

**WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT JPA
Regular Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 5:00 pm**

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 5:05 pm in the City Council Chambers of the City-County Building with 1st Chair Barry Malm presiding.

CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll Call of Members Agencies:

B&B Water District	1 st Chair, Barry Malm	Present
City of Dos Palos	Armando Bravo	Present
Eastside Water Association	Vacant	- Not present -
Midway Community Service District	Dora Campos	Present
North Dos Palos Water District	Allen Clark	Present
South Dos Palos Water District	Rebecca Pimentel	Present
	(Filling in for Laverne Davis)	

Others Present: Richard Martorello (Water Quality JPA Bookkeeper), Garth Pecchenino (JPA Engineer), and Members of the Public.

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

No additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. Organization of Board Officers:

The Board briefly discussed the organization of officers and reminded the Board of the requirement of two positions identified as First Chair and Second Chair. After further discussion, the Board agreed the current First Chair of Barry Malm would remain unchanged. The Second Chair, after additional discussion, was offered to Board Member Bravo who, in turn, accepted the nomination of the position. A motion to accept the nomination of Board Member Bravo as the Second Chair was made by Director Campos seconded by Director Clark. The Board unanimously approved the motion with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Bravo, Campos, Clark, Malm, Pimentel	Absent: None
Nays: None	Abstentions: None

4. Approval of Minutes:

The Board reviewed the minutes of the December 14, 2024 regular meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as presented with no changes by Director Campos seconded by Director Clark. The Board unanimously approved the motion with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Bravo, Campos, Clark, Malm, Pimentel	Absent: None
Nays: None	Abstentions: None

5. Approval of Warrants:

The JPA’s bookkeeper Richard Martorello presented the members of the Board with an updated warrant list representing October 2024 through February 2025. Mr. Martorello explained that the presented format of the warrant report was to align past paid quarter warrants with the quarterly report presentation as well as present pending warrants to the Board.

Mr. Martorello presented the warrants from October 2024 (13 items; \$25,223.15), November 2024 (14 items; \$42,854.45), December 2024 (10 items; \$20,751.85), January 2025 (13 items; \$23,095.87), and February 2025 (21 items; \$44,451.18). No warrant list was available for the month of March at the time of the meeting. The report was included in the Board Member’s meeting packet.

A motion from Director Campos with a second by Director Clark, the Board unanimously approved payment of the warrant list representing October 2024 through February 2025. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Bravo, Campos, Clark, Malm, Pimentel
Absent: None
Nays: None
Abstentions: None

6. Changes in Capacity:

No changes in capacity reported by the JPA’s engineer.

7. Public Forum

No comments from the public other than thanking the Board for receiving the meeting packet in advance.

8. Old Business:

A. Update on Construction of Water Treatment Facility

JPA Engineer Garth Pecchenino presented an update report dated 03/10/2025 revealing photos of the construction progress. The focus is on the Operations Building with erecting of steel and siding. The Chemical Storage Building received the sludge handler while a Package Treatment Unit was trucked in and put in place with a crane for plumbing.

The recent rain has not slowed the process and construction continues to be on schedule.

The construction of the new water plant is defined in terms of a 2-year timeframe. It is believed plant testing will be approximately 18-20 months into the projects construction schedule or around 2026 Q1. Upon successful testing, the old plant will be demolished.

B. Update Regarding Amended JPA and O & M Agreement

Legal Counsel Gabriel Delgado was not present to report on updates.

C. Updated Status Regarding JPA Audit Engagement (FY 2022/2023 through 2024/2025)

Legal Counsel Gabriel Delgado was not present to report on update.

9. New Business:

A. Board to Consider Accepting JPA Financial Report 2024/2025 Q2

Mr. Martorello, the JPA’s Bookkeeper, presented the 2024/2025 quarterly financial report to the Board for the period October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024.

A motion from Director Campos with a second by Director Clark, the Board unanimously accepted the transferring of \$100,000 of investment funds from Hilltop to LAIF. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Bravo, Campos, Clark, Malm, Pimentel	Absent: None
Nays: None	Abstentions: None

A motion from Director Campos with a second by Director Clark, the Board unanimously accepted the financial report presented by Mr. Martorello for the period October 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Bravo, Campos, Clark, Malm, Pimentel	Absent: None
Nays: None	Abstentions: None

B. Form 700 - Statement of Economic Interests (Due April 1, 2025):

The Water Quality JPA Recording Secretary provided the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) California Form 700 to all members of the Board to fill out. The completed Form 700 by each member was collected and later mailed to the Merced County Board of Supervisors on March 28.

10. Staff Reports:

No items to report at this time.

11. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(A)(2):

No items to report at this time.

12. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Regularly scheduled Board of Directors meetings through the end of 2024/2025 fiscal year are

- Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, Sep. 17, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Martorello
Recording Secretary