

1 MINUTES OF THE SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVENTH REGULAR MEETING OF
2 THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIO ALTO WATER DISTRICT HELD ON
3 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026, 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 Louise Wilkinson, Director
12

13 STAFF PRESENT:

14
15 Martha Slack, General Manager
16
17

18 ALSO PRESENT:

19
20 Pablo Martinez Ejarque, Homeowner
21 Gina West, Homeowner
22 Joyce Brubaker, Homeowner
23 Mary Mitchell, Homeowner
24
25

26 ABSENT:

27
28 Pete Suggs, Director
29

30 Agenda Item #1 – Public Comment. No public comment.

31
32 Agenda Item #2 – Approval of Excused Absences. Vice-President Mercer made a motion to
33 excuse Director Suggs' absence, seconded by Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (4-0).
34 Director Suggs absent.

35
36 Agenda Item#3 – Zoom Meeting with Michael Fink, CPA, from Fechter and Company to
37 Review and Approve 2024/2025 Audited Financial Statements. Michael Fink, CPA, gave a
38 power point presentation explaining the numerous format changes in this year's Audited

1 Financial Statements required to be in compliance with GASB 101 and GASB 34. The current
2 audit has many formatting changes, and we felt the need to have this presentation to get a better
3 understanding from the auditor. He reported that our audit was clean and there were no material
4 findings. He also stated that the District has good controls in place and a knowledgeable staff
5 capable of assisting the auditors in maintaining their independence. After a question answer
6 period, Vice-President Mercer made a motion to Approve the 2024/2025 Audited Financial
7 Statements, seconded by Director Battles. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

8
9

10 Agenda Item #4 – Manager’s Report. The General Manager presented the Manager’s Report
11 through February 13, 2026. A brief discussion followed.

12
13

14 Agenda Item#5 – Request approval to purchase new key card system for wetlands. The General
15 Manager explained that the current key card system has reached its capacity for cards and the
16 company has subsequently gone bankrupt. After research, we have found a new system that
17 should last well into the future with a capacity of 3000 cards. The company was established in
18 1948 and is based in Los Angeles. The General Manager explained that the revenue received
19 from cards has far exceeded the original system cost. Director Wilkinson made a motion to
20 approve the purchase of the new DoorKing key card reader from DF Supply, Inc., seconded by
21 Vice-President Mercer. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

22
23

1 Agenda Item No. 6 - Approval of the Minutes of the Six Hundred and Seventy-Sixth Regular
2 Board Meeting Held on January 21, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the District Board Room.

3 Director Wilkinson made a motion to Approve the Minutes of the Six-Hundred and Seventy-
4 Sixth Regular Board Meeting held on January 21, 2026, seconded by Vice-President Mercer.
5 The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

6
7 Agenda Item No.7 – Approval of January Disbursement Reports. It was noted that the Agenda
8 listed the Disbursement Reports as an “Information” item instead of an “Action” item so the
9 General Manager explained she would have to bring it back for approval at the March Board
10 Meeting.

11
12 Agenda Item No. 8 – Income/Expense Reports Period Ending 12/31/25. The General Manager
13 presented the highlights of the Income/Expense Accounts period ending 12/31/25. She
14 explained that both Water and Sewer income accounts are under budget due to the timing of the
15 county receipts and LAIF interest which are not received until January. She further explained
16 that the Sewer expenditures are over budget due to the completion and payment to Solid Rock
17 for line repairs on Shoreline and payment of annual permits.

18
19 Agenda Item #9 – Updates on ACWA Conference. The General Manager advised the Directors
20 that registrations have been paid, and hotel reservations have been secured for those attending in
21 May.

22

1 Agenda Item #10 - Communications:

2 Staff: The General Manager advised Directors Battles and Suggs that Scott will be
3 providing them with their tours when the weather improves.

4 Directors: None.

5
6 Having no further business to discuss, Vice-President Mercer made a motion to adjourn the
7 meeting at 7:47 p.m., seconded by Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs
8 absent.

9

10 Sincerely,

11 
12

13 Martha Slack, General Manager

Addendum A
 Manager's Report
 February 13, 2026

Drought/Water Consumption/SGMA:

The new water year 2025/2026 began October 1, 2025. The new water year compares with the last two water years as follows:

Water Year	Feb. 10th Precipitation Received	Average Precipitation to Date	Percent of Average	Shasta Lake feet from Crest
2025/2026	19.27	19.79	97.3%	35.55
2024/2025	29.44	20.18	146%	25.37
2023/2024	18.56	19.68	94%	38.39

Shasta Dam is currently releasing 10,548cfs.

Rate Increases: In accordance with the Approved Rate Study and Resolutions 01-24 and 02-24, Water and Wastewater rates were increased effective 1/2/26, reflecting year 3 of the staged 5 year increases. Water and Sewer Connection Fees were increased effective January 1, 2026 in accordance with the Water & Sewer Connection Fee Study and Resolutions 03-24 and 04-24. (A copy of the Rate Schedule is enclosed in this packet.)

Connections: We received 1 additional water/sewer connection since last reported. Fiscal year to date totals are:

Connections to Date 2025/26	#
Water 1" Meter	5
Water 1" Duplex	0
Water 2" Meter	0
Water 1" Landscape Meter	0
Water ¾" Landscape Meter	0
Normal Sewer/LPSS	4
Commercial Sewer	0

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

Field Crew:

- Another sewer lateral was repaired on Rio Alto Drive. Field crew are trying to keep up with the goal of one repair per month.
- The new gate was constructed and the solar electronics were installed at WWTP. The company had to return for a few adjustments, but it seems to be working fine now.
- No word yet on Lift Station #3 pump, Industrial electric hopes to look at it next week.
- Day Wireless was out on January 22nd, but to no avail. They took our sets back to the shop for further diagnosis.

- Crew spent all day looking for a water lateral on Shoreline but were unable to find it. They will have to tap into the main.
- Prior to the rains, Tyler spent much time spraying weeds.
- Research into purchasing new key card system for the wetlands.

Pending Projects:

- Selection of survey sites for backflow surveys.
- Slide repair at the WWTP
- Monthly sewer patch

Regulatory:

The January Water and Wastewater Reports are included in the board package. In addition, Dean has submitted the following:

- Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report
- Annual Drinking Water Discharge Report
- Annual Drought Report
- Annual Wastewater Report
- Attended ACWA Region 2 Board Meeting

Solar Updates:

Solar updates period January 12, 2026 through February 11, 2026:

	<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	\$515.56	\$1,738.69	\$1,738.69
WWTP	November	\$2,417.45	\$13,104.52	\$13,104.52
Well#6	February	\$(2,423.90)	\$(2,417.05)	\$4,914.34
Well#5	March	\$872.97	\$(3,784.47)	\$3,384.06

Admin:

- Over (100) 7-day notices prepared and mailed.
- (35) 24-hr notices posted and 5 customers locked off.
- Training, Training, Training!
- Working on training manuals.

