PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

36 BRENNAN STREET • WATSONVILLE, CA 95076
TEL: (831) 722-9292 • FAX: (831) 722-3139
email: info@pvwater.org • https://www.pvwater.org

Board of Directors Meeting
February 18, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

1. **Call to Order:** The Regular Board Meeting of Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chair Rider, at City of Watsonville Council Chambers, 275 Main Street, 4th Floor, Watsonville, California.

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

Board Members Present:	Stephen Rider, Chair C.J. Miller, Vice Chair Bob Culbertson, Treasurer Amy Newell, Director Tom Broz, Director Mary Bannister, Director
Board Members Absent:	Nolberto Hernandez, Director (excused)
Staff Members Present:	Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM) Nancy Trevino, Finance & Administrative Services Manager (FASM) Corin Hammond, Executive Assistant/Board Secretary (EA/BS) Marcus Mendiola, Water Conservation and Outreach Specialist (WCOS) Shinehah Bigham, Operations & Maintenance Manager (OMM) Casey Meusel, Senior Hydrologist (SH) Ruben Garcia, Water Systems Operator II (WSOII) Joshua Ebert, Water Systems Operator II (WSOII)
Others Present:	Victoria Thompson, Legan Counsel
Via Teleconference:	Tom Rider, Public Paul Freelander, Consultant, Carollo

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Oral Communications: None**

5. **Closed Session – 3 Items:**

   A. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – (Cal. Govt. Code § 54956.9(d)(1))**
   Name of case: Mountain Cascade, Inc. v. PV Water – Case 01-25-0009-3092

   B. **Conference with Real Property Negotiators – (Cal. Gov't Code §54954.5 & 54956.8)**

   C. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**
   Initiation of Litigation Pursuant to Gov't Code § 54956.9(d)(4)
   (*3 potential cases)*

Open Session resumed at 7:19 p.m.

Report on Closed Session: AC Thompson reported that the Board moved to give direction to proceed on Item 5A for representation of counsel; No reportable action for Item 5B, and Item 5C.

6. **Director Comments:**
Director Newell announced she will not seek to renew her term as Director of the Board, Division C.
Director Newell asked the Directors, Staff, and Public to share leads for prospective candidates .
Chair Rider confirmed that Directors received a copy of the book *The Great Train Heist*. The sender is unknown.

7. **Counsel Report:** None.

8. **General Manager Report:**
GM Lockwood acknowledged Director Newell's retirement announcement from the Board of Directors; he noted her significant contributions and stated that she will be difficult to replace.
GM Lockwood reported receipt of Isabel Magana's, Water Resources Technician, resignation letter. The position is posted on the PV Water website and recruitment is in progress.
GM Lockwood noted that he, with Senior Hydrologist Cassey Meusel as his alternate, will be representing PV Water and the central coast on the California Department of Water Resources Water Plan Advisory Committee.
GM Lockwood concluded his report by introducing additional staff in attendance: Ruben Garcia (WSOII) who holds his T3 and D4 certificates, and Joshua Ebert (WSOII) who holds his T5 and D3 certificates; he expressed enthusiasm about their being part of the team.

9. **Consent Agenda**
   A. Approve December 17, 2025, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes
   B. Approve Financial Reports

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

Motion carried by the following voice vote:

AYES:	Rider, Bannister, Culbertson, Newell, Broz, Miller
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Hernandez

ABSTAIN: None

10. Informational Items

A. Receive Project and Programs Update

GM Lockwood reported on progress for the California Department of Conservation Multibenefit Land Repurposing Grant and the California Department of Water Resources Watershed Resilience Pilot Grant, including ongoing coordination, upcoming public review milestones, and recent invoice payments. To date, approximately $3.51 million (DoC) and $1.45 million (DWR) have been received. Public review draft of the Pajaro River Watershed Resilience Plan will be available for review on or about February 26, 2026, and a public comment period will be open until 5:00 pm on March 16, 2026; the consultant team will host "office hours" on March 5 at 9:00 am and again at 5:30 pm to discuss the draft plan and take questions.

Regarding Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Project, permitting work is ongoing, and escrows have closed on 5 of the 11 needed properties..

