

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, OCTOBER 13, 2025:**

*A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Monday, October 13, 2025, at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, California, in the Board Room of the District Office. President, Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.*

**1) Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence.**

At the request of President Mac Laren-Gomez, Director Kellerman led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

**2) Roll Call.**

**Attendance:**

Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, President  
Scott Kellerman, Vice President  
Don Wilson, Treasurer  
Cynthia Sanchez, Secretary  
Debbie Dino, Assistant Secretary

**Others Present:**

Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager  
Scott Rogers, Assistant General Manager  
Paul Early, General Counsel  
Viri Iguaran, Finance Manager  
Joe Marcinko, Operations Manager  
Angelica Garcia, Human Resources Director  
Judy Shay, Public Affairs Director  
Danielle Henry, Executive Assistant  
3 members of the public

**3) Adoption of Agenda.**

It was moved by Director Kellerman, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to adopt the agenda, as written.

**4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.**

There were no public comments for non-agenda items.

**5) Presentations:**

**5.1) Legislative Updates. (Public Affairs Director Shay/Representatives for Antelope Valley State Legislators).**

Public Affairs Director Shay introduced Mr. Jack Danielson, Representative for Senator Valladares, after which Mr. Danielson provided a brief status update on SB 571 regarding felony penalties for impersonating first responders, on SB 402 regarding definition and code changes for behavioral health treatment, on SB 508 regarding telehealth with out-of-state physicians, on SB 376 regarding incomplete gift nongrantor trusts, and on SB 23 regarding property tax exemptions for disabled veteran homeowners and stated that Senator Valladares has prioritized connecting with local agencies and community members before the new legislative cycle.

Public Affairs Director Shay then introduced Ms. Angela Allen, Representative for Assemblymember Lackey, after which Ms. Allen provided a brief status update on AB 495 regarding caregiving arrangements for children by trusted adults which was strongly opposed by Assemblymember Lackey, on AB 825 regarding low-cost financing for public entities for new electric transmission infrastructure to support California's clean energy goals, on SB 274 regarding automated license plate recognition, on AB 287 regarding accessible space for polling places and voting centers, on AB 486 regarding the definition for burglary tools, on AB 525 regarding exemption of agricultural vehicles from Basic Inspection of Terminals (BIT), on AB 653 regarding mandated child abuse reporting, on AB 779 regarding domestic violence integration in child welfare, and on AB 1210 regarding post-release community supervision of felons followed by a brief discussion of the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds Resilience Center.

President Mac Laren-Gomez expressed her appreciation for the Representatives and their presence in the community.

**6) Action Items - Consent Calendar: (The Public Shall Have an Opportunity to Comment on Any Action Item on the Consent Calendar as the Consent Calendar is Considered Collectively by the Board of Directors Prior to Action Being Taken.)**

**6.1) Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held September 22, 2025.**

**6.2) Approval of Minutes of Strategic Plan Special Meeting Workshop held September 29, 2025.**

**6.3) Payment of Bills for October 13, 2025.**

**6.4) Approval to Update Authorized Signers for Citizens Business Bank. (No Budget Impact – Finance Manager Iguaran)**

**6.5) Approval to Ratify the General Manager's Execution of the First Amendment to Communications Site Lease Agreement with Vertical Bridge for the Cell Tower Located at 805 East Avenue S. (No Budget Impact – Finance Manager Iguaran)**

President Mac Laren-Gomez announced the items included in the Consent Calendar after which it was moved by Director Kellerman, seconded by Director Sanchez, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve those items included in the Consent Calendar.

**7) Action Items - Action Calendar (The Public Shall Have an Opportunity to Comment on Any Action Item as Each Item is Considered by the Board of Directors Prior to Action Being Taken.)**

**7.1) Consideration and Possible Action on Approval of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy. (No Budget Impact – Human Resources Director Garcia/Personnel Committee)**

Human Resources Director Garcia provided an overview of the proposed Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy to provide guidance for staff and contracted workers on how to ethically and properly utilize AI, and after a brief discussion of the identification of AI use in the workplace and of staff training, it was moved by Director Kellerman, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve this Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy.

**7.2) Consideration and Possible Action to Approve Littlerock Reservoir Recreation Area Response to Angeles National Forest, San Gabriel Mountains National Monument District. (No Budget Impact – General Manager LaMoreaux)**

General Manager LaMoreaux provided an overview of the past Littlerock Reservoir recreational activities and its subsequent by the United States Forest Service, the District's assistance with security and Hazardous Material Survey of the former concessionaire's compound, the Request for Expressed Interest (RFEI) in the Operation and Maintenance of the Littlerock Reservoir Recreation Area issued by the Angeles National Forest, and staff's collaboration efforts with the City of Palmdale, and after a brief discussion of current and historical documentation and records, of facilities constructed by the District, of the scope of recreational responsibilities, and of the support letters received for the District's Response, it was moved by Director Wilson, seconded by Director Dino, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of

Directors present at the meeting to approve the Littlerock Reservoir Recreation Area Response to Angeles National Forest, San Gabriel Mountains National Monument District.

