

1 MINUTES OF THE SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTIETH REGULAR MEETING OF THE
2 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIO ALTO WATER DISTRICT HELD ON
3 WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M., AT THE DISTRICT BOARD ROOM.
4

5
6 DIRECTORS PRESENT:

7
8 Rick Brubaker, President
9 Ginny Mercer, Vice-President
10 Drew Battles, Director
11 Pete Suggs, Director
12 Louise Wilkinson, Director
13

14 STAFF PRESENT:

15
16 Martha Slack, General Manager
17
18

19 ALSO PRESENT:

20
21 Roger Horton, Homeowner
22 Carmen Turner, Homeowner
23

24 ABSENT:

25
26 None
27

28 Agenda Item #1 – Public Comment. The Board President thanked Residents Roger Horton and
29 Carmen Turner for attending and asked them if they had any public comments. Having no
30 comments we moved on to approval of excused absences.

31
32 Agenda Item #2 – Approval of Excused Absences. All Directors were present.

33
34 Agenda Item #3 – Manager’s Report. The General Manager presented the Manager’s Report
35 through July 11, 2025. A lengthy discussion followed.
36

1 Agenda Item #4 – Approval of the Minutes of the Six Hundred and Sixty Ninth Regular Board

2 Meeting Held on June 18, at 6:30p.m. in the District Board Room. Director Wilkinson made a

3 motion to approve the Minutes of the Six Hundred and Sixty Ninth Regular Board Meeting

4 Held on June 18, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the District Board Room, seconded by Vice-President

5 Mercer. The motion carried (5-0).

6
7 Agenda Item #5 – Approval of the June Disbursement Reports. Vice-President Mercer made a

8 motion to approve the June Disbursement Reports, seconded by Director Wilkinson. A brief

9 question/answer period followed. The motion carried (5-0).

10
11 Agenda Item #6 – Selection of Vendor for Slider Replacement at Office. Vice-President Mercer

12 made a motion to review the vendors proposals for replacement of the (3) panel slider door at the

13 office, seconded by Director Battles. A discussion followed and Vice-President Mercer made a

14 motion to select the proposal from The Glass Store in the amount of \$5,913, seconded by

15 Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (5-0).

16
17 Agenda Item #7 – Updates on Ad-Hoc Committees. The Emergency Response Preparedness

18 Committee updated the other Board Members on the meeting held on June 15th with Chris

19 Wikeen, local volunteer fire chief. Members and staff reported that Chris had some good ideas

20 for the community. He expressed an interest in holding a coffee/donuts informal community

21 meeting with local leaders such as the Sherriff, Cal-Fire, Rio Alto, and the POA with the goal of

22 keeping it short and informal to avoid gripe sessions and provide more of an atmosphere of

23 connecting the community with the appropriate services. Chris is really in favor of having an

24 evacuation “fire drill” in the community, possibly in the Spring of next year. It would be a great

1 opportunity to test our Emergency Response Plan. A discussion was held on the pros and cons
2 of a “fire drill”. The General Manager informed the Directors that she would set up a Succession
3 Planning Ad-Hoc Committee meeting either next week or the week after.

4
5 Agenda Item #8 - Communications:

6 Staff: The General Manager confirmed that the next Board Meeting would be held on
7 August 20, 2025.

8 Directors: A discussion was held on the handout “California’s Groundwater Conditions
9 Semi-Annual Update” dated May of 2025. The General Manager told the Directors that
10 she would send them the link to this report so they could view the graphs in color.

11
12 Having no further business to discuss, Vice-President Mercer made a motion to adjourn the
13 meeting at 7:28 p.m., seconded by Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (5-0).

