THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT WAS HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE
6767 EAST MAIN STREET, STOCKTON, CA
ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2026, AT 12:30 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

President McGurk called the regular meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Assistant Manager Vega led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call at the District were Directors Atkins, Hansen, McGurk, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti and Watkins. Also present were Manager Hopkins, Assistant Manager Vega, Director of Finance & Administration Ram, Accounting Supervisor Rangel, District Engineer Evensen, Water Supply Manager Donis, Operations Manager Brothers, Administrative Assistant Rodriguez and Legal Counsel Zolezzi.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT (NONE)

C. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes 11/03/26 Regular Board Meeting

2. Warrants
   a. Fund 68 – Groundwater Production Fund
   b. Fund 70 – Administration Fund
   c. Fund 71 – Water Supply Fund
   d. Fund 89 – Fish Screen Improvement Fund
   e. Fund 91 – Vehicle Fund
   f. Fund 94 – Municipal & Industrial Fund
   g. Payroll
   h. Summary
   i. Short Name/Acronym List
   j. SEWD Vehicles & Heavy Equipment

3. Warrants – California's Public Employees' Retirement System

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the Consent Calendar, as presented.
Roll Call:
Ayes: Atkins, Hansen, McGurk, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nayes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEM

1. JWT and Associates, LLP – Certified Public Accountant – Approval of Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year 2025/2026
   Director of Finance & Administration presented the Board with the Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2025/2026. Rick Jackson from JWT and Associates, LLP reviewed the audit and staff provided responses to questions.

   Director Sanguinetti noted he would like the presenter to be present when reporting out on the audit.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year 2025/2026, as presented.
Roll Call:
Ayes: Atkins, Hansen, McGurk, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nayes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

2. Stockton Area Water Suppliers (SAWS) Education Program Annual Report – 2025/2026 School Year (Presentation by Water Conservation Coordinator Kristin Coon)
Water Conservation Coordinator Coon presented the SAWS Education Program Annual Report for the 2025/2026 School Year to the Board. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon provided a handout of the Annual Report and gave an overview, Report Summary, Full Report, Feedback and Report Stats. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported the SAWS Education program reached 20,720 participants through in-class presentations, Earth Day, AgVenture and other events.

Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported on the NGSS Standards she presents for each grade level, Grade 1 "Water Cycle Story", Grade 2 "H2O to Go", Grades 3,4,5,6 use "Water Matters" and "Water Cycle: The Incredible Journey" and Grade 6 "California Water".

Director Nakaue inquired how long the program is. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon replied kindergarten is 60 minutes, first grade is 70 minutes, and second grade and up is 90 minutes.

3. Stockton East Water District – Staff Report – Consideration to Authorize The General Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Silsby Strategic Advisors, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed $25,000
Manager Hopkins presented the Board with a staff report to Consider Authorization The General Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Silsby Strategic Advisors, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed $25,000. Manager Hopkins reviewed the staff report and staff provided responses to questions.

Director Atkins inquired whether other companies offer similar services. Manager Hopkins replied Silsby was identified as the best fit for the District's needs.

Director Nakaue inquired what types of projects you believe would benefit from public-private partnerships. Manager Hopkins replied developing mutually beneficial projects that address the District's needs.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize the General Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Silsby Strategic Advisors, Inc. in an amount not to exceed $25,000 for the scope of services describe above, as presented.
Roll Call:
Ayes: Atkins, Hansen, McGurk, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nayes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

4. Stockton East Water District – Staff Report – Consider Authorizing the General Manager to Approve an Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement to Allow Reimbursement of Incidental

Expenses Under Professional Service Agreement No. AGR 1143 with The Gualco Group, Inc. for Legislative Lobbying Services

Manager Hopkins provided the Board with a presentation to Consider Authorizing the General Manager to Approve an Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement to Allow Reimbursement of Incidental Expenses Under Professional Service Agreement No. AGR 1143 with The Gualco Group, Inc. for Legislative Lobbying Services. Manager Hopkins reviewed the staff report and staff provided responses to questions.

