

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SEMITROPIC WATER
STORAGE DISTRICT AND ITS GSA AND SEMITROPIC,
BUTTONWILLOW, POND-POSO, AND WILDLIFE
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

Convened at 12:31 p.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Waterhouse on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 12:31 p.m., at the Semitropic Water Storage District (District) office located at 1101 Central Avenue, Wasco, California.

Directors Present: Dan Waterhouse, Philip Portwood, Jeff Fabbri, Tim Thomson, Chad W. Carroll, Todd Tracy, David Daniel

Directors Absent: None

Other Participants: General Manager, Jason Gianquinto
District Engineer, Isela Medina
District Controller, Bobby Salinas
District Superintendent, John Lynch
District Contract Administrator, Becky Ortiz
Receptionist, Yesenia Ramirez
District Legal Counsel, Steve Torigiani
Special Projects Manager, Larry Rodriguez
Justin Murray (AG Thought Consulting)
Rick Amigh (W.M Lyles)
John Gaugel (Wonderful Orchards)
Matthew Scroggs (Westside Farm Management)
Grace Martin (GEI Consultants)
Mike Fariss (Wonderful Orchards)
Steven Piggott (Nuveen Natural Capital)
Vincent Solema (Nuveen)
Floyd Wicks (Agua Via)
Madona Lang (Laborde Land)
Maddie Reyes (Illume AG)
Tomo Kumahira (Water One)

President Waterhouse opened the meeting and welcomed all guests. Attendance was taken and recorded.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steven Piggott with Nuveen Natural Capital expressed concern on behalf of Nuveen relative to the status of the Landowner Recharge Policy and the lack of progress. Director Waterhouse appointed a temporary advisory (Ad Hoc) committee of Directors Frabbri, Daniel and Portwood to address this subject.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Agenda

No Action; no changes to the Agenda.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2025, and the GSA Meeting of December 10, 2025, were presented for approval.

On motion by Director Portwood, seconded by Director Fabbri and unanimously carried, the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of December 10, 2025 and the SWSD GSA Board Meeting of December 10, 2025, were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Reports

The Treasurer's reports for December 2025 were presented for review and approval.

On motion by Director Daniel, seconded by Director Portwood and unanimously carried, the Treasurer's Reports for December 2025 for the Semitropic Water Storage District and Semitropic Improvement District were approved for filing.

Financial Report

District Controller, Bobby Salinas, reviewed the Income Statements and the Financial Report for November 2025.

Accounts Payable

The Cash Disbursement List for January 14, 2026, was presented for review, approval, and payment.

On motion by Director Daniel, seconded by Director Tracy and unanimously carried, the Board authorized payment of the Accounts Payable as listed on the January 14, 2026, Disbursement List for Semitropic Water Storage District and Semitropic Improvement District. A copy of the Disbursement List listing the payments that were approved is attached hereto as "Exhibit A."

Consider BHK for 2025 Audit

District Controller, Bobby Salinas provided an overview of BHK for 2025 Audit and recommended approval.

On motion by Director Carroll, seconded by Director Tracy and unanimously carried, the BHK for 2025 Audit.

Consider Continuation of Emergency Declaration (Public Contract Code, § 22050 (a)(1)) for Replacement of Discharge Manifold Pipe for the Pond Poso PP

District Engineer, Isela Medina, provided an overview for the Continuation of Emergency Declaration (Public Contract Code, § 22050 (a)(1)) for Replacement of Discharge Manifold Pipe for the Pond Poso PP and stated that the emergency work will continue until the end of January.

On motion by Director Tracy, seconded by Director Daniel and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Continuation of Emergency Declaration (Public Contract Code, § 22050 (a)(1)) for Replacement of Discharge Manifold Pipe for the Pond Poso PP.

Consider Continuation of Emergency Declaration (Public Contract Code, § 22050 (a)(1)) for Structural Repair at Designated Pumping Plants: B21, Wegis and Charlie

District Engineer, Isela Medina, provided an overview of the need for the Continuation of Emergency Declaration (Public Contract Code, § 22050 (a)(1)) for Structural Repair at Designated Pumping Plants: B21, Wegis and Charlie and stated that the emergency work will continue until the end of January.

