PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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Board of Directors Meeting
March 19, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

City of Watsonville
Council Chambers
275 Main St., 4th Floor
Watsonville, CA

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** The Regular Board Meeting of Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chair Rider, at City of Watsonville Council Chambers, 275 Main St., 4th Floor, Watsonville, CA

2. **Roll call of the PV Water Directors:**

Board Members Present:	Chair Rider Vice Chair Bannister Treasurer Culbertson Director Broz Director Newell
Board Members Absent:	None
Staff Members Present:	Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM) Marcus Mendiola, Water Conservation and Outreach Specialist (WCOS) Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist (AH) Nancy Trevino, Finance & Admin Services Manager (FASM) Asia Valdivia, Executive Assistant/Board Secretary (EA/BS)
Others Present:	Anthony Condotti, Agency Counsel (AC) Via Teleconference: Tom Rider (Community Member) Ricky Gutierrez (Carollo Consultants)

3. **Pledge of Allegiance:**

4. **Oral Communications: None**

5. **Director Comments:**

Chair Rider reported that he attended the National Agriculture Day luncheon along with other Board members and PV Water staff. He mentioned that local non-profit, Food What!, is looking for ag land

to increase its operations and commented that there could be a possibility of using some of PV Water's land at the Lipanovich Ranch adjacent to the College Lake Project.

6. Counsel Report: None

7. General Manager Report:

GM Lockwood also attended the National Agriculture Day luncheon. GM Locked announced PV Water's Water Conservation and Outreach Specialist, Marcus Mendiola, has been accepted into the Focus Agriculture Class 34. ACWA hosted its quarterly policy meetings on March 13, and the Groundwater Committee included a presentation by Santa Cruz County's Water Resources Manager, Sierra Ryan, on the recently completed process to the County took to update its Well Ordinance. The Spring ACWA conference is May 13-15 in Monterey. PV Water, along with Cabrillo College, UCSC, other water districts, cities, and first responders are participating in a Santa Cruz County led effort to update its Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The group will meet next on March 27. Save the date for the 2025 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation and Legislative Summit, hosted by the Groundwater Resources Association (GSA) of California and ACWA on May 27-28 in Sacramento.

8. Consent Agenda

A. Approve February 19, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes
B. Approve Financial Reports
C. Approve Proposed Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025
D. Adopt Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Authority (ACWA-JPIA) Commitment to Excellence
E. Approve Revised Administration and Finance Committee Revised Meeting Dates for April and May 2025

Action: Vice Chair Bannister moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Director Newell.

Motion carried by the following voice vote:

AYES:	Bannister, Broz, Culbertson, Newell, Rider
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

9. Informational Items

A. Received Summary of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Annual Report, Water Year 2024

Presented by PV Water Associate Hydrologist, Casey Meusel. Department of Water Resources (DWR) provides guidelines for annual reports. The presentation slide deck and full written report can be found on the PV Water website. Staff will submit the report to DWR before the April 1, 2025, deadline.

B. Received Projects & Programs Update from GM Lockwood, a summary is available in the staff report.

10. Discussion and/or Action Items

A. Consider Adoption of Resolution 2025-03 Approving the Addendum to the Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Project Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2019059130); Consider Adoption of Resolution 2025-04 Selecting, Approving, and Adopting Modifications to the Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Project

Received a project overview, highlights of proposed facilities, a review of project costs, schedule, and risks, and an environmental impact report (EIR) overview from Ricky Gutierrez of Carollo Engineers. The 100% design construction cost estimate is $42 million but ranges from $36 million to $51 million, with a construction midpoint of January 2027. Risks to the schedule include procurement of property rights and permits.

Overview of EIR for project. Changes since 2024 include, pipeline was moved to avoid wetlands, pump moved to SC Land Trust land, and red legged frog protection created. The presentation slide deck is available on PV Water website.

Action: Director Newell moved to adopt resolution 2025-03, Approving the Addendum to the Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge and Recovery Project Environmental Impact Report (SCH No. 2019059130), and resolution 2025-04, Selecting, Approving, and Adopting Modifications to the Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge and Recovery Project. Seconded by Vice Chair Bannister.

Motion carried by the following voice vote:

AYES:	Bannister, Broz, Culbertson, Newell, Rider
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

B. Consider Adoption of Resolution 2025-02, Finding, Determining, and Declaring that the Public Interest and Necessity Require the Acquisition of Interests in Certain Real Property (Assessor's Parcel Numbers 052-181-18, 052-181-20) by Eminent Domain

GM Lockwood stated that this property affects the southeast recharge basin, associated easements, and monitoring well components of the Pajaro Valley Basin Management Plan (BMP) project. This property has been identified essential for the project following extensive studies. After several attempts to initiate dialogue, communications between PV Water and Ocean Field Holdings (OFH), and/or their attorneys, have not been fruitful. Under advisement from Agency legal counsel, PV Water staff is looking to bring this to the superior court to condemn the property in compliance with State law. The Agency must make specific findings as outlined in California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1245.230(c). Negotiations with OFH is the desired outcome as this allows for conversations around a mutually agreeable price, however the project needs to move forward regardless.

Agency Counsel added that in order for this resolution to pass it must receive a unanimous vote from the five Directors present.

Action: Vice Chair Bannister motioned to adopt Resolution 2025-02, Finding, Determining, and Declaring that the Public Interest and Necessity Require the Acquisition of Interests in Certain

Real Property (Assessor's Parcel Numbers 052-181-18, 052-181-20) by Eminent Domain. Treasurer Culbertson seconded. Chair Rider called for a roll call vote.

Motion failed by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Bannister, Culbertson, Newell, Rider
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	Broz

C. Consider Approval of Recycled Water Facility Electrical Improvements and Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) Replacement Project in Collaboration with the City of Watsonville with a Cost Estimate of Approximately $1,350,000

Action: Vice Chair Bannister moved to approve Recycled Water Facility Electrical Improvements and Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) Replacement Project in Collaboration with the City of Watsonville with a Cost Estimate of Approximately $1,350,000. Director Newell seconded.

Motion carried by the following voice vote:

AYES:	Bannister, Broz, Culbertson, Newell, Rider
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

11. Monthly Reports/Presentations

A. Facility Operations Report
   1. Received 2024 Supplemental Water Production Monthly Summary as of February 2025.

B. Board Committee Reports available at www.pvwater.org

C. Public Outreach Update
   a. PV Water will have a booth at the Santa Cruz County Fair, September 10-14, 2025
   b. On front page of Pajaronian for Pajaro River Watershed Resilience Program meeting at the Aromas Grange on March 10th

12. Correspondence

13. Future Meetings

A. Projects & Facility Operations Committee, Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 3:00 p.m., Water Resources Center, 500 Clearwater Lane, Watsonville
B. Administration & Finance Committee, Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 3:00 p.m., PV Water Conference Room, 36 Brennan St., Watsonville
C. Board of Directors, Wednesday, April 16, 2025, 7:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, 275 Main Street, 4th Floor, Watsonville
D. Projects & Facility Operations Committee, Wednesday, April 30, 2025, 3:00 p.m., Water Resources Center, 500 Clearwater Lane, Watsonville

14. Future Agenda Items

Adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Asia Valdivia, Board Secretary

04/16/2025
Date Approved