14
15 Sincerely,

16 

17 Martha Slack, General Manager

Addendum A
Manager's Report
July 11, 2025

Drought/Water Consumption/SGMA:

The new water year began October 1st and compares with the last two water years as follows:

Water Year	July 9 Precipitation Received	Average Precipitation to Date	Percent of Average	Shasta Lake feet from Crest
2024/2025	36.53	32.89	111%	32.51
2023/2024	31.31	33.07	94%	25.23
2022/2023	39.27	32.90	119%	13.90

Consumption for the period 05/02/25 – 07/03/25 is 19.5% lower than 2013 consumption for the same period and year-to-date consumption is 16.3% lower than the year-to-date totals for 2013. Shasta Dam is currently releasing 12,559cfs. I was told by Bureau that the discharges will remain high for the remainder of the season because the Folsom pumps are down and more water is needed for the temperature for the fish. Unfortunately, this could lead to a rapid decline of the lake levels.

Connections: Final Connections for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 were (8) 1" Water Meters, (1) ¾" Landscape Meter, and (5) Residential Sewers. We exceeded budget numbers on water and met budget for sewer. Connections to date for the new fiscal year are:

Connections to Date 2025/26	#
Water 1" Meter	1
Water 1" Duplex	0
Water 2" Meter	0
Water 1" Landscape Meter	0
Water ¾" Landscape Meter	0
Normal Sewer/LPSS	0
Commercial Sewer	0

2025/2026 Budgeted Water = 7, Budgeted Sewer = 5

Field Crew:

- Freshwater meter installed.
- Hatcher meter will be installed on 7/14 or 7/15
- Shoreline Sewer lateral replacements and plugging existing connections. The first repair required emergency project coordination with Solid Rock Construction and providing residents in two duplexes with hotel accommodations and per diems while the repair was completed. Completion of the Initial repair got the residents back in their homes after 4 days. The second repair which was started on 7/10 which will correctly attach the second duplex to its own lateral will only require residents to be without sewer for about an hour.

In both cases, once the excavating was started in the street it was determined that there were two huge cavities caused by the broken laterals that eventually would have caused major sink holes in the road. (Update from 7/10- The lateral that leads to the house across the street was broken past where it could be seen from the camera. This has been replaced while we had the hole open and they should be attaching the second lateral today and filling the hole back in on Saturday or Monday.)

- WWTP clearing out of cement gutters for drainage on hill was completed to the best of our ability by Tyler and the summer help.
- Preparing for Bacti-lab assessment from ELAP.
- Meter reads.
- Landscaped all lift stations.
- Weed-whacked the wetlands including old Well#2 building and parking lot.
- Met with Chris at Power up for estimate on auto sewer connections for lift stations 5.
- Researched costs for generator for Lift station #6.

Pending Projects:

- Selection of survey sites for backflow surveys.
- Dinghy repairs/replacement.
- Rerouting main water line into the lab.(this may not need to be done-the water has dried up and may have actually been from the water heater.)
- Repairing DG at wetlands.
- Slide repair at the WWTP

Regulatory:

The June Water and Wastewater Reports are included in the board package.

Solar Updates:

Solar updates period June 2, 2025 through July 2, 2025:

	<u>True-Up Month</u>	<u>Current Month Net Energy Usage</u>	<u>Cumulative Energy or Credits Dollar True-up</u>	<u>Cumulative Non-Bypassable Charges</u>
Office	August	\$(394.67)	\$1,194.76	\$ 468.61
WWTP	November	\$(447.39)	\$16,595.03	\$2,254.60
Well#6	February	\$(6,633.12)	\$(14,105.85)	\$992.37
Well#5	March	\$6438.54	\$ (1,082.02)	\$1,323.39

Admin:

- Metered bills prepared and mailed
- 4th Quarter Availability bills prepared and mailed
- Prepared claims for hotel/per diem expenses in relation to the sewer line repair on Shoreline to submit to ACWA.
- County delinquency notices mailed to customers
- Working on training manuals.
- Another engineering firm will be coming out to give us a free cost estimate for WWTP slide repair
- Preparing for 24/25 audit to be performed in August
- Investigating efficiency and cost to have Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) done on some of the roads to see if we have potential problems that cannot be seen by the camera.

