

April 15, 2026

The Stakeholders Committee of the Saucelito Irrigation District GSA met on this day in a regular session. The office is located at 20712 Avenue 120, Porterville, California.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kisling called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

ATTENDANCE

STAKEHOLDERS MEMBERS
Present:

James Jongsma
Joan Whelan

Parker Rous
Lukas Kisling

ZOOM:

Nick Gatti
David Evans

Nader Malakan

STAKEHOLDERS MEMBERS
ABSENT:

Mike George

GSA DIRECTORS PRESENT:
GSA DIRECTORS ABSENT:
OTHERS PRESENT:

Steven Kisling - Chair
Mark Merritt – Vice Chair
Sean P. Geivet, General Manager
Diane M. Ennis, Secretary/Treasurer
Terren L. Brown – Assistant General Manager, GSA
Marisol Zuniga – Administrative Assistant
Elijah Merritt – Merritt Farmers
Doug Jackson – Water and Land Solutions, LLC
Luis - USAWR

GUEST:

INTRODUCTION – The Chair asked everyone to introduce themselves, starting with the Stakeholders committee members, followed by staff & guests.

AGENDA – The Chair reported that the agenda is in order and has been posted as required.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Chair Kisling opened the public comment by asking if anyone from the public wished to comment. With no public input, Chair Kisling stated that if there are no further comments, we will move on to minutes.

MINUTES – Chair Kisling asked whether everyone had read the minutes from the first meeting and invited a motion to approve them.

M/S/U, L Kisling, Rous – to approve the minutes from the stakeholders meeting held on March 24, 2026. With one small correction.

AYE: Kisling, Jongsma, Evans, Whelan, Gatti, Rous, Malakan
NAY: None
ABSENT: George

POLICY ISSUES –

DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF GSP SECTIONS FROM L & S – The Chair noted that printed copies of the L&S materials had been distributed for review. The Manager invited questions and indicated that he was available to provide clarification.

COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Chair Kisling reported that the policy group has been meeting every two weeks and includes at least one representative from each of the thirteen GSAs in the Tule Subbasin. He stated that the primary focus of the group is to work toward getting the Tule Subbasin out of probation. One of the key issues being discussed is the potential consolidation of the Tule Subbasin into a single GSP. Chair Kisling noted that subbasins that have received approval generally have one GSP. He also mentioned, that the State Water Resources Control Board has expressed concern with the Tule Subbasin having thirteen separate GSPs. Discussion continued.

REPORT ON BASINSAFE – Chair Kisling asked GSA staff to provide a progress report on the migration of information from ETGSA to SID GSA. T. Brown reported that the migration had been completed and that growers should review their accounts. An email was sent to growers advising them to review their accounts in both agencies before SID GSA begins using ET data. Chair Kisling then asked whether SID would be generating GSA statements. The Manager stated that Saucelito does not yet have a contract with Land IQ. He added that he would follow up with Land IQ regarding a contract and would like Land IQ to import data directly into SID Basinsafe. Discussion ensued.

RULES & REGULATIONS - Chair Kisling stated that there is a significant amount of new language in the Rules and Regulations. T. Brown noted that, on page 8, the two categories should be switched so they read correctly. The group reviewed the remaining changes and identified additional information that needs to be revised or deleted. David Evans asked whether some of the information from Peter Harman's letter should be addressed, particularly regarding precipitation. A discussion was held regarding a proposed fallowed lands program and recharge basins, including whether properties with fallowed lands should be allowed to capture precipitation. The Manager and Chair agreed that a fallowed lands program is needed to address precipitation.

GEARS REPORTING – The Chair reminded the group that the May 1, 2026, deadline is quickly approaching to file with the state Gears program. The State Board is having a training session this Friday. Discussion ensued.

NEXT MEETING DATE – The next Stakeholder Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 9:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Kisling adjourned the meeting at 10:23 AM.

Diane M. Ennis, Secretary