

Alex – I was wondering about the fines, I know they are pretty addiment about fining people when they water outside. I want to know what they are going to do about that. What is being done with the fine money.

I can use the water for mopping and other things but I can not drink the water, the taste of it is not good.

Mariel – I find it unjust to pay so much for the water, I have to purchase water to drink.

Mariana – I find it unjust to pay so much for water, the bill is high and I cant use the water.

I know it was brought up to me that water is purified, I pay for drinking water about $90.00 on top of my bill.

Felicitas Macias – I think the water is expensive, I have to use it to cook and other things but we can barely pay our bills.

I recently moved here and the property is not in service, I am paying a high bill. They said if I use it or not I have to pay the bill. I don't think its just to pay. I want to know if I can use the second connection. In Porterville I pay for water usage I only use. I pay here whether I use the water or not.

They have a lot of workers that are driving around. I can use the water to drink it. The chlorine makes my skin itch. They have a lot of workers and they just drive around. That makes our bill go up. Get rid of the workers and our bill will go down.

Total number of protest:16

3. CONSIDERATION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2026-6-25-03, WATER RATE INCREASE:

The Board will consider to take action to adopt or deny Resolution No. 2026-6-25-03, Adjusting Water Rates for the District. Motion to move forward with adopting Resolution No. 2026-6-25-03 to increase water rates.
Motion: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

4. PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED SEWER RATE INCREASES:

Members of the public may comment at this time. The Board President may set a time limit for the public comment period, as well as time limits for individual customer comments. Public hearing for Proposed Sewer Rate Increases necessary to operate and maintain the District Sewer System.
Time in public hearing: 7:35 p.m Time out public hearing: 7:42 p.m.

I think this hearing is a joke. Whatever we say is not taken into consideration.

Alex – I talked to people around the neighborhood, they said they did not receive the notice. It is also a waste of money driving the big trucks around to do patrolling.

No protest for sewer.

5. CONSIDERATION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2026-6-25-05, SEWER RATE INCREASE:

The Board will consider to take action to adopt or deny Resolution No. 2026-6-25-05, Adjusting Sewer Rates for the District. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-6-25-05 to increase sewer rates.
Motion: LIGHTNER Second: BRIGGS 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS
Time: 7:44 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.