

Regular Meeting  
February 18, 2025  
6:00 pm

Meiners Oaks Water District  
202 W. El Roblar Drive  
Ojai, CA 93023-2211

## Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

### 1. Call to Order

The Board President, Mike Etchart, called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. The meeting was also available via teleconference.

### 2. Roll Call

**Present:** Board President, Mike Etchart, Board Directors: James Kentosh, Joe Pangea, and Christy Cooper. Staff Present: General Manager, Justin Martinez, and Administrative Assistant, Leslie McCleary. Attorney Present: Stuart Nielson.

**Absent:** Director Christian Oakland

### 3. Approval of the Minutes

**Approval of the January 21, 2025, Regular Board Meeting minutes.**

Director Cooper made the motion to approve the January 21, 2025 meeting minutes. Director Pangea seconded the motion.

No Public Comment.

Cooper/Pangea

(3) Ayes – M/S/C

(1) Abstain - Kentosh

(1) Absent - Oakland

### 4. Public Comments

None.

**\*\*The Board went into closed session at 6:05 pm.\*\***

### 5. Closed Session: The Board of Directors held a closed session to discuss litigation, pursuant to the attorney/client privilege, as authorized by Government Code Sections §54957 & 54956.8, 54956.9, and 54957.

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION  
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Gov. Code § 54956.9)

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Name of case: *Santa Barbara Channelkeeper v. State Water Resources Control Board, et al.*,  
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 19STCP01176

**\*\*The Board ended closed session at 6:41 pm.\*\***

Attorney Nielson reported that the Board discussed pending litigation, and there are no actions to report.

**6. Financial Matters**

**a) Approval of Payroll and Payables from January 16, 2025, to February 15, 2025, in the amount of:**

Payables:	\$ 98,446.98
Payroll:	<u>\$ 49,412.18</u>
Total:	\$ 147,859.16

Director Pangea made the motion to approve the Payroll and Payables from January 16, 2025, to February 15, 2025. Director Kentosh seconded the motion.

Director Cooper stated she would like to see the Annual Budget column divided by 12 with a Variance column added.

No Public Comment.

Pangea/Kentosh

(4) Ayes – M/S/C  
(1) Absent- Oakland

**7. Board Discussion/Actions**

**a) Proposal to Amend the Sick Leave Policy**

Mr. Martinez proposed an amendment to District Sick Leave Policy allowing District employees to transfer accrued sick time to another employee in the event of an emergency or hospitalization.

Director Cooper suggested the proposal be reviewed by the District's Labor Attorneys before proceeding.

No Public Comment.

No Motion

8. **General Manager's Report**

Mr. Martinez reported that the Casitas Lake level is at 95.8%. The MOWD Wells 1 & 2 are being prepared to be put back in service. All parts to replace meters have arrived; staff will be working to bring the Treatment Plant back online in the coming weeks.

No Public Comment.

9. **Board Secretary's Report**

No report.

10. **Board Committee Reports**

- Executive & Personnel Committee: No report.
- UVRGA: No report.
- Budget/Rate Committee: No report.
- Emergency Management Committee: No report.
- Allocations, New Meters & Expansion of Services Committee: No report.
- Grants: Director Cooper shared that numbers have been submitted to the state for review regarding the replacement treatment plant grant. The state is actively reviewing and requesting additional details.
- Treatment Plant Design Ad Hoc Committee: No report.

11. **Old Business**

- State Water: No report.
- Matilija Dam Removal Update: No report.

12. **Director Announcements/Reports**

- Director Kentosh: No report
- Director Oakland: No report
- Director Pangea: No report
- Director Cooper: No report
- Director Etchart: No report

13. **Meeting Adjournment**

The next meeting will be held on March 18, 2025, at 6:00 pm. Since there was no further business to conduct, Board President Mike Etchart adjourned the meeting at 7:03 pm.

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**Board Secretary**

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**Board President**