**7.3) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorizing the General Manager to Enter Into a Professional Services Agreement with LSL Consultants for Accounting and Consulting Services. (\$20,000.00 – Not-to-Exceed – Non-Budgeted – Finance Manager Iguaran)**

Finance Manager Iguaran provided an overview of the proposed Agreement with LSL Consultants, including their professional background and the scope of work, and after a brief discussion of their specified remote access, it was moved by Director Dino, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to approve authorization of the General Manager to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with LSL Consultants for Accounting and Consulting Services in the not-to-exceed amount of \$20,000.00.

**7.4) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorizing Staff to Award a Contract to Kiley & Associates for Professional Services for Federal and State Advocacy and Engagement. (\$33,000.00 – Non-Budgeted – Assistant General Manager Rogers)**

Assistant General Manager Rogers provided an overview of the proposed one-year contract for federal and state advocacy services, including grant assistance, and after a brief discussion of future term extensions, it was moved by Director Sanchez, seconded by Director Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting to authorize staff to award a Contract to Kiley & Associates for Professional Services for Federal and State Advocacy and Engagement in the amount of \$33,000.00.

**7.5) Consideration and Possible Action on Award of Contract to Calgon Carbon Corporation for Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) Services. (Budgeted – Operations Manager Marcinko)**

Operations Manager Marcinko provided an overview of the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) use at the Leslie O. Carter Water Treatment Plant and the Request for Proposals and bids received to continue these services, and after a brief discussion of past services provided by Calgon Carbon Corporation, it was moved by Director Wilson, seconded by Director Kellerman, and unanimously carried by all members of

the Board of Directors present at the meeting to award a Contract to Calgon Carbon Corporation for Granular Activated Carbon Services.

**7.6) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorization of the Following Conferences, Seminars, and Training Sessions for Board and Staff Attendance within Budget Amounts Previously Approved in the 2025 Budget:**

**a) None at This Time.**

There were no conferences, seminars, or training sessions to consider.

**8) Information Items:**

**8.1) Reports of Directors:**

**a) Standing Committees; Organization Appointments; Agency Liaisons:**

**1) Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency (AVEK) Meeting – September 23. (Director Dino, Board Liaison/President Mac Laren-Gomez, Alt.)**

Director Dino reported that on September 23, she attended the AVEK Board Meeting where they discussed a possible public election regarding AVEK's continued support of the Delta Conveyance Project and the rehabilitation of the Acton Water Treatment Plant.

**2) Personnel Committee Meeting – September 30. (Director Kellerman, Chair/President Mac Laren-Gomez/Director Dino, Alt.)**

Director Kellerman reported that on September 30, he attended the Personnel Committee Meeting where they discussed an update to the Compensation Scale, the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy approved this evening, changes to the 2026 benefit plans, and upcoming employee events including the District's Holiday Party on December 6.

**3) Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Meeting – October 4. (Director Wilson/Director Kellerman, Alt.)**

Director Wilson reported that on October 4, he attended the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Meeting where they held a moment of silence for former Director Vincent

Dino and discussed the Golden Mussels found in Palmdale Lake, the Club's financials reports, the number of memberships, and the fish count.

**4) Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association (AVSWCA) Meeting – October 9. (President Mac Laren-Gomez/Director Wilson/Director Kellerman, Alt.)**

Director Wilson reported that on October 9, he attended the AVSWCA Meeting where a presentation on Golden Mussels was provided by State Water Contractors Infrastructure Manager Manny Bahia, and after a brief overview of this presentation and photo of the invasive mussels, Director Kellerman stated that the Negative Declaration and Notice of Determination were approved for submittal for the Littlerock Recharge Project.

**8.2) General Meeting Reports of Directors.**

Director Kellerman reported that on September 22, he attended the Palmdale Water District (PWD) Regular Board Meeting; that on September 25, he attended the Coffee with Director Sanchez event; that on September 29, he attended the Strategic Plan Special Meeting Workshop; that on September 30, he attended the Personnel Committee Meeting; that on October 6, he completed his KnowBe4 Cyber Security Training; that on October 7, he attended a Littlerock Reservoir Ad Hoc Committee Meeting; that on October 9, he attended a Board Briefing; that on October 9, he also attended the AVSWCA Meeting; that on October 13, he attended a Littlerock Reservoir Ad Hoc Committee Meeting; and that on October 13, he is also attending the PWD Regular Board Meeting.

