

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
ARVIN-EDISON WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
December 9, 2025

President Camp called to order the regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of the Arvin-Edison Water Storage District at the hour of 12:00 p.m. at District Headquarters, 20401 East Bear Mountain Boulevard, Arvin, California, with a quorum being then and there present to wit:

CALL TO ORDER

Edwin Camp, President
Jeffrey Giumarra, Vice President
Dennis Johnston, Secretary-Treasurer
Matthew Vickery
Catalino Martinez
Brian Kirschenmann
Scott Spitzer
Derek Yurosek (Via teleconference)

There was one absent Director:

Catherine Fanucchi

District staff:

Jeevan Muhar, Engineer-Manager
David Nixon, Deputy General Manager
Samuel Blue, Resource Manager
Mark Dawson, Engineer*
David Grant, Controller*
Chris Reedy, Project Manager*

District Consultants:

Joseph Hughes, Esq., Klein DeNatale Goldner, LLP
Randy Hopkins, Provost & Pritchard Engineering Group*

Visitors and Guests:

In Person:

Lefty Delis, Delis Farms*
Shawn Alexander, Superior Ag Construction*

Via Teleconference:

Liam Rose*
Micheal*
John Gaugel, Wonderful*
Sonia Lemus, SJV News*
Sebastian Silveria*
Katrina Soto, Atlas Water*
Julie Gomez, Atlas Water*

Note: *Departed at start of Closed Session at 1:50 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS

All visitors were recognized and formally introduced.

CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA OF ITEMS, AS AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT CODE §54950 et seq.

Mr. Muhar stated there were no changes to the posted Agenda.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT (Government Code §54854.3)

There were no public comment(s).

CONSENT MATTERS

President Camp noted items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by staff and will be approved by one motion. The following items were listed on the Consent Agenda, which items were detailed with staff reports in the Board packet:

6. Approval of Minutes of the Rescheduled Board of Directors' meeting held on November 17, 2025
7. Approval of Treasurer's Report for November 30, 2025, Delinquency List in the amount of \$57,915.71, and Unaudited Internal Financials for Period Ending October 31, 2025
8. Approval of Board of Directors meeting dates for Calendar Year 2026
9. Approval of Annual Leave and Sick Leave Payoffs
10. Approval of City of Bakersfield Delivery of Storm Drain Water Agreement (Arvin-Edison Intake Canal)

Director Kirschenmann motioned, seconded by Director Vickery, and unanimously carried to approve the five (5) Consent Agenda items.

ACTION ITEMS

Discuss Options for "Sexual Harassment" Training

Mr. Hughes stated two (2) potential options for this required training in January 2026; 1) schedule a training course in-person on the same day of the Board meeting on January 13, which would start at or about 10:00 a.m. then conduct the Board meeting thereafter, or 2) schedule an online training course to be completed at their own convenience by January 31, 2026. After a brief discussion, the Board unanimously carried to schedule both options.

Resolution No. 25-25, ORDERING PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS (November 2025 - Warrant Numbers 51501-51627)

Mr. Grant reported on the November disbursements, including an additional batch, and Banc of America Semi-Annual Loan payments, totaling

approximately \$7.1M. Mr. Grant then presented a form of Resolution; whereupon, Director Martinez motioned, seconded by Director Vickery, and unanimously approved Resolution No. 25-25, ORDERING PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS (November 2025). A copy of Resolution No. 25-25 is on file in the Resolution book and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

Approval of Final Water Year 2026 Budget and Water Charges

Mr. Grant reviewed the contents of the Final 2026 Water Year Budget with the focus on changes from the Board approved 2026 Preliminary Budget. Mr. Grant noted details including increasing "Water Use" Charge by \$17/af from \$165/af to \$182/af, decreasing the Energy Charge for the first lift by \$2/af from \$66/af to \$64/af, and increasing the Energy Charge for the second and all additional lifts by \$1/af from \$28/af/lift to \$29/af/lift. The increase to the 2026 Water Year rates is approximately 6% (from an average of \$278/AF to \$294.00/AF. Total expenses are projected to be \$68.9 million with revenue of \$68.0 million (including \$12.9 million SGMA projects and \$7.5 million O&M CapEx projects).

Mr. Grant then reviewed the estimated actual year-to-date Water Year 2025 budget and projected 2026 budget with the GA/GP proposed to remain the same at \$155.57 per acre.

After discussion of the water rate setting process and associated budget and GA/GP methodology, Director Johnston motioned, seconded by Director Giumarra, and unanimously carried to approve the Final Water Year 2026 Budget and Water Charges as presented.

Resolution No. 25-26, FIXING SURFACE WATER SERVICE AREA STANDBY AND WATER USE CHARGE FOR THE 2026 WATER YEAR; CONSISTING OF BOTH A "STANDBY" CHARGE FOR UNRESTRICTED AND DROUGHT YEAR SCENARIOS AND A "WATER USE" CHARGE; AND ORDERING THAT SAID CHARGES BE COLLECTED UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE WATER USER CONTRACTS, WITH THE DISTRICT'S WATER USERS AND CONTRACTORS; AND THE DISTRICT'S "RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF WATER," AND THE DELINQUENT CHARGES AND PENALTIES SHALL CONSTITUTE A LIEN UPON THE AFFECTED REAL PROPERTY AS SET FORTH IN THE SAME

