SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MAY 20, 2025

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District was scheduled for Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California.

Directors Present: Philip Carpenter, Robert Dunlap, Larry Lahr, and Brett Marymee

Directors Present (teleconference): Steve Jordan

Director Absent: None

Others Present (in-person): Bill Buelow, Frank Costa, and Amber Thompson

Others Present (teleconference): Steve Torigiani (Young Wooldridge)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

President Lahr called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Thompson called roll. All Directors were present providing a quorum.

Director Jordan attended the meeting via teleconference from 46250 East El Dorado, Indian Wells, CA. The teleconference location was properly noticed. No members of the public joined Director Jordan at that location.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Lahr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ADDITIONS, IF ANY, TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

5. CONSIDERATION OF EMA GSA REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF LOAN REPAYMENT TERMS AND SECOND REQUEST FOR FY 24-25 LOAN CONTRIBUTIONS

Mr. Buelow presented letters and an invoice received from the Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EMA GSA). The EMA GSA requested a six-month postponement and three year pay back window (FY 2027-2030) to the Loan Repayment

Approved June 17, 2025

Terms. The EMA GSA also requested a second loan contribution for FY 2024-25 of $50,000 with Action Plan credits of $43,875.53 toward the loan contribution, as previously requested by the SYRWCD Board of Directors, leaving a balance due of $6,124.47. Mr. Buelow stated that the additional loan contribution of the $6,124.47 is within the approved FY24-25 SYRWCD GSA Loan Contributions budget. Discussion followed. There was no public comment.

Director Marymee made a **MOTION** to authorize the General Manager to respond to the EMA GSA Request for Extension of Loan Repayment Terms approving the extension of the GSA Loan Payback period to FY 2027-2030, subject to unanimous approval by all EMA GSA Member Agencies. Director Carpenter seconded the motion, and the motion passed 5-0-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES, Directors: Carpenter, Dunlap, Jordan, Lahr, Marymee
NOES, Directors: None
ABSENT, Directors: None

6. CLOSED SESSION

The Board convened in to Closed Session from 5:41 p.m. to 6:43 p.m. to discuss the following items:

a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Pending Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(1)): In the matter of Petition for Change of City of Solvang for Water Right Permit No. 15878 (Application A022423), which authorizes diversion of water from the Santa Ynez River (underflow) in Santa Barbara County, pending before the State Water Resources Control Board Office of Administrative Hearings.

b. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(2)): Significant exposure to litigation (Three Matters).

7. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION / CLOSED SESSION REPORT

President Lahr advised there is nothing to report from Closed Session.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Lahr adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Larry Lahr, President

Amber M. Thompson, Secretary