Director Sanguinetti inquired how much is their extra expense running annually. Manager Hopkins replied this is the first year this has come up.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize the General Manager to approve reimbursement, within the existing Agreement No. AGR 1143 with The Gualco Group, Inc. of $78,000 plus 10% for actual, unmarked-up incidental expenses officials or their deputies to the extent allowed by law, and other miscellaneous expenses incurred in the course of regular business performed on the Districts behalf, for a total not-to-exceed amount of $85,800, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Hansen, McGurk, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nayes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

5. Stockton East Water District – Staff Report – Consider Approving Resolution No. 26-27-12 – State Water Resources Control Board Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Installment Sale Agreement for the Bellota Weir Modification Project and Ratifying It's Execution by the General Manager

Manager Hopkins presented the Board with Resolution No. 26-27-12 State Water Resources Control Board Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Installment Sale Agreement for the Bellota Weir Modification Project and Ratifying It's Execution by the General Manager. Assistant Manager Vega reviewed the staff report and staff provided responses to questions.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize Resolution No. 26-27-12 - State Water Resources Control Board Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Installment Sale Agreement for the Bellota Weir Modification Project and Ratifying It's Execution by the General Manager, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Hansen, McGurk, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nayes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

6. Stockton East Water District – Staff Report – Consideration of Board Support for Congressman Jim Costa's Candidacy to Chair the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture in the 120th Congress

Manager Hopkins presented the Board with a staff report to Consider Board Support for Congressman Jim Costa's Candidacy to Chair the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture in the 120th Congress. Manager Hopkins reviewed the staff report and staff provided responses to questions.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve letter of support for Congressman Jim Costa to chair the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture in the 120th Congress, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Hansen, McGurk, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nayes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition Steering Committee Meeting, 11/09/26
   Director Atkins attended the San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition Steering Committee Meeting. Director Atkins reported a committee report was provided regarding the South San Joaquin Water Pollution-Related Coalition, highlighting financial concerns, membership participation, and issues related to the payment of management fees. The Surface Water Monitoring Report included updates on recent and upcoming sampling dates, multiple pesticide exceedances, and water column toxicity findings. No corrective actions were finalized during the meeting. Additionally, two new nitrate exceedances were reported in private drinking water wells, both measuring 11 milligrams per liter, exceeding the 10-milligram-per-liter limit. The report emphasized the importance of testing, notifying affected well owners, and providing bottled water when required.

F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

1. Water Supply Report as of 11/03/26
   Manager Hopkins provided a handout of the Water Supply Report for information only that included storage, release, and production data collected from various sources as of midnight November 3rd.

2. Information Items: F-2a and F-2b

3. Report on General Manager Activities
   a. Stockton East Water District's Activities Update
      Manager Hopkins reported he attended the California Water Plan Meeting. Manager Hopkins reported the District was identified as having a significant role in advancing the objectives of the California Water Plan, as it is already actively involved in approximately eight or nine of the eleven strategies outlined in the plan. These strategies are intended to support California's statewide goal of developing nine million acre-feet of additional water supply.

      Manager Hopkins reported he attended the Denmark Water Delegation. Manager Hopkins reported Denmark relies entirely on groundwater for its water supply, as required by law, and does not utilize surface water sources. Additionally, its drinking water system does not rely on chlorination, which was noted as a reflection of the country's favorable aquifer conditions, groundwater quality, and consistent rainfall. The tour provided valuable insight into Denmark's approach to water resource management and highlighted several examples of successful public-private partnerships and collaborative projects between utilities.

      Manager Hopkins presented the equipment use for the week of November 9th.

4. Stockton East Water District Operations, Water Supply & Finance/ Administration Update
   Operations Manager Brothers provided the Board with
   Water Operations Manager Brothers presented the Board with a WTP Update. Water Operations Manager Brothers reported, for the month of October, the WTP collected 97 samples and there were 0 samples that tested positive for Coliform and E.coli. The rain totals for the past 30 days were 1.76" inches and the surface water production for the WTP was 4,188 AF and City of Stockton WTP was 1,390 AF. The groundwater production for Stockton East Water District was 484 AF, California

Water Services was 256 AF and City of Stockton was 2 AF. Lastly, the TTHM average was 32 ppb and free chlorine average was 1.07 ppm.