On motion by Director Fabbri, seconded by Director Tracy and unanimously carried, the Board approved the Continuation of Emergency Declaration (Public Contract Code, § 22050 (a)(1)) for Structural Repair at Designated Pumping Plants: B21, Wegis and Charlie.

SEMITROPIC WSD GSA UPDATE

At 12:47 p.m., the Board President, Dan Waterhouse, opened the meeting the Semitropic Water Storage District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SWSD GSA), and the Board proceeded to consider SWSD GSA agenda items.

SGMA Updates and Discussion

General Manager, Jason Gianquinto, and Special Projects Manager, Larry Rodriguez, provided the Board with an overview regarding the subbasin updates and SGMA compliance. There was also a discussion relative to potential changes to the cost sharing methodology for shared subbasin expenses and the status of the submittal of the subbasin 2025 GSP to the DWR including posting to the SGMA portal.

The GSA meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m. and the Board resumed consideration of the remainder of the District's non-GSA agenda items.

CONSULTANT REPORTS

SWRU – Construction Update by W.M. Lyles

W.M. Lyle's Representative, Rick Amigh, gave a brief review of W.M. Lyle's monthly progress report, which was included in the Board Packet.

Consulting Engineer's Report

Grace Martin, GEI Consultants, provided an overview of the GEI Consulting Engineering's Report for December 2025, including Delta Pipeline Improvement Project and data review which was included in the Board Packet.

Balance Public Relations

Dean Florez of Balance Public Relations called into the meeting and discussed items contained in Balance Public Relations' monthly report, which was included in the Board Packet.

REDtrac

Greg Allen, of REDTrac, was not present. A report of REDTrac's activity and site survey was not included in the Board Packet.

INFORMATIONAL AND UP-DATE ITEMS

General Manager Gianquinto noted that the Staff Report, titled "District Activity During December 2025," dated January 9, 2025, was included in the Board Packet.

District Engineer, Isela Medina, provided a summary of the District Engineer's activities discussed in the Staff Report.

Contract Administrator, Becky Ortiz, provided a summary of the Water Operations Activities discussed in the Staff Report.

Superintendent, John Lynch, provided a summary of the winter maintenance plan and the Operations and Maintenance Activities discussed in the Staff Report.

At 1:57 p.m., President Waterhouse adjourned the Regular Board meeting and reported that there was a need for the Board to reconvene to closed session.

Closed Session

At 2:10p.m., the meeting continued with Closed Session.

Participants included:

Directors Present: Dan Waterhouse, Jeff Fabbri, Tim Thomson, Chad Carroll, Todd Tracy, David Daniel, and Philip Portwood

Directors Absent: None

Other Participants: General Manager, Jason Gianquinto
District Controller, Bobby Salinas
District Legal Counsel, Steve Torigiani
District Engineer, Isela Medina
District Superintendent, John Lynch
District Contract Administrator, Becky Ortiz

a. Conference with legal counsel Re: Litigation (Gov. Code § 54956.9(d))

- 1) *Various applications filed for Kings River Water by Semitropic WSD, et al.; Petition for Change of Points of Diversion, etc. (License 11521) filed by Kings River Water Assn.; and related matters and proceedings, before the State Water Resources Control Bd.*
- 2) *Sierra Club v. California Department of Water Resources (DWR), etc. Re: Consolidated CEQA Case and "Complaint for Validation" Re: Delta Program Revenue Bonds, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2020-80003517 (consolidated), Third Appellate Dist., Case No. C100552*
- 3) *Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District v. Kern County Water Agency, et al., Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-21-100418*
- 4) *Semitropic Water Storage Dist. v. The Dow Chemical Co., et al., Kern County Sup. Ct., Case No. BCV-21-102528*
- 5) *Sierra Club, et al., v. DWR, Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. 24WM000008, and related cases, challenging DCP EIR*
- 6) *DWR v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Authorization of Delta Conveyance Program Bonds, etc., Sacramento County Sup. Ct., Case No. 25CV000704*

b. Conference with Legal Counsel Re: Anticipated Litigation: Possible exposure to litigation pursuant Gov. Code § 54956.9(d)(2).

