

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
GARFIELD WATER DISTRICT  
February 17, 2026**

1. President Pat Ricchiuti called the meeting to order at 12:39 p.m. Also, in attendance were Directors Karl Kienow, Bill Smittcamp (arrived at 12:43 p.m.), and Palmer Lien. Director Mark Johnson was absent. Attorney Lauren Layne, Engineer/Watermaster Nick Keller, and Secretary Paul Woodworth were also present.

2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Karl Kienow and seconded by Palmer Lien to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2026 meeting. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Directors Smittcamp and Johnson were absent.

3. Business and Presentations from the Floor

Karl Kienow stated that a vehicle hit the guardrail at the Auberry Road and Copper Avenue intersections. Mr. Kienow is concerned about the safety of the District's Ditch Tender.

Mr. Keller will notify the County via e-mail to have the guardrail repaired as soon as possible.

4. Additions to the Agenda

None.

It was moved by Palmer Lien and seconded by Karl Kienow to approve the agenda. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Directors Smittcamp and Johnson were absent.

5. Potential Conflicts of Interest - Board members were asked if any conflicts of interest existed.

Pat Ricchiuti identified a potential conflict of interest on agenda Item 11(a) due to owning property within 500 feet.

6. Correspondence

A. The County of Fresno – Landowner Elected Special Districts Information Audit - Mr. Woodworth presented the informational audit and indicated no changes from the prior reporting period. Mr. Woodworth will submit the form to the County Clerk's office.

B. Glatfelter Public Entities – Memorandum of Coverage Update - Mr. Woodworth discussed the annual memorandum for terrorism coverage.

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C. CSDA Special District Legislative Days - Flyer - Mr. Woodworth presented the flyer to the Board.

D. TSG – Water Law in California Seminar – Flyer -Mr. Woodworth presented the flyer to the Board.

Mr. Smittcamp arrived at 12:43 p.m.

7. Financial Reports

A-H. Mr. Woodworth presented the monthly financials. Mr. Woodworth updated the Board on the District's operating funds cash balance, bank reconciliations, and profit and loss statement.

Mr. Woodworth notified the Board that the District still has not received the August or October 2025 invoices due to the recent government shutdown, which affects the District's year-to-date water expenses and net income.

Mr. Woodworth noted the District received the Chelsea Downs HOA annual fee payment. Mr. Woodworth also contacted Sunnyside 40, LLC on its outstanding balance and was informed the payment was issued. Mr. Woodworth did not receive the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District (KDWCD) invoice payment. Mr. Woodworth will contact KDWCD directly on its outstanding water invoice.

Mr. Woodworth reviewed the interest earned on the US Bank and Valley Strong Credit Union money market accounts.

Mr. Woodworth requested authorization to transfer the B of A savings account funds to the Valley Strong Credit Union money market account to earn higher interest on the funds.

It was moved by Palmer Lien and seconded by Karl Kienow to accept the monthly financial reports and authorize Mr. Woodworth to close the B of A savings account and transfer the money to Valley Strong Credit Union. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Director Johnson was absent.

8. Bills to Pay

Mr. Woodworth provided the Board with the monthly bill payment report for approval.

It was moved by Karl Kienow and seconded by Bill Smittcamp to approve the bill payments. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion. Director Johnson was absent.

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9. Water Master Report

A. Mr. Keller reported no usage for January 2026. Friant Water Authority (FWA) also reported no usage. FWA reported year-to-date usage of 1,737 AF.

B. Mr. Keller notified the board that the snowpack level is improving and another storm is expected to move-in next week.

Mr. Keller stated the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) expects to issue its Class 1 water allocation percentage on February 23, 2026. Mr. Keller is expecting an 80% allocation of Class 1 water.

Mr. Keller also stated that the Class 2 allocation was shut down on February 3, 2026 to protect the Class 1 water. Mr. Keller notified Pat Richiutti and Karl Kienow in the prior week that he started recharging the District's ponding basin up to 41 AF to use the remaining water balance over the 300 AF carry-over allocation. He will reassess whether or not to keep filling it at the end of the month.

The Board directed Mr. Woodworth to prepare the 2026-2027 water order application forms. Mr. Keller will provide Mr. Woodworth with the allocation percentage after the BOR February 23, 2026 meeting.

Mr. Keller notified the Board that the drawings for the P-R 15 turnout are in-process. Mr. Keller is also preparing the construction bid for the project.

10. Continuing Business to consider and take action

A. North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Mr. Kienow stated the Board did not meet in January 2026.

Mr. Keller attended the Advisory Committee meeting. The Committee reviewed expenses. The Committee also reviewed the Kings Subbasin Groundwater Allocation Framework. Mr. Keller stated Fresno Irrigation District, the County of Fresno, and the District own their respective surface water and he does not believe the GSA has oversight on surface water usage.

Mr. Keller stated the GSA may need to mitigate a domestic well they recently learned about, but are currently investigating. Also, the domestic well registration deadline passed. Mr. Keller stated that the District's monitoring well location is at Minnewawa and International Avenues. A second monitoring well is planned for Peach and International Avenues.

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No action taken. This item will be added to the next Board meeting agenda.

11. New Business

Director(s) Ricchiuti and Smittcamp recused themselves from the discussion.

Ad hoc Committee – City of Clovis – Ms. Layne provided the details from the ad hoc committee meeting held on February 2, 2026. After the committee reviewed and discussed Dennis Keller’s report, the Committee recommended that the Engineers develop a something like a Master Plan for the District to project infrastructure needs and water needs and management for the District in the future. The Board members concurred with the recommendation and directed the District’s Engineers, Dennis and Nick Keller, to prepare such a master planning document.

No action taken. This item will be added to the next Board meeting agenda.

12. Public Hearing

None.

13. Closed Session

A. None.

14. Next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2026 and it will be held at P-R Farms, 2917 Shepherd Avenue, Clovis, California at 12:30 p.m.

15. The meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m.