

WEST KERN WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

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Minutes - Board of Directors  
Tuesday, February 25, 2025

800 Kern Street  
Taft, California

*Directors Present:* Bo Bravo  
David A. Wells  
Barry M. Jameson  
Gary Morris

*Directors Absent:* Scott Niblett

*Ex-Officio Officer:* Greg A. Hammett, General Manager/Secretary

*District Counsel:* Alex Dominguez

*Recording Secretary:* Deann Crabtree

*Staff in Attendance:* Taylor Miller, Troy Turley, John Stuntebeck, Gregg Fink  
Zak Crabb, Mike Law & Adeana McDaniel-Furman

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I. CALL TO ORDER

II. FLAG SALUTE

III. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Vice President Bo Bravo called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Administrative Assistant, Deann Crabtree called roll and noted Vice President Bo Bravo, Director Jameson, Director David A. Wells and Director Morris as present and President Scott Niblett absent.

IV. CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENTS

No conflicts to report.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments to report.

VI. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

*Upon Motion by Director Jameson, Seconded  
By Director Morris and Carried Unanimously  
With 4 Ayes, 0 Noes  
To approve the February 25, 2025  
Regular Board Meeting Agenda.*

**VII. DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING:  
APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. January 28, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

*Upon Motion by Director Wells, Seconded  
By Director Jameson Carried Unanimously  
With 3 Ayes, 0 Noes  
Director Morris abstained  
To approve the Minutes of the  
January 25, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.*

**VIII. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**IX. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- i. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Training Report

RECOMMENDATION: Information Only.

- ii. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Operations Department Review

RECOMMENDATION: Information Only.

- iii. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Cash Flow for January 2025

RECOMMENDATION: Information Only.

- iv. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Capital Improvement Budget Comparison and Equipment Procurement

RECOMMENDATION: Information Only.

- v. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Safety Meeting & Project Report

- vi. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Position Vacancies

**X. DISCUSSION & APPROVAL OF ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

*Upon Motion by Director Jameson, Seconded  
By Director Morris Carried Unanimously  
With 4 Ayes, 0 Noes  
To Approve Consent Items i-vi of the  
February 25, 2025 Regular Board Agenda.*

## XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE (Wells, Bravo)

#### 1. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding: Water Supply Report

General Manager, Greg A. Hammett, reviewed the current Water Supply Report with Directors and staff.

#### 2. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding: General Manager Water Report

General Manager, Greg A. Hammett reviewed the Northern Sierra Precipitation report, state reservoir conditions, snowpack and various hydrology reports with the board, the General Manager also reported on the Delta Conveyance Project.

#### 3. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding: BV Replacement Water

General Manager, Greg A. Hammett, reported pursuant to the July 26, 2000, Amendment to the 1983 Agreement with Buena Vista Water Storage District (BVWSD), West Kern can elect to divert up to the first 6,500 af of the District's SWP Supply from the California Aqueduct for use by West Kern. The District must provide written notice to Buena Vista as to its intention to either pay the Replacement Water Fee or to deliver Replacement Water by March 1 of each year. If the District elects to purchase the replacement water they must pay BVWSD the replacement fee which is calculated by dividing the District's total Kern County Water Agency State Water Project Table A Entitlement billings and based on Department of Water Resources April 1<sup>st</sup> State Water Project Table A allocation. Upon receipt of the Replacement Water Fee, BVWSD will transfer 95% of 6500 af from their groundwater bank account to West Kern's groundwater bank account. The initial State Water Project allocation was 5%, with an increase to 15% on December 23, 2024 and another 20% on January 29, 2025. Announced on February 25, 2025 the State Water Project Allocation is 35%. Direction was given to explore potential transfer programs before sending a response.