- 1) *Two Items.*

c. Conference with Legal Counsel Re: Anticipated Litigation: Possible initiation of litigation pursuant to Gov. Code § 54956.9(d)(4)

- 1) *Two Items*

d. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Gov. Code § 54956.8)

*District's Designated Representative:
General Manager Under Negotiation: Price
and Terms of Payment*

- 1) *Property: State Water Project Supplies*
 - a. *Negotiation With: California Department of Water Resources, Kern County Water Agency and its Member*

- Units, And State Water Contractors*
- 2) *Property: Acquisition of Water Supplies*
 - a. *Negotiation with: Multiple sellers*
 - 3) *Property: Various*

At 3:30 p.m., the Board reconvened to open session.

The President stated that several items were discussed, but no reportable action was taken in closed session.

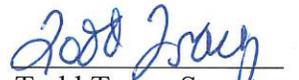
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVED:



Daniel Waterhouse, President


Todd Tracy, Secretary

Board Day Presentation
SEMITROPIC WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

DISBURSEMENTS TO BE APPROVED AT January 14, 2026 BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER AFTER BOARD MEETING

SEMITROPIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Special Projects

1	GEI Consultants*	\$ 65,185.10
2	Kenneth Schmidt and Associates- Groundwater Monitoring Program	5,394.54 R
		\$ <u>70,579.64</u>

Operation Maintenance

3	Frontier Communications - data communication for substation	\$ 134.39
4	Gas Company- office utilities	406.15
5	Home Depot- November supplies for O&M	1,001.21
6	InSitu- Level Troll 500	7,857.81
7	Jeffries Bros., Inc. - gasoline, diesel fuel & petroleum products	6,799.16
8	Jim Burke Ford- four 2025 F-150 Reg. Cab and one F-150 crew cab	206,497.39
9	Northern Digital, Inc.- SWSD T&M Support	1,340.00
10	O'Reilly Auto Parts- shop supplies	572.84
11	PG&E Company - ownership line, power charges & utilities on PG&E lines	184,588.39
12	A.C. Poettgen- monthly cylinder rental (November 2025)	126.00
13	Rodriguez, Larry- reimbursement for travel and conferences	3,994.27
14	SBS of Bakersfield, Inc.- office copier (copy charges for December)	520.30
15	Southwest Signs- vehicle door decal	847.05
16	Sparkle Uniform & Linen Service- uniforms, shop mats, & towels rental & office apparel	408.46
17	unWired Broadband, LLC- internet	59.99
18	Verizon Wireless - cell phones substation, solar site, on call, superintendent, dispatch, IT, CFO, & General Manager	588.85
19	Wasco Automotive & Smog- smog inspection on unit #200	60.00
	Operating Expense Subtotal \$	<u>415,802.26</u>

TOTAL BILLS FOR DECEMBER AFTER BOARD MEETING \$ 486,381.90

+ (Additional disbursements or adjusted amounts.)

*(See page 2 for Special Project Funds)

** (See page 2 for breakdown)

EXHIBIT A

****BREAKDOWN OF DISBURSEMENTS FOR January 14, 2026 BOARD MEETING**

1 GEI Consultants, Inc. - *

General engineering fees, GW Modeling & expenses	\$	5,298.74
SGMA Implementation		9,297.81
IRWMP Expense		1,467.27 R
Delta Pipeline Conv. Improv. Project		36,235.58 G
Water Management Plan Update		2,449.21
Tulare Lake Flood Control Project		10,436.49
	\$	<u>65,185.10</u>

G Grant
R Reimbursed

\$	36,235.58
	6,861.81
\$	<u>43,097.39</u>

JANUARY 2026 BOARD MAILING

SEMITROPIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Special Projects

20	Downey Brand- professional services Tulare Lake Flood control proj.	\$	10,463.00
21	W.M. Lyles Co- SWRU Phase 2 System X		1,944.25
22	W.M. Lyles Co- remove and replace Pump Discharge Siphon Piping at Pond Poso Pumping Plant		176,304.01
23	W.M. Lyles Co- Platform Replacements		485,649.50
24	W.M. Lyles Co- TCP Treatment Project		120,200.72
25	Nicholas Construction, Inc.- Delta Pipeline Improvement Proj. December progress payment		833,158.90 G
26	Young Wooldridge*		38,205.89
Special Projects Subtotal \$			<u>1,665,926.27</u>

