

July 10, 2025

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

## **CALL TO ORDER**

President Kisling called the meeting to order at 9:36 am.

## **ATTENDANCE**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kisling, E. Merritt, Demetriff, & M. Merritt  
DIRECTORS ABSENT: Noble  
OTHERS PRESENT: Sean P. Geivet, Manager  
Diane M. Ennis, Secretary/Treasurer  
Aubrey Mauritsen - Attorney  
Nick Keller – Engineer

## **GUEST:**

Mike George – Sun Pacific  
Andrew Hart – Booth Ranches  
Adam Yoerg - EKI  
John Ocana – Homer  
Parker – Sunview Vineyards  
Adam Mendoza – Full Circle Farming

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

## **MINUTES**

M/S/U, Demetriff, M. Merritt – to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Directors' meeting held on June 12, 2025.

AYE: Kisling, E. Merritt, Demetriff, M. Merritt  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: Noble

## **BILLS AND VOUCHERS**

M/S/U, M. Merritt, Demetriff - to authorize the Treasurer to pay all outstanding bills against the District as presented and an invoice from PNC, which is due by Aug. 1, 2025.

AYE: Kisling, E. Merritt, Demetriff, M. Merritt  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: Noble

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – President Kisling asked if anyone from the public wished to comment. With no public input, President Kisling stated that if there are no further comments, we will move on to the monthly reports.

## MONTHLY REPORTS

**FINANCIAL**—The Board reviewed the District's financial status. Included in the review were the Citizens Business Bank accounts check register from the prior month, Local Agencies Investment Fund reports, Money Market Account Statement, Treasurer's, Collector's, and Secretary's reports, Income and Balance Sheets. Discussion ensued.

M/S/U, Demetriff, M. Merritt - to accept the financial statements and direct that they be placed on file.

AYE: Kisling, E. Merritt, Demetriff, M. Merritt  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: Noble

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**— The Board reviewed truck bids to replace the 2008 Chevy pickup. The Board agreed to wait until next month for any dissection.

**OPERATIONS & WATER** – Nick Keller reported that June's water usage was 5,213 acre-feet—1,213 acre-feet above schedule and 30% higher than in prior years for June. With SGMA now in place, growers should prioritise using surface water before groundwater. While the USBR has requested water schedules for 100% Class 1 and a 95% Class 1 allocation, Keller informed the Board that the District will operate with only Class 1 water for the remainder of the year. Keller provided updates on the USBR pilot payment program and indicated a true-up will be needed at year-end. The board packet contains the Employee Safety Meeting and Monthly Field Staff reports. The Board discussed the rule requiring growers to notify the District by July 15 if they want to keep their prorated water balance and pay by August 1. Discussion ensued. The Board asked that a notification be sent to all growers on the action below.

M/S/U, M. Merritt, Demetriff - Growers may notify the District by August 1 if they wish to retain their prorated allocation for the 2025 water year and make monthly payments for water usage through November 1. If a prorated water balance remains on the account after this period, growers will be required to pay the remaining amount at that time and must use the allocation by the end of February 2026.

AYE: Kisling, E. Merritt, Demetriff, M. Merritt  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: Noble

**STATUS OF AUTHORITIES** – The Manager continued forwarding the AECA newsletter to the Board members; FWA has their budget out for review.

**EASTERN TULE GSA**—The Manager stated the ETGSA is operating as designed and collecting bills. The next scheduled meeting is today at 2:00 p.m.

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FORMATION:** a) Status Report on formation, b) Discussion of GSA Meeting Time and Location, c) Discussion of Bylaws update to

**include GSA specifics, d) Discussion of the formation of stakeholder committee, e) Discussion of Development of Rules and Regulations.**

The Manager reported that Luhdorff & Scalmanini are progressing on the GSP, with the goal of activating the GSA by December and providing a draft GSP by October 1, 2025. The SID well monitoring program will begin its second reading next week. SID must send a letter to the State Water Board by September 1, 2025, requesting exemption status similar to DEID and Kern Tulare WD, following the findings in the Water Budget. The attorney will draft this letter on behalf of Saucelito Irrigation District GSA. The Board received ten stakeholder committee applications and approved all of them, and directed that a welcome letter be sent and that the first meeting take place in late August

**CLOSED SESSION** – The Board adjourned to a closed session at 10:41 am

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

[Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (2), (3)] (one Case)

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL** - EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1))

- a. *Porterville Irrigation District et al. v. Friant Water Authority et al.*, Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU314672.
- b. *Terra Bella Irrigation District et al. v. Friant Water Authority et al.*, Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. 317284
- c. *Terra Bella Irrigation District et al. v. Haaland et al.*, United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:25-CV-00112-EPG

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)

Friant Water Authority v. Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency,  
Tulare County Superior Court Case No. VCU306343.

**CLOSED SESSION ITEMS-** The Board returned from a Closed Session at 11:02 am. President Kisling stated there was no reportable action.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Kisling adjourned the meeting at 11:04 am.

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Diane M. Ennis, Secretary