

February 18, 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 9:03 am.

### **ATTENDANCE**

#### **STAKEHOLDERS MEMBERS**

Present:

David Evans

Nick Gatti

Joan Whelan

James Jongsma

Lukas Kisling

ZOOM:

Margaret Orandi, Nader Malaken, Mike George

#### **STAKEHOLDERS MEMBERS**

ABSENT:

Parker Rous,

GSA DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Steven Kisling - Chair

GSA DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Mark Merritt – Vice Chair

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sean P. Geivet, General Manager

Nick Keller – Engineer

Diane M. Ennis, Secretary/Treasurer

Terren L. Brown – Assistant General Manager, GSA

GUEST:

Doug Jackson -

Adam Mendoza – Full Circle Farming

**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 January 21, 2026 meeting and invited a motion to approve them.

M/S/U, Jongsma, Evans – to approve the minutes from the stakeholders meeting held on January 21, 2026.

AYE: Jongsma, Evans, Whelan, Kisling, Gatti, Orandi, Malaken

NAY: None

ABSENT: Rous, George

## **POLICY ISSUES –**

**DISCUSSION AND REVIEW SECTIONS OF GSP FROM L & S –** The Chair noted that printed copies of the L&S documents had been provided for review, including the Basin Study and Water Budget as part of the GSP.

The Manager stated that surface water entering the District does not stop groundwater from leaving the District to the south and west, and that achieving sustainability will require a basin-wide approach. The District is awaiting the next section of the GSP from L&S to further address groundwater issues.

Discussion followed regarding the Coordination Agreement and the need to address subsidence. Two SID Board members are meeting regularly as part of a coordination committee, and most GSAs have agreed to share the cost of the necessary study. Drinking water well mitigation was also noted.

The Manager reported that meetings with State Water Board staff and Board members are ongoing in an effort to remove SID GSA from probation, and that L&S is working full-time to complete the GSP by the end of March. The Manager also noted that exclusion report requests have not yet been reviewed, and growers may still be responsible for fees by May 1, 2026, if exclusions are not granted.

Further discussion followed, including a request to send Stakeholders the letter from the Law Office of Peter Kiel, PC, regarding Tule Subbasin land subsidence coordination. No action was taken on the L&S reports.

**RULES & REGULATIONS -** Chair Kisling stated nothing to report regarding the Rules and Regulations.

**GSA BUDGET -** Chair Kisling reviewed the proposed GSA Budget, outlining the costs associated with the GSA and raising the question of how those costs would be funded. Management stated that current GSA expenses are being paid from District reserves and that those reserve funds will need to be replaced.

1. GSA extraction fee.
2. 218 elections for the GSA.

The Manager stated a need to work on a GSA budget, possibly a land-based fee, or an extraction fee for next month. Further discussion followed. No action taken.

**LAND FALLOW PROGRAM –** Chair Kisling stated we have received a letter from Peter Harman, Esq. the Manager review with the Stakeholder committee and example of Land Fallow Program could look like. Discussion ensued.

**COORDINATION COMMITTEE -** Chair Kisling is attending the meetings and representing the SID GSA at the Tule Basin meeting.

**NEXT MEETING DATE** – The next Stakeholder Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 9:00 AM.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Chair Kisling adjourned the meeting at 10:53 AM.

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Diane M. Ennis, Secretary