### B. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Jameson, Bravo)

#### 1. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding: Resolution No. 25-02 of The Board of Directors of The West Kern Water District Authorizing Greg Hammett, General Manager, on Behalf Of The West Kern Water District to Approve Actions of Obtaining Federal Financial Assistance Through The State of California CAL OES Grant SLCGP 22/23, Fy 2024

General Manager, Greg A. Hammett reported the District provides employees with access to its computers to perform the responsibilities of their jobs. The operation of the

District is fully reliant on the Information Technology network to perform numerous tasks and depends on its reliability to remain functional. The network provides mission critical systems for accounting, mapping, payroll, and data storage, in addition to the overall security of these systems through managed user accounts. Fiscal Year 2024 SLCGP funding will help improve the District's Cybersecurity Program by providing the opportunity to replace aging network infrastructure. In addition, funding will also support Cybersecurity training initiatives for all employees. A heightened awareness of Cybersecurity concerns and challenges by all employees will lay a strong foundation to the overall success of the District's Cybersecurity projects and programs and assist us in continuous improvement throughout the future.

*Upon Motion by Director Wells, Seconded  
By Director Jameson Carried Unanimously  
By a Roll Call Vote  
With 4 Ayes, 0 Noes  
To Adopt Resolution No. 25-02 of The Board of Directors of The West Kern Water District Authorizing Greg Hammett, General Manager, on Behalf Of The West Kern Water District to Approve Actions of Obtaining Federal Financial Assistance Through The State of California CAL OES Grant SLCGP 22/23, Fy 2024.*

2. **Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Approve Interim Charge to Non-District Landowners for  
2024-2025 SGMA Related Costs**

General Manager, Greg A. Hammett reported on June 28, 2016, the District adopted Resolution No. 16-03 electing to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) (WKGSA) to exercise the powers and authorities of a GSA granted by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) for the portion of its jurisdictional boundary overlying the Kern Subbasin. In July 2019, Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) agreed to provide jurisdictional coverage to all lands in the Kern Subbasin, including those lands located outside a local agency's boundaries (a.k.a., "White Area Lands or non-district lands"). In September 2019, the District approved a non-district Landowner Agreement (Agreement) that provides for inclusion of non-district lands within WKGSA's Management Area. The Agreement provides a mechanism for the WKGSA to collect an Interim Charge to include non-district lands in WKGSA's jurisdiction. The Interim Charge covers costs to prepare GSP updates, Annual Reports and other SGMA related activities. Staff have reviewed costs for 2024 and estimated 2025 costs and calculated an Interim Charge for Non-District Landowners of \$1.46 per enrolled acre for 2024/2025 SGMA related costs.

*Upon Motion by Director Wells, Seconded  
By Director Morris Carried Unanimously  
By a Roll Call Vote,  
With 4 Ayes, 0 Noes  
To Establish an Interim Charge for Non-District  
Landowners of \$1.46 per enrolled acre for 2024/2025  
SGMA related costs.*

C. **FACILITIES COMMITTEE  
(Jameson, Niblett)**

1. **Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Station B Tank #20 & #27 Exterior Roof Recoating,  
Repairs and Retrofit, Job #25-3100, Request to Seek Bids**

Operations and Engineering Administrator, Troy Turley reported the scope of this project includes exterior roof recoating, coating repairs and retrofit of Station B Tanks #20 & #27 as required by the project plans and specifications. A Notice Inviting Bids will be published in the Bakersfield Californian and posted on West Kern Water District and Kern County Builder's Exchange's website. Additionally, Staff will notify pre-qualified contractors currently listed on the District Bidders List. A mandatory pre bid job walk will be conducted for coating contractors and Third-party inspectors. The remainder of the project provides for the quality control inspection of the exterior roof coating per District specifications. A Request for Proposal will be issued through the West Kern Water District web site and by contacting pre-qualified inspectors currently listed on the District Bidders List. Actual date to be determined.

*Upon Motion by Director Morris, Seconded  
By Director Jameson and Carried Unanimously  
With 4 Ayes, 0 Noes  
To Authorize Staff to seek bids for:  
A. External roof recoating, repair and retrofit of Station  
B Tanks #20 & #27 B. 3rd Party Professional Coating  
Inspection & Repairs of Tanks #20 & #27.*

2. **Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Improve Public Access - District Office  
Job #25-9000 Three Concepts Sketches & Potential Costs**

Operations and Engineering Administrator, Troy Turley reported on three alternative layouts that would improve employee security and public access to the District Office. The three concepts range in cost estimated from \$195,117.66. (Option A) to \$353,635.99 (Option B). After discussion, the Board gave direction to proceed with Option A.