Director Wilson reported that on September 29, he attended the Strategic Plan Special Meeting Workshop; that on October 4, he attended the Palmdale Fin & Feather Club Meeting; that on October 9, he attended a Board Briefing; that on October 9, he also attended the AVSWCA Meeting; and that on October 13, he is attending the PWD Regular Board Meeting.

Director Sanchez reported that on September 25, she attended her Coffee with Director event; that on September 25, she also attended the All-Hands Employee Luncheon and Meeting; that on September 29, she attended the Strategic Plan Special Meeting Workshop, and that on October 9, she attended a Board Briefing.

Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that on September 23, she attended the AVEK Board Meeting; that on September 24, she attended the Watermaster Meeting; that on September 25, she attended the Coffee with Director Sanchez event; that on September 29, she attended the Strategic Plan Special Meeting Workshop, that on September 30, she attended the Personnel Committee Meeting; that on October 1, she attended an Agenda Review Briefing; that on October 7, she attended a Littlerock Reservoir Ad Hoc Committee Meeting; that on October 9, she attended a Board Briefing; and that on October 13, she attended a Littlerock Reservoir Ad Hoc Committee Meeting.

Director Dino reported that on September 15, she attended a Strategic Plan Scoping Interview; that on September 16, she attended the Finance Committee Meeting; that on September 22, she attended the PWD Regular Board Meeting; that on September 23, she attended the AVEK Board Meeting; that on September 25, she attended the Coffee with Director Sanchez event; that on September 25, she also attended the All-Hands Employee Luncheon and Meeting; that on September 29, she attended the Strategic Plan Special Meeting Workshop; that on September 30, she attended the Personnel Committee Meeting; that on October 7, she completed Ethics AB 1234 Training; that on October 8, she attended a PWD Facilities Tour and learned a lot about the District's operations; that on October 9, she attended a Board Briefing; and that on October 13, she is attending the PWD Regular Board Meeting.

**8.2) Report of General Manager.**

**a) Department Activity Updates:**

**1) Human Resources Department. (Human Resources Director Garcia)**

Human Resources Director Garcia provided a detailed update on the Human Resources Department's current and projected activities including leadership training for Supervisors and Managers, Cal Rural training for Water Distribution and Treatment review, completion of the Risk and Resilience Assessment, the salary survey and job description update, the Employee Handbook update, the HR platform transition to Paylocity, the Employee Engagement Survey results regarding employee satisfaction with the process and the 2027 survey utilizing internal benchmarks, Water Professionals Week activities from October 6 - 9 including staff attendance at the AV ALTA Soccer Game on October 17, Open Enrollment from October 13 - 30 including a Benefit Fair on October 22, emergency evacuation training in alignment with the Great Shakeout on

October 16 at 10:16 a.m., a new hire facilities tour schedule in November, the District's Holiday Party on December 6, and stated that this year's employee pumpkin decorating contest entries will be displayed in the Customer Care lobby and judged by the District's customers followed by a brief discussion of staff meal options for the AV ALTA event.

General Manager LaMoreaux reported that State Water Contractors Infrastructure Manager Manny Bahia provided a remote presentation last week regarding the Golden Mussels with several staff members in attendance; that the Compensation Scale Structure will be presented at the next Regular Board Meeting with updated figures from those originally provided to the Personnel Committee; that the Antelope Valley Chambers Christmas Parade will be held on December 6, the same day as the District's Holiday Party, and that staff has initiated discussions regarding the float design; and that the Public Affairs Department received an Award of Excellence for *The Pipeline* bilingual newsletter at the 61st Annual Public Relations Society of America – Los Angeles (PRSA-LA) PRism Awards.

**8.3) Report of General Counsel.**

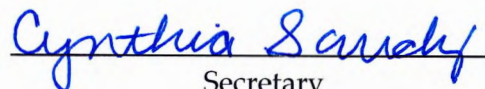
General Counsel Early stated that three bills previously reported on have been approved and chaptered by the Governor, including emergency regulations of the State Water Resources Control Board processes, the ordinance of penalties for fire hydrant tampering, and the Department of Water Resources revisions to the California Water Plan, and further stated that the proposed Assembly Bill regarding a PFAS Mitigation Fund was vetoed by the Governor and that the District's current population does not meet the threshold for any applicable Brown Act changes included in SB 707.

**9) Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.**

There were no requests for future agenda items.

**10) Adjournment.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

  
Secretary