Operation Maintenance

27	AC Electric Company- Hwy 46 Solar Meter 3 WO	\$	874.00
28	Acid Source, Inc- equipment		5,780.04
29	American Refuse- trash service for shop		326.36
30	American Refuse- quarterly fee for blue recycling can		99.45
31	American TireTec-used tire disposal		12.00
32	AT&T- telephone services		1,745.57
33	Avadine- engineer/analyst - senior & monthly software products license maintenance/support agreement December		950.00
34	Balance Public Relations- lobbying services		13,500.00
35	Big Brand Tire and Service- 4 wheel alignment on Unit #212 & high speed wheel balance on Unit #196		283.38
36	BPS Supply Group- B21 & Wegis Pumping Plant inventory		20,775.14
37	BSK Analytical Laboratories- water testing for well sampling program		3,576.00
38	Central California Power- 140H motorgrader engine repair parts		1,473.53
39	Charter Communications (Spectrum)- internet		406.25
40	Collins, Ron- gardening (December)		600.00
41	Coverall - cleaning services for January		717.00
42	De Lage Landen Financial Services, Inc.- office copier (January)		401.17
43	Downs Equipment Rentals, Inc.- excavator to remove 2 rusted out corrugated steel canal crossing in the East reach		950.00
44	Elite Gunite & Shotcrete, LLC- repair Buttonwillow ridge canal liner at 13 sites		28,495.00
45	Family Water Alliance, Inc.- 2026 patron contributions		500.00
46	FedEx- packages		255.07
47	Grainger- R&M generators		90.80
48	Grapevine MSP Technology Services- MSP Agrmnt, Patch Mgmt.,Secure offsite data backup,adv.email security (January)		4,446.80
49	Greer's Banner Air of Bakersfield, Inc.- semi annual service		1,340.00
50	Home Depot- December supplies for O&M		328.86
51	Jeffries Bros., Inc. - gasoline, diesel fuel & petroleum products		6,341.89
52	Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP- annual fire extinguisher service & material truck charge		3,155.29
53	Kern Print Services- business cards for Jeff Kenney		122.34
54	Kern Water Bank Authority- November 2025 Recharge West 616 Af		15,092.00
55	Kern Water Bank Authority- November 2025 Recharge East 2,722 Af		29,942.00
56	Knight's Pumping & Portable - portable toilet & services		506.05
57	Land IQ- Monthly Evapotranspiration Evaluation		11,654.98
58	Leo Salais- safety boots		100.00
59	Linde Gas & Equipment, Inc.- cylinder rental & parts to repair Miller Big Blue pipe pro 400 welder damaged in vehicle accident		6,382.27
60	McMaster-Carr- pipeline repair supplies		353.81
61	Myers Diesel Repair- annual opacity test on dump truck & drive line repair on water truck		3,346.91
62	Office Depot- office supplies		1,986.39
63	O'Reilly Auto Parts- shop supplies		210.53
64	PG&E Company - ownership line, power charges & utilities on PG&E lines		5,678.57
65	Pitney Bowes- postage meter rental 10/01/2025 - 12/31/2025		122.89
66	Primo Brands- water for shop		563.87
67	PTS Rentals Inc- generator rental 12/15/25-12/18/25		421.46
68	Rain for Rent- transfer line rental		2,041.53
69	Richland Chevrolet- December supplies		1,033.94
70	San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority- final 2022 water year contract record		32,401.71
71	Shafter Parts and Supply, Inc.- December shop supplies for O&M		1,603.93
72	Sparkle Uniform & Linen Service- uniforms, shop mats, & towels rental & office apparel		1,926.27
73	Tel-Tec Security Systems, Inc.- shop monitoring services (January)		220.00
74	T-Mobile - internet access for communication with Solar Site (November & December)		50.00

SEMITROPIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Operation Maintenance

75	United Tracking Systems, LLC- Water Dashboard Subscription	8,241.00
76	Verizon Wireless - cell phones substation, solar site, on call, superintendent, dispatch, IT, CFO, & General Manager	1,276.09
77	City of Wasco- water, sewer, and trash services for office (December)	716.08
78	Wasco Tire Service, LLC- repair tire on John Deere 524L loader	385.69
79	Waterbender LLC - scale inhibitor	2,975.85
80	Wells Fargo Business Cards-**	4,154.82
81	Wesco- landowner electric service kwh meter, electrical supplies	2,293.42
82	Zultys, Inc.- monthly charges for phone system (January)	1,041.36
Operating Expense Subtotal \$		<u>234,269.36</u>

TOTAL BILLS FOR JANUARY BOARD MAILING \$ 1,900,195.63

S.W.S.D - Payroll Accounts - transfer of funds from S.I.D. for December payroll \$ 483,203.76

JANUARY 2026 AFTER BOARD MAILING

SEMITROPIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Special Projects

83	Kenneth Schmidt and Associates- Groundwater Monitoring Program	\$ 449.30 R
Special Projects Subtotal \$		<u>449.30</u>

SEMITROPIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Operation Maintenance

84	Alliance Ag Services, Inc.- Option Commission Avantus	\$ 180.00
85	AT&T- long distance charges	50.97
86	Aviva Energy Corp.- energy consulting for December 2025 and January 2026	1,150.00
87	Frontier Communications - data communication for substation	76.31
88	Garza, Mariela- 401k plan overpayment-reimbursement	1,030.00
89	Kern County Planning and Natural Resources Department- modify CUP for solar project	275.00
90	Kern Water Bank Authority- December 2025 Recharge East 2,573 AF	28,303.00
91	PG&E Company - ownership line, power charges & utilities on PG&E lines	90,974.62
92	South Tulare Richgrove Refuse Inc.- trash service for drilling yard	534.00
93	Strategic Policies LLC- consulting services and expenses for December	6,060.00
94	unWired Broadband, LLC- internet	59.99
95 +	Wells Fargo Business Cards-**	916.54
Operating Expense Subtotal \$		<u>129,610.43</u>

TOTAL BILLS FOR JANUARY 2025 AFTER BOARD MAILING \$ 130,059.73

TOTAL BILLS FOR DECEMBER 2025 AFTER BOARD MEETING \$ 486,381.90
TOTAL BILLS FOR JANUARY 2026 BOARD MAILING \$ 1,900,195.63
TOTAL BILLS FOR JANUARY 2026 AFTER BOARD MAILING \$ 130,059.73
TOTAL BILLS TO BE APPROVED AT BOARD MEETING \$ 2,516,637.26

****BREAKDOWN OF DISBURSEMENTS FOR January 14, 2026 BOARD MEETING**

80/	Wells Fargo Business Cards**		
95			
	Operating Supplies - Yesenia Ramirez	\$	4,028.48
	Operating Supplies - Bobby Salinas		31.34
	Travel expenses - Isela Medina		95.00
	Operating Supplies- Ralph Sanchez		512.32
	Fuel & Operating Supplies- Jason Gianquinto		404.22
		\$	<u>5,071.36</u>
26	Young, Wooldridge, LLP - *		
	Legal fees & expenses	\$	33,682.39
	High Speed Rail Project Phase 7		162.50 R
	Tulare Lake Flood Control Project		4,361.00
		\$	<u>38,205.89</u>
	G Grant	\$	833,158.90
	R Reimbursed		611.80
		\$	<u>833,770.70</u>

SEMITROPIC WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

DISBURSEMENTS TO BE APPROVED AT January 14, 2026 BOARD MEETING

WIRE TRANSACTIONS

1	Sun Trust Bank - 2006 Swap Agreement (December)	\$	55,464.71
2	Kern County Water Agency- water transfers & exchanges		4,450.00 R
		\$	<u>59,914.71</u>