

MINUTES
Board of Directors Meeting
Strathmore Public Utility District
Thursday, March 12, 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
Karis Caddell, Sun Gazette

QUORUM? Yes

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** 6:32 P.M.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
No comment from the public.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
Review of minutes from the Board's regular meeting on Thursday, February 12, 2026.
Motion to approve minutes: LIGHTNER Second: BRIGGS 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 April 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.*

 - (b) Review list of customers with delinquent accounts.
Motion to terminate services: LIGHTNER Second: BRIGGS 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

 - (c) *Review of accounts eligible for initiation of abandonment proceedings.*

7. **WATER USAGE/SUPPLY 2025-2026 & WATER FORECAST 2026-2027:**
Monthly usage: 23 acre feet 396 Year-to-date: acre feet.
Engineer Keller will update the Board with the water supply forecast for the upcoming year 2026-2027. The bureau had given a 100% class 1 allocation for the Friant-Kern Canal. The current allocation is at 15% for the westside with the possibility of the District applying for a 65% of historical use for public health and safety allocation. Currently, there is no water in the open market. The canal is scheduled to go down for maintenance in November. Strathmore is scheduled to be down from November 14, 2026 to February 1, 2027. The district has requested water purchase from LSID and is awaiting a response.

8. **STATE WATER RESOURCE CONTROL BOARD DIFICIENCY LETTER DISTRICT RESPONSE COMPLETION:**
The State Water Resources Control Board has sent the sanitary survey report that was conducted on October 22, 2025, regarding the inspection conducted at the water treatment plant. Attached is a list of items that needed to be addressed by March 1, 2026. District staff and engineer have responded to the list and met all request from the state.

9. **WATER STORAGE TANK:**
The board will discuss the options of repair or replacement or both. Direction is needed by engineer Keller to seek repair of the tank or building of a new storage tank. If funds are not available from the County, the district can possibly apply for funding through the state.

10. **CLARIFIER REPAIR TA ASSISTANCE:**
The State has send a response to the district for repairs needed on the clarifier asking for more details on the project. Upon the information request, the state indicated if the district would need technical assistance with the project. The district will need to make a request and apply for the technical assistance from the state. Motion to authorize application for a technical assistance from the state.
Motion: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

11. **WATER SERVICE REQUEST: 22936 AVE 196:**
Ricardo Martinez is requesting to be placed on the waiting list for water service for 2 additional studio apartments. Motion to grant request to be placed on the waiting list.
Motion: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

12. **IMPERIAL MARKETING CONCEPTS INTERNET SERVICE:**
A representative from Imperial Marketing Concepts has approached the district in regards to lowering cost of the current internet provider. Attached please find the order receipt and cost for the first and second year if authorization is given. The board may or may not authorize the order receipt.
TABLED- call and inquire what the price differential would be past the second year.

13. **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT/PROVOST AND PRITCHARD PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT:**
The District has not had any updates from Self-Help or P&P. District staff has verbally been told the Plainview Board is not interested in participating in the project. Manager Ordonez to place a call with the State to give a status update.

14. **WELL #2 REPAIR:**
District staff is needing direction to authorize repair of a sinkhole next to active well #2. Engineer Keller has acquired a quote in the amount of \$5000.00 for the work to repair the hole. Motion to move forward with Anthony Prieto to repair the sinkhole for time and material in the amount of \$5000.00.
Motion: LIGHTNER Second: BRIGGS 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

15. **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. District counsel Lew will also update on the reimbursement from LSID. District counsel Lew is still working on the agreement and will schedule a staff meeting with engineer Keller and manager Ordonez.
16. **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. Motion to authorize engineer Keller to move forward with the presented proposed budget.
Motion: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS
17. **GROUNDWATER LEVEL MONITORING PROGRAM:**
California Department of Water Resources is offering a program to help monitor groundwater levels and strengthen drought preparedness. The program offers equipment to help monitor at no cost to the district. The district may or may not participate in the program. Motion to participate in the program.
Motion: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS
18. **CERTIFICATION RENEWAL:**
Manager Ordonez is requesting for authorization of payment from the district for renewal of his Wastewater grade 1 license and Treatment grade 3 license. The board may or may not authorize payment of license renewal fees. Motion to authorize payment of renewal fees for both licenses.
Motion: LIGHTNER Second: MARTINEZ 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS
19. **UPDATE/ REPORTS:**

Reminder: Form 700 will be due by April 1, 2026.

LSID/SPUD wheeling agreement has been signed by both parties as of 2/17/2026.

NTU Technologies has officially merged with USALCO, LLC as of November 12, 2025. (Polymer chemical provider)

Engineer Keller has submitted an updated monitoring well plan for the wastewater plant. The State indicated they will be conducting an inspection soon.
20. **CLOSED SESSION ITEM:**
Time in: 7:38 p.m. Time out: 8:26 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.

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.

CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS [GC 54956.8]
Property: 22235 Ave 196, Strathmore California.

Agency Negotiator: Adrian Ordonez and Julia Lew. Negotiating Parties: Strathmore Public Utility District and Steve Perigo.
Under Negotiation: Terms for lease agreement.

Action taken: No reportable action.

21. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: LIGHTNER Second: BRIGGS 3-0 PASSED UNANIMOUS

Time: 8:26 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.