3. **Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Underwater & Exterior Tank Inspection & Cleaning -  
Tanks #2, #22, #28 7 #33 Interior & Exterior Coatings  
Inspection Job 25-3501**

Operations and Engineering Administrator, Troy Turley reported on Tanks #2, #22, #28, & #33.

McKi,ttrick Tank #28 - constructed 1997, Capacity 100k gal, recoated 2017. **Exterior** inspection revealed the tank was in good condition. All appurtenances were functioning and compliant including roof vent screens, roof hatch and gasket, exterior ladder, overflow piping, manway, manway gaskets, water level indicator and components, all inlet and outlet piping and valves. The tank foundation is in good condition with minor cracking noted. **Interior** inspection revealed over 1/16" of sporadic sediment on tank floor and horizontal surfaces. Roof has moderate corrosion of the truss lip and truss tops where ceiling panels come in contact. The shell has small patches of blisters with minor corrosion, overall shell is in good condition. Center column support plate had two spots of bare metal that were repaired with NSF aqua pox epoxy. Minor corrosion spots were seen on the tank floor and manway entry. The ladder had minor blistering and corrosion. Overflow has minor staining but is in good

condition. Level indicator attachment point on floor as well as guide wires and float are in good condition. Interior piping in good condition with minor corrosion noted. No immediate action required reinspect in five years.

Panorama Tank #22 - was constructed in 1984, capacity 500k gal., recoated 2018. **Exterior** inspection revealed the tank was in good condition. All appurtenances were functioning and compliant including roof vent screens, roof hatch need a new gasket, exterior ladder, overflow piping, manway, manway gaskets, water level indicator and components, all inlet and outlet piping and valves good condition. The tank has an earthen foundation. Lower chime and foundation area appeared in good condition. **Interior** roof was in good condition with minor corrosion at roof and truss overlaps. Trusses appeared in good condition, very minor spots of corrosion and staining were observed on the shell. There are blisters that have opened and will eventually corrode. Base plate and support column are in good condition, with corrosion noted at hinge assembly for manways. The ladder has very minor corrosion and is in good condition overall. Overflow box in in good condition no issues found. Water level indicator guide wire anchors have minor corrosion at floor. Appurtenances and pipes are in good condition with usual staining in pipe throats and valves. The drainpipe had minor blistering that will eventually open and corrode. No immediate action required, except for the manway hatch gasket. Reinspect in five years.

25 Hill (North), Tank #2 - constructed in 1911, capacity 2.3M gal., cold tar enamel coating. **Exterior** inspection noted wooden roof appeared in good condition overall including access hatch, center vent screen fabric and clamps appears in good condition. Exterior shell has minor spots of corrosion from nicks and scratches, slight peeling along chime no major change since last five year inspection. Ladder has minor corrosion; overflow pipe has surface corrosion. Undermining was noted on the foundation exposing floor. Moderate corrosion is noted on the lower chime and bottom of tank floor. Manway had minor corrosion on all bolts and hardware. The level indicator appears in good condition and works properly. **Interior** of the wooden roof had two small wooden pieces on the floor along with several smaller splinter sizes, inspection noted that roof was in fair to poor condition in some areas. Interior shell walls, seams and rivets noted as good condition, coating is in poor condition and breaks apart to the touch. Support column coating has severe cracks in the coating allowing moderate corrosion to form. The floor is covered with a 1/8 inch sediment deposit. The floor coating has reached its lifespan. There are a number of areas with cracks and corrosion with moderate pitting of the steel. Manways noted as being in good condition, minor corrosion where sealing gasket with door. There is no interior ladder in this tank. Overflow pipe has minor corrosion present on interior of pipe. Level indicator in working properly all hardware components in place. Inlet and outlet piping have minor corrosion present on interior of pipe and welded seams. The drain has moderate corrosion on the interior of the pipe. The tank's interior roof is in poor condition and appears to be separating from the shell at the upper chime, roof replacement or repairs is recommended as soon as possible. The interior coating has become worse since the last five year inspection, shell coating is cracking and crumbling at the touch. Floor coating is in the same condition or worse and this is why the tank sediment could not be removed. It is recommended to drain the tank and evaluate it for recoating.

