

**SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT,
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT No.1
MARCH 17, 2026 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, was held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, in-person at 1070 Faraday Street.

Trustees Present: Michael Burchardi
 Jeff Clay
 Brad Joos
 Mark Moniot
 Nick Urton

Trustees Absent: None

Others Present: Paeter Garcia Racel Cota Kylie Kelleher
 Dan Drugan Steve Anderson

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

President Clay called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m., he stated that this was a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Cota conducted roll call and reported that all Trustees were present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Clay led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT BY THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTING OF THE NOTICE AND AGENDA:

Ms. Cota reported that the Agenda for this meeting was posted in accordance with the California Government Code commencing at Section 54953, as well as District Resolution No. 340.

4. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE AGENDA:

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Clay welcomed any members of the public and offered time for members of the public to speak and address the Board on matters not on the Agenda. There was no public comment. Mr. Garcia reported that no written comments were submitted to the District for the meeting.

6. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 17, 2026

The Regular Meeting Minutes from February 17, 2026 were presented for consideration.

President Clay asked if there were any changes or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2026. There were no changes or additions requested.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0 voice vote, to approve the February 17, 2026 Regular meeting minutes as presented.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

The Consent Agenda Report was provided in the Board Packet.

Mr. Garcia reviewed the Consent Agenda materials for the month of February. Various topics were discussed among the Board and staff.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Moniot, seconded by Trustee Joos, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0 voice vote, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

8. **MANAGER REPORTS - STATUS, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:**

A. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

1. Financial Report on Administrative Matters

a) Presentation of Monthly Financial Statements – Revenues and Expenses

Ms. Cota announced that the Financial Statements were provided to the Board via email earlier in the day, included in the meeting handout materials, and posted on the District’s website.

Ms. Cota reviewed the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the month of February. She highlighted various line-items related to revenue and expense transactions that occurred during the month and referred to the Fiscal-Year-to-Date Statement of Revenues and Expenses that provides a budget to actual snapshot for the eight months ending February 28, 2026. Ms. Cota stated that revenue exceeded expenses by \$197,727.35 and the year-to-date February 2026 net income was \$3,102,858.28.

b) Approval of Accounts Payable

Ms. Cota announced that the Warrant List was provided to the Board via email earlier in the day, included in the meeting handout materials, and posted on the District’s website.

The Board reviewed the Warrant List which covered warrants 27094 through 27148 in the amount of \$601,043.83.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0 voice vote to approve the Warrant List for February 18, 2026 through March 17, 2026.

B. OPERATIONS

1. General Update

Mr. Drugan reported that field staff continue to perform weed abatement and general site maintenance following the winter rains. He noted that staff will be coordinating with the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) for when the District decides to take deliveries of State Water Project supplies. Mr. Drugan also reported that the District recently completed its transition to the ESRI ArcGIS Online platform. Z-World, the District’s GIS consultant, worked closely with staff to onboard the system and establish updated workflows for maintaining GIS data.

2. Madera Fence Replacement Project – Phase 2: Consideration and Possible Award
Mr. Garcia reported that the District only received one bid in response to its published Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Madera Fence Replacement Project – Phase 2. He noted that staff plans to re-advertise the RFP for the project and conduct additional outreach to increase bidder participation.

9. **REPORT, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:**

A. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

1. Eastern Management Area (EMA) Update

The Board packet included the Notice and Agenda for the February 26, 2026 Special Meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area.

Mr. Garcia summarized several topics that were discussed at the recent EMA GSA meeting. He reported that the next meeting of the EMA Citizens Advisory Group is currently scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2026.

10. **REPORTS BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMITTEE REPORTS, AND OTHER MATTERS AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION**

Mr. Garcia indicated that, similar to the last several years, the District is planning to host an informational booth at the Annual Santa Ynez Airport Day in May, and also at Santa Ynez Days in June.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE: GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FILING OF VARIOUS ITEMS**

The Correspondence List was received by the Board.

12. **REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

There were no requests from the Board.

13. **NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

President Clay stated that the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for April 21, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

14. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board adjourned to closed session at 4:45 p.m.

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

[Subdivision (d)(1) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – 1 Case]

1. Name of Case: Adjudicatory proceedings pending before the State Water Resources Control Board regarding Permit 15878 issued on Application 22423 to the City of Solvang, Petitions for Change, and Related Protests

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - POTENTIAL LITIGATION

[Subdivision (d)(4) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – Potential Initiation of Litigation by the Agency – Two Matters]

15. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:

[Sections 54957.1 and 54957.7 of the Government Code]

The Board reconvened to open session at approximately 5:21 p.m. Mr. Garcia announced that the Board met in closed session in accordance with Agenda Items 14.A through 14.B, and that there was no reportable action for any of the closed session Agenda Items.

16. ADJOURNMENT:

Being no further business, it was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Urton, and carried by a 5-0-0 voice vote to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:21 p.m.

THE MARCH 17, 2026 MEETING MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE APRIL 17, 2026 BOARD MEETING.