

June 12, 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 9:31 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
Douglas Jackson – Water & Land Solutions
Adam Yoerg - EKI
Nick Gatti – Homer

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 May 8, 2025.

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

BILLS AND VOUCHERS

M/S/U, M. Merritt, E. Merritt - to authorize the Treasurer to pay all outstanding bills against the District as presented.

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, E. Merritt Demetriff - 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— No report was given.

OPERATIONS & WATER – Nick Keller reported May's water usage was 2954 acre-feet. He reviewed the water schedule with the Board. The USBR released the third block of URF water that would increase the district's allocation by 281 acre-feet. Keller recommended that the board increase its water allocation to the grower to 1.35 acre-feet per acre from the current 1.15 allocation, and the cost should remain the same, due to the increased cost associated with the FWA OM&R budget increase. The board packet includes the Employee Safety Meeting report and the Monthly Field Staff Report for review.

M/S/U, M. Merritt Demetriff - to accept Keller's recommendation and increase the water allocation from 1.15 to 1.35 with the price remaining the same at \$120.00.

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; Jason Philips of FWA hasn't been putting out a report.

EASTERN TULE GSA—The Manager stated they are operating and will continue to serve Tulare County's white area growers through 2026.

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 announced that the District is now its own GSA. The GSA Board of Directors will meet on the same day as the district's regular board meeting, with the exact time to be determined.

The Manager reported that the attorney is working on the By-Laws and committee formation. The Manager asked if any stakeholders had returned their application. Three persons have returned their applications as of the board meeting, the due date for returning the application is June 30, 2025. The draft GSA Rules and Regulations, including the SID Well Monitoring Program, are under review by the attorney. Discussion ensued.

CLOSED SESSION – The Board adjourned to a closed session at 9:59 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 10:41 am. President Kisling stated there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

President Kisling adjourned the meeting at 10:42 am.

Diane M. Ennis, Secretary