Water Supply Manager Donis provided the Board with a Water Supply update. Water Supply Manager Donis reported that New Melones combined total was 35,000 AF, SEWD total year-to-date 33,025 AF with the remaining total of 1,975 AF. New Hogan Lake from April 2026 to date is 69,737 AF, 9,295 AF less than 2025. Water Supply Manager Donis also reported that the 13 groundwater monitoring wells have declined by an average of 12.95 feet.

Director of Finance & Administration Ram provided the Board with a Finance update. Director Ram reported that the California Class yield for October 2026 was 3.909%, an increase from 3.818% in September. The Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) reports its investment rates on a quarterly basis. Director Ram also reported that the District's FY 2025-2026 Annual Audited Financial Statements have been approved by the Board. The draft FY 2027-2028 Budget will be presented to the committees on Wednesday. Lastly, Finance and Engineering will be working collaboratively to ensure accurate financial reporting and tracking.

5. The Gualco Group Monthly Update
   Kendra Daijogo with The Gualco Group presented the Board with a monthly update. Ms. Daijogo reported the California State Delegation are Senator McNerney, Assembly Member Ransom and Assembly Member Flora and the Federal Delegation are Senators Padilla and Schiff and U.S Representatives Gray, Harder, Matsui and McClintock. Ms. Daijogo reported the Lame-duck session began November 9th. Ms. Daijogo reported on the 2026 tentative legislative calendar and December 7, 2026, the convening of the 2027-28 Regular Session. Lastly, Ms. Daijogo reported on the ACWA Legislative Proposals 1-6.

G. DIRECTOR REPORTS

1. ACWA Region 2 & 4 Event, 11/04/26
   Director Watkins attended the ACWA Region 2&4 Event. Director Watkins reported the event took place at the community center in Winters, CA. The event was well attended and provided an opportunity to highlight Putah Creek, Salmon Days, the diversion dam, the fish weir, and various related community activities. Director Watkins also reported the event focused on community engagement, environmental awareness, and the importance of local water resources and fisheries. Discussion also touched on the Voluntary Agreement; however, some uncertainty remained regarding the details and direction of the ongoing discussions.

2. Special Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board Meeting, 11/17/26
   Director Panizza and Manager Hopkins attended the Special Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board Meeting. Director Panizza reported the Board discussed the involvement of Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) and the implementation of the proposed program, which was approved as part of a state-funded initiative. The discussion also touched on broader coordination efforts related to water accounting and strategies to reduce water use. These efforts are still in the preliminary stages, with additional details and implementation considerations yet to be developed.

H. COMMUNICATIONS

1. ACWA JPIA – Graduation of the JPIA Leadership Essentials for the Water Industry Program, 11/04/26
   Manager Hopkins provided the Board with an ACWA JPIA Graduation of the JPIA Leadership Essentials for the Water Industry Program Letter.

I. AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Special Administration Committee Meeting, 8:00 a.m., 11/18/26

2. Agricultural Operations Committee Meeting, 10:00 a.m., 11/18/26

3. Municipal Operations Committee Meeting, 12:30 p.m., 11/18/26

4. San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Advisory Water Commission Meeting, 1:00 P.M., 11/18/26
   This meeting has been cancelled

5. ACWA Fall Conference, 12/01/26 – 12/03/26

6. Eastern Water Alliance Meeting, 10:00 a.m., 12/03/26

7. Assemblymember Rhodesia Ransom – Alumni & Friends Holiday Mixer, 5:30 p.m., 12/04/26

8. Washington D.C. Trip, 12/07/26 – 12/11/26

9. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board Meeting, 10:30 a.m., 12/09/26

10. San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation Monthly Water Committee Meeting, 4:30 p.m., 12/09/26
    This meeting has been cancelled

J. REPORT OF THE COUNSEL

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Potential exposure to litigation – Government Code Section 54956.9 – three cases

President McGurk adjourned the meeting to closed session at 2:14 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 2:36 p.m., with one reportable action.

A motion was moved and seconded during Closed Session, and the Board authorized to initiate litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1. The specific action, defendants, and related details will be disclosed to the public upon inquiry once the litigation has been formally commenced, consistent with the requirements of the Brown Act, as presented.

Roll Call:
Ayes: Atkins, Hansen, McGurk, Nakaue, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nayes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

K. ADJOURNMENT

President McGurk adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin M. Hopkins
General Manager

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Board Meeting – 11/17/26
~~Draft~~Approved