

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SERRANO WATER DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Serrano Water District met in a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2026. The meeting was held at the District Office located at 18021 Lincoln Street, Villa Park, California.

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-President Pitts called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Mills	President (<i>via zoom platform</i>)
Robbie Pitts	Vice-President
Brad Reese	Board Member
Frank Bryant	Board Member
Jerry Haight	Board Member

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

Jerry Vilander	General Manager
Jennifer Westrum	Administrative Assistant
Jeremy Jungreis	Legal Counsel
Scott Nelsen, CGFM	Starting Line Advisory (<i>via zoom platform</i>)

GUESTS PRESENT:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSIDERATION OF BOARD MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Serrano Water District Board meeting held on February 24, 2026. Director Haight made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Director Mills seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously carried, with Directors Bryant, Pitts, Reese, Mills, and Haight voting in favor.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Vilander announced that the new General Manager, Andrew D. Wiesner, P.E. will start at the District next Tuesday, March 31st. He also stated that Well No. 5 has been running great. The pre-filters have not been changed out since the installation of the new sand separator. Well No. 5 is currently producing approximately 2,200 gallons per minute.

Mr. Vilander also reported a recent water leak on Eastwood Circle. The leak was located within an easement where pipelines from two cul-de-sacs are connected. Isolation of the leak has been done and staff is evaluating options to either slip-line or abandon the line.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Scott Nelsen of Starting Line Advisory presented the financial reports for February, noting that the target for this point in the fiscal year is 66% of the budget since we are 2/3 of the way through the year. Line item 5 under operating revenue is trending high due to the annual PFAS operating reimbursement coming in higher than originally budgeted. The groundwater replenishment costs are trending high due to increased water sales to the City of Orange.

A motion to approve the monthly disbursements totaling \$615,144.22 was made by Director Mills, seconded by Director Haight, and was unanimously approved, with Directors Bryant, Pitts, Reese, Mills and Haight all voting yes.

WATER REPORT

General Manager Vilander presented the water report for the month of February. He reported that Serrano Water District has approximately 187 acre-feet of water remaining in Irvine Lake. He noted that Well No. 5 is operating efficiently after the installation of the new Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) and sand separator. The Board received and filed the report.

2026/27 CAPITAL MAINLINE REPLACEMENT DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT SERVICES

General Manager Vilander explained that this item represents the engineering services required to initiate the design of the District's mainline replacement project. He noted that this work must be completed as a first step prior to undertaking any mainline replacements.

Director Haight moved to authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Civiltec Engineering, Inc. for design and construction support services for the 2026/27 mainline replacement project, for the not to exceed amount of \$199,860, with an additional contingency of \$20,000. The motion was seconded by Director Bryant, and was unanimously approved, with Directors Reese, Pitts, Mills, Haight, and Bryant all voting in favor.

2026/27 SALARY COLA AND MERIT ADJUSTMENTS

General Manager Vilander reviewed the Serrano Water District personnel memorandum with the Board of Directors, recommending a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) increase of 2.9%, consistent with the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), as well as a merit pool totaling \$19,816.38 to be awarded to staff during annual performance reviews. Following discussion, Director Pitts made a motion to approve the recommended salary adjustments, which was seconded by Director Haight and unanimously approved, with Directors Reese, Bryant, Mills, Pitts, and Haight all voting in favor.

RATE STUDY UPDATE

General Manager Vilander stated that the Proposition 218 notice is currently at the printer and is scheduled to be mailed out to all ratepayers on Friday, March 27, 2026.

OC LAFCO- REGULAR AND ALTERNATE SPECIAL DISTRICT MEMBER SEAT NOMINATIONS

Director Reese moved to authorize Board President Greg Mills to vote on behalf of the Serrano Water District Board of Directors on all matters related to Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO), and to designate Robbie Pitts as the alternate voting member. The motion was seconded by Director Bryant and carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

None

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Jeremy Jungreis announced that John Kennedy of the Orange County Water District (OCWD) is currently in Washington D.C. advocating for liability relief from PFAS. He explained that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under the Biden Administration, designated two PFAS chemicals-PFOA and PFOS-as hazardous substances under the Superfund law. As a result, special districts may be subject to liability as passive receivers, despite not having caused the contamination. Congress is currently considering potential legislation to shield water agencies from liability if they complied with applicable laws.

Attorney Jungreis also noted that Serrano Water District may wish to submit a letter of support for the proposed wildfire protection legislation, commonly referred to as the Community Protection and Wildfire Resilience Act. He explained that the legislation is intended to assist communities in preparing for and reducing wildfire risk prior to disasters. The Board concurred that this effort should be coordinated jointly with other water agencies. Attorney Jungreis will follow up on this matter.

The Board announced that it would enter a closed session at 9:40 a.m.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1): *Vittorio Roggero v. Serrano Water District*, Case No. 30-2025-01469424-CU-WT-CJC.

B. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT/EMPLOYMENT (General Manager)

Government Code § 54957(b)(1).

The Board resumed open session at 9:48 a.m. with no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was formally adjourned at 9:49 a.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on April 28, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

Jennifer Westrum
Administrative Assistant