Mr. Grant presented a form of Resolution whereby Director Giumarra motioned, seconded by Director Vickery, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. 25-26, FIXING SURFACE WATER SERVICE AREA WATER SERVICE CHARGES FOR THE 2026 WATER YEAR; CONSISTING OF BOTH A "STANDBY" CHARGE FOR UNRESTRICTED AND DROUGHT YEAR SCENARIOS AND A "WATER USE" CHARGE; AND ORDERING THAT SAID CHARGES BE COLLECTED UNDER THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS SET FORTH IN THE WATER USER CONTRACTS, WITH THE DISTRICT'S WATER USERS AND CONTRACTORS; AND THE DISTRICT'S "RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF WATER," AND THE DELINQUENT CHARGES AND PENALTIES SHALL CONSTITUTE A LIEN UPON THE AFFECTED REAL PROPERTY AS SET FORTH IN THE SAME. A copy of Resolution No. 25-26, is on file in the Resolution book and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

Approval of Frick Unit Phase 2 Mainline

Mr. Muhar presented the bid opening results for Frick Unit Phase 2

Mainline and the Memorandum of Recommendation from Provost & Pritchard (P&P) that summarizes the bids and recommends awarding the contract to the apparent low bidder, Superior Ag Construction Inc. (Superior Ag), at \$3,515,822.70. In addition, three add alternate bid items totaling \$838,972.38, which will provide for 4,100 feet of 18 inch to 24-inch pipeline, 3 turnouts and a road crossing. The total recommended Superior Ag contract would be \$4,354,795.08. Also, P&P has provided an Amendment No. 5 to Task Order 23-03 to provide Phase 2 construction management, which adds \$457,000 (total Task Order amount of \$1,232,500).

Staff recommends the Board of Directors approve the Frick Unit Phase 2 Mainline construction contract for Superior Ag. in the amount of \$4,354,795.08 plus an additional amount of \$437,704.92 (10%) for potential change orders and approve a not to exceed Amendment No. 5 to Task Order 23-03 for construction management to P&P in the amount of \$457,500. There was a brief discussion regarding the potential change order amount and the Board stated they would prefer not to include potential change order amounts (10%) and therefore, any change orders would need to be brought back to the Board.

Director Martinez motioned, seconded by Director Johnston, and unanimously carried to approve the Frick Unit Phase 2 Mainline construction and the P&P Task Order Amendment No. 5 in the total amount of up to \$4,812,295.08.

REPORT ITEMS

AGENCY/AUTHORITY/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Friant

Mr. Muhar stated there was only one Friant Water Authority (FWA) meeting, which was the annual Board Offsite in Exeter (attended by Martinez, Spitzer, Muhar, and Blue). Also, other water supply meetings were attended by staff. Mr. Muhar further noted CEO Jason Phillips has announced his resignation effective in January 2026, and the deadline on submitting CEO applications is December 31, 2026 (other details are outlined in the Board packet).

Kern Subbasin

Mr. Muhar and Mr. Yurosek provided a verbal update on the Kern County Subbasin GSP activities, which included documentation from the State Water Resources Control Board to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) regarding the return of the Kern County Subbasin GSP back to the DWR jurisdiction.

Power and Water Resources Pooling Authority

Mr. Nixon provided a verbal update on the Power and Water Resources Pooling Authority activities, which included new officers, 2026 budget with proforma rates and estimated costs for 2025.

STAFF REPORTS

District Operations

Mr. Blue provided an update on in-district demand and on overall District water supplies.

Mr. Blue also provided a presentation on the Golden Mussel infestation within the District, denoting staff response and potential actions. Staff presented chemical treatment options system-wide, as well as coordinating with state and local officials and other water agencies. The Board unanimously directed Staff to act immediately and implement a mussel control plan.

Summary of Grants & On-Going Projects

Mr. Reedy highlighted the ongoing grants and current construction projects report provided in the Board packet.

2026 Landowner Contract Extension

Mr. Hughes provided a verbal update of the ongoing 2026 Landowner Contract extensions.

Correspondence

Mr. Muhar noted the Friant Water Authority and Kern California Special Districts Association Legislative updates.

CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Legal Counsel Hughes then advised the Board it would be appropriate to enter closed session to discuss matters existing litigation and anticipated litigation, namely:

Potential litigation (Three Items);
Arvin-Edison WSD vs. J.R. Simplot, et al (123TCP);
NRDC vs. Conant et al (SJRRP);
The California Natural Resources Agency, et al, v. Wilbur Ross
(Biological Opinions Intervention);
Rosedale-Rio Brave Water Storage District et al. v. Kern County Water
Agency et al, (Cross Valley Canal);
Friant Water Authority and AEWSA et. Al., v. Eastern Tule GSA;
Real Property Negotiations - Purchase (Government Code §54956.8),
and Public Employment (Government §§54957 and 54957.6) Conference with
Labor Negotiator Unrepresented Employees: Office Staff, Watermaster,
and Foreman

based upon advice from Legal Counsel, discussing such matters in open session would cause prejudice to the District; therefore, the Board adjourned into closed session in accordance with Government Code Sections 54957 and 54956.9 at 1:50 p.m.

After returning to open session at 4:07 p.m. there was no reportable action taken.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION §54954.2 (RELATING TO ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE POSTED AGENDA); AND ADJOURNMENT

President Camp asked if there were any further matters that needed to be brought before the Board of Directors and there being none, Director Martinez motioned, seconded by Director Johnston, and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 p.m.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David A. Nixon".

David A. Nixon, Deputy General Manager
/Assistant Secretary-Treasurer