Station A, Tank #33, constructed 2003, Capacity 2.0M gal. Substantial amounts of sand, gravel pack and sediment from District wells were present on the tank floor. **Exterior** roof coating was delaminating and peeling off, this however is the finish coating, the base and intermediate coating is in decent shape. The roof hatch is in good condition with the present gasket. The center vent and screens are in good condition. Exterior shell has one spot of delamination at the 9 o'clock position, repairing the area is recommended. The ladder and

anti-climb device are in good condition as was the overflow structure. The concrete foundation ring and anchor bolts were in good condition. The manways and level indicator assembly are in good condition. Interior roof has minor corrosion of roof panels welded seams of trusses, coating appears to be delaminating from the edges of rafter lips allowing corrosion to form. Delamination of a weld seam over the overflow funnel was noted with moderate corrosion forming. Trusses located closer to the center of tank, especially the vapor zone, have a 20% increase in corrosion from five years ago. Very minor spots of corrosion noted on the shell, not of concern at this time. Minor corrosion noted at support columns weld seam. Floor has a few minor spots of corrosion noted, but overall in good condition. Diver repaired two large spots of corrosion that were beginning to pit. The manway entries have slight blistering of the coating, a few of the blisters have opened and started to corrode. The top two rungs of interior ladder have moderate corrosion, no change since last inspection. The interior overflow weir and funnel are in good condition. The level indicator guide wire floor bracket has minor corrosion at floor anchor. Interior appurtenances for inlet have sediment discoloration and minor corrosion at the pipe lip. The outlets and drain are in good condition, no issues noted. Exterior roof coating delamination was the only area of concern, repairs recommended to prevent corrosion. Exterior shell at 9 o'clock has a delamination that also needs repair. Interior roof and floor areas require attention at the next five-year inspection with added time needed for repairs. The District will re-inspect in five years.

**D. FINANCE COMMITTEE  
(Morris, Niblett)**

**1. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Accounts Payable for February 2025**

Assistant to the Director of Finance, Adeana McDaniel-Furman presented the accounts payable report for February 2025.

*Upon Motion by Director Wells, Seconded.  
By Director Morris and Carried Unanimously  
With 4 Ayes, 0 Noes  
To Approve Expenditure for February 2025  
Bills When Funds are Available.*

**E. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE  
(Wells, Morris)**

No items to discuss.

**XII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

No items to discuss.

**XIII. ISSUES OF CONCERN**

**A. March 2025 Meeting Calendar**

Directors approved the March Calendar.

**B. Potential Issues to be Addressed at Next Board Meeting**

No items to report.

**C. Board of Director Announcements or Reports**

No items to report.

**D. General Manager's Report**

General Manager, Greg A. Hammett gave a report on employee awards at the Districts annual Recognition Luncheon that was held on February 21, 2025.

**E. Management Staff Report**

No items to report

**F. Kern Non-Districted Land Authority Issues**

The General Manger provided a brief report on KNDLA issues.

**G. Attorney Report**

No items to report.

**XIV. CLOSED SESSION**

1. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Government Code, § 54956.9(d)(1)  
Conference with Legal Counsel  
Existing Litigation: 1 Case

- A. Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD et al. v. KCWA et. al.;  
Kern County Superior Court Case No. BCV-21-10418

2. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Government Code, § 54956.9(d)(4)  
Conference with Legal Counsel  
Potential Litigation: 3 Cases

3. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding:  
Government Code, § 54956.8  
Conference with Real Property Negotiator  
Agency Negotiator: Greg A. Hammett, General Manager  
Negotiation Parties: West Kern Water District and  
California Resources Corporation  
Under Negotiation: Subsurface Easement

Directors moved into Closed Session at 6:40 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 6:55 p.m.

Vice-President Bravo reported there was no action taken in Closed Session:

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

March 25, 2025

**Date Approved**



**Greg A. Hammett,  
Secretary of the Board of Directors of  
WEST KERN WATER DISTRICT**

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