

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES June 9, 2026

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Riley Chaney, President
Andrew Groppetti, Vice President
Robert Barcellos
Wm. Cory Carvalho
Robert Motte

STAFF PRESENT

Manny Amorelli, General Manager
Kenneth Mancini, Superintendent (Arr.10:14)
Walter Flores-Barboza, Office Manager
Mirian I. Esparza, Secretary

PUBLIC

LANDOWNERS / GROWERS

Gerald W. Kinnunen,
Jerry Gagnani, Gagnani Farms et al
Donnie Gagnani, Donnie Gagnani Farms

McMULLIN AREA GSA (MAGSA)

Matthew Hurley, General Manager

LEGAL COUNSEL

YOUNG WOOLDRIDGE, LLP

Alan F. Doud, Esq. (Zoom)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT ("District") was held Tuesday, June 9, 2026, in the District office located at 8749 Ninth Street, San Joaquin, California. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m., by President, Riley Chaney. A quorum was at all times present and acting.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Riley Chaney led the meeting in reciting the United States Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no corrections/additions to the Agenda.

4. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST FPPC §87105

Directors were given an opportunity to identify potential conflicts-of-interest with items appearing on the Agenda. None were reported.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public were given an opportunity to directly address the Board to comment on any item of interest before or during consideration of the item. No comments were offered.

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6. OTHER BUSINESS

a. MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed to honor the passing of Kay Pucheu, wife of Landowner/Grower Bill Pucheu, and long-time resident.

7. MINUTES

a. REGULAR MEETING: MAY 12, 2026

M/S/C (A.GROPPETTI/W.CARVALHO), to APPROVE as presented:

AYES: 5 (A.Groppetti,W.Carvalho,R.Barcellos,R.Motte,R.Chaney)

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

In accordance with Water Code §24273, Mr. Amorelli presented reports as follows:

a. INTERIM WARRANTS: MAY 13 – JUNE 9, 2026 (Att.1)

b. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE (Att.2)

Interim Warrants (bills paid) with supporting invoices and Accounts Payable invoices (unpaid bills) were presented for review/approval. M/S/C (A.GROPPETTI/R.MOTTE) to RATIFY/APPROVE Interim Warrants totaling \$457,559.80 and APPROVE payment of Accounts Payable totaling \$249,416.66 by the following vote:

AYES: 5 (A.Groppetti,R.Motte,R.Barcellos,W.Carvalho,R.Chaney)

c. PAYROLL CERTIFICATION: PAY PERIODS ENDING MAY, 2026 (Att.3)

A listing of payroll checks totaling \$84,7413.43 (net) issued to employees and Board members for pay periods ending May, 2026, was reviewed and certified by the President, General Manager, and Office Manager.

d. INCOME STATEMENTS (BUDGET-TO-ACTUAL): PERIOD ENDING MAY 31, 2026

e. CASH POSITION REPORT: MAY 31, 2026

f. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE ACTIVITY REPORT: MAY 31, 2026

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Amorelli presented his verbal report encompassing operations, maintenance, projects and other District matters since the last meeting:

OPERATIONS

- ▶ Water Deliveries: May, 2026 - Water deliveries for the month of May were 7,938.17 acre-feet. The fiscal year-to-date total deliveries are at 16,577.97 acre-feet.

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- ▶ Weekly TDS Readings: June 8, 2026
- ▶ East Side Wellfield YTD Usage:
 - Approximately 7,800 acre-feet.
- ▶ U.S.B.R. / Central Valley Project
 - Allocations remain at 25% to South-of-Delta contractors.
- ▶ Kings River Water Association (KRWA)
 - KRWA Storage Operations in Pine Flat Reservoir as of May 25, 2026, totaled 11,559 CFS days.
- ▶ James Irrigation
 - Fresno County conducted an on-site Hazardous Materials (HazMat) inspection of District Facilities. The inspection included review of fuel tank compliance, required documentation, and staff training records. Staff is working with County inspectors to address compliance items identified during the inspection.
 - Staff provided update regarding AG Monitor ongoing electrical analysis of Districts operations and evaluation of District solar projects under PG&E agricultural tariff structures.

AGENCIES

- ▶ San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA)
 - The General Manager attended the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Board Meeting. During the meeting, the Board approved execution of a funding agreement for approximately \$230 million in federal funding that will support initiation of Phase I of the Delta-Mendota Subsidence Project.
 - The San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority also discussed key water priorities for the upcoming Sacramento administration, including affordable water, infrastructure improvements, and modernizing water management.
- ▶ Kings River Water Association (KRWA)

Staff participated in coordination meetings with Tranquillity Irrigation District and Kings River Water Association regarding ongoing settlement agreement matters. Productive discussions were held, and additional information would be discussed in Closed Session.

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GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCIES

- ▶ McMullin Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MAGSA)
 - The Districts General Manager, Board President, and Board Director Robert Motte participated in an Ad Hoc committee with MAGSA to discuss collaborative issues associated with the settlement agreement.
 - Staff attended the MAGSA Board Meeting, where a new proposition 218 was approved by Landowners.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent, Kenneth Mancini, reported he and field staff have been working on the following projects:

- ▶ Majority of Crew continues to focus on the James Bypass Recharge Project.
- ▶ Crew are conducting routine spraying and treatment efforts targeting pondweed and moss.
- ▶ Staff is performing canal maintenance, pump maintenance and repair work.
- ▶ Staff reported that wiring has been stolen from several pump sites. Repairs are underway to restore damaged equipment.

11. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Directors were given an opportunity to inform the Board of meetings and/or conferences attended on behalf of the District. None were reported.

12. ACTION ITEMS

- a. RATHMANN ON-FARM RECHARGE PROJECT (06/09/2026) – The Board discussed the current Agricultural Lease. Staff reported site grading work performed by the contractor did not meet expectations. Water did not move across the site as intended. The current Lessee, Joe Nagra requested release from the lease due to site conditions.

M/S/C (R.CHANEY / A.GROPPETTI) to APPROVE ENDING/RELEASING JOE NAGRA FROM AGRICULTURAL LEASE AGREEMENT AND REIMBURSE LEASE RELATED COSTS PREVIOUSLY PAID.

AYES: 5 (R.Chaney,A.Groppetti,R.Barcellos, W.Carvalho,R.Motte)

The Board provided staff direction to pursue a replacement lease arrangement under similar terms, subject to recharge provisions and lease conditions.

- b. District Elections: 2026 (06/09/2026)

As terms of office for Directors Barcellos and Motte will expire December, 2026,
M/S/C (R.MOTTE / A.GROPPETT) to ADOPT RESOLUTION 2026-01 CALLING GENERAL DISTRICT ELECTION (Att.4)

AYES: 5 (R.Motte,A.Groppetti,R.Barcellos, W.Carvalho,R.Chaney)

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13. REPORT ITEMS

- a. REMOTE FLOW METER MONITORING (08/12/2025)
Staff reported contractors from WildEye are continuing installation of remote flow meter monitoring equipment on laterals C, H, and K. Landowners are advised equipment should not be disturbed or tampered with.
- b. DISTRICT ELECTIONS: 2026 (06/09/2026)
Directors whose terms expire 2026 (Barcellos, Motte) and wishing to run for re-election were advised they must file Declaration of Candidacy form with the District Secretary between July 13-August 7. The deadline extends to August 12 if incumbents do not file.

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 10:38 A.M.

DIRECTORS ATTENDING:

Riley Chaney, President
Andrew Groppetti, Vice President
Robert Barcellos, Director
Wm. Cory Carvalho, Director
Robert Motte, Director

LEGAL COUNSEL:

Young Wooldridge, LLP
Alan Doud, Esq. (Zoom)

STAFF ATTENDING:

Manny Amorelli, General Manager

14. CLOSED SESSION: GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.9 - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

- a. SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OR (3) OF SUBDIVISION (D):
1 CASE

15. CLOSED SESSION: GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.9 - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION

AS DEFENDANT: 1 CASE

- a. CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, RESTORE THE DELTA AND PLANNING & CONSERVATION LEAGUE V UNITED STATES BUREAU OF RECLAMATION ET AL (06/08/2021)
United States District Court, Eastern District of California
Case No. 1:20-CV-00706 DAD-EPG

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16. CLOSED SESSION: GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.8 - CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

a. JAMES & TRANQUILLITY NEGOTIATIONS

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee
Tranquillity Irrigation District: Danny Wade
Kings River Lower River Units: Manager/Designee
Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible real property and/or water supply transactions.

b. KINGS SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER RECHARGE EFFORTS (12/11/2018)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee
McMullin Area GSA Landowners: Various
Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible real property and/or water supply transactions.

c. WATER BANKING & TRANSFERS (04/19/2018)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee
San Luis Water District: Lon Martin
Various CVP Contractors: General Managers or Designees
Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible water supply transactions.

d. WATER BANKING & TRANSFERS (06/10/2025)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee
Santa Clara Valley Water District
Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible water supply transactions.

e. JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY (02/10/2026)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee
Various
Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible real property and/or water supply transactions

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17. CLOSED SESSION: GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.8 - CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

- a. FRESNO COUNTY APN 030-090-24S (15.98 ACRES), 030-090-28S (366.07 ACRES) (10/16/2012)
Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee
Landowner: Marilyn Fay Briggs, Trustee
Tenant: Thomas Coleman
Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible real property and/or water supply transactions.
- b. FRESNO COUNTY APN 030-090-29S (4.66 ACRES), APN 030-090-30S (2.03 ACRES) (06/11/2019)
Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee
Landowner: Jeremy Hughes/Allison Hughes
Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible water supply transactions.

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 11:03 A.M.

14. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

General Manager Manny Amorelli, stated no reportable actions were taken during the Closed Session.

15. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, M/S/C (R.MOTTE / W.CARVALHO), to ADJOURN the meeting at 11:04 a.m., until the next Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 10: 00 a.m., by the following vote:

AYES: 5 (R.Motte,W.Carvalho,A.Groppetti,R.Barcellos,R.Chaney)

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Mirian I. Esparza, Secretary

Riley Chaney, President

Manny Amorelli, General Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

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- 1 Interim Warrants, May 13 – June 9, 2026, \$457,559.80
 - 2 Accounts Payable, \$249,416.66
 - 3 Payroll Certification: Pay Periods Ending May 31, 2026, \$84,713.43 (net)
 - 4 Resolution 2026-01 Calling General District Election, Adopted June 9, 2026