11. Discussion and/or Action Items

A. Consider Actions Pertaining to the Supplemental Well No. 3 Improvements Project:

A1. Agreement with Carollo Engineers, Inc. for Engineering Services During Construction, and Construction Management & Inspection Services, in an Amount Not to Exceed $261,073, through August 2028

A2. Second Letter of Agreement with Harvest Drive Properties, LLC, Supplementing the Agreement for Use of Supplemental Well No. 3 dated January 10, 2023, in an Amount Not to Exceed $110,000

1. Introduction by staff

   GM Lockwood summarized A1 and A2 as follows and as outlined starting on page 34 of the Agenda Packet.

   A1. Engineering & Construction Services

   Notice To Proceed issued to Contractor on Jan. 15, 2026; substantial completion set for May 20, 2027.

   Submittals underway.

   Staff requested scope and cost from Carollo Engineers for engineering support and construction management.

   Proposed costs:

   Task 1 (Bid Support): $45,324

   Task 2 (Engineering During Construction): $105,144

   Task 3 (Construction Management & Inspection): $110,605

   A2. Second Letter of Agreement – Harvest Drive Properties, LLC

   Original Well-use Agreement executed Dec. 20, 2022 (20-year term; two 10-year renewal options).

   Prior reimbursement of $17,885 for electrical design improvements.

   Proposed Second Letter of Agreement (NTE $110,000) for construction of electrical improvements at Supplemental Well No. 3.

2. Questions from Board

   Director Bannister inquired about the total Agreement design cost. GM Lockwood outlined the rate structure developed with Harvest Drive Properties for use of the well. Director Bannister took a moment to summarize the project's history as it is related to Martinelli's, noting John Martinelli's support of the Agency and GM Lockwood's positive partnership with Harvest Drive Properties.

3. Public comment - None

4. Board discussion and deliberation - None

5. Board action

Action: Director Bannister moved to approve A1 and A2 Actions Pertaining to the Supplemental Well No. 3 Improvements Project; Director Newell seconded the motion.

Motion passed by the following voice vote:

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

B. Consider Third Amendment to Agreement with Carollo Engineers for College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project, Engineering Services During Construction and Operations Support in an Amont Not to Exceed $280,490 through June 30, 2027

1. Introduction by staff
   GM Lockwood reported, as described on pages 67-77 of the Agenda Packet, the Contractor is nearing substantial completion of the Intake Facility and Water Treatment Plant. Carollo will continue engineering support through project closeout and operations to June 30, 2027. A summary of tasks and proposed costs (complete list may be found on pages 76-77 of the Agenda Packet):
   Task 2. Project Administration and Controls, $45,544
   Task 3. Submittal Reviews, $71,432
   Task 4. Design Clarifications / Requests for Information, $23,113
   Task 7. Operations and Start Up Support, $140,401
2. Questions from Board
   Director Broz asked whether this is the only proposed support or if there was prior support. GM Lockwood confirmed that Tanner Pacific is also currently providing Construction Management Services.
3. Public comment - None
4. Board discussion and deliberation - None
5. Board action

Action: Director Bannister moved to approve the Third Amendment to Agreement with Carollo Engineers for College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project, Engineering Services During Construction and Operations Support in an Amont Not to Exceed $280,490 through June 30, 2027; Director Broz seconded the motion.

Motion passed by the following voice vote:

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

12. Monthly Reports/Presentations

A. Facility Operations Report
GM Lockwood introduced Shinehah Bingham (OMM), who delivered the Operations Report; the presentation is available on PV Water's website: https://www.pvwater.org/director-agendas.

OMM Bingham's presentation included an introduction of the Operations team and the progress made over the 2025 fiscal year including but not limited to the Harkins Slough Project, College Lake Project, SCADA Server Upgrade Project, Meter Program, and Recycled Water Facility (RWF) Maintenance Projects. She went on the outline PV Water's Operations Projections and Goals moving forward in to 2026.

Director Newell congratulated OMM Bigham and staff on a successful year despite ongoing challenges. Chair Rider acknowledged challenges at College Lake and expressed hope for their resolution. Director Broz inquired about anticipated challenges for 2026. OMM Bigham reported that 2025 presented multiple challenges and noted that streamlining customer irrigation scheduling is to remain a significant goal in 2026.

B. Board Committee Reports are available at www.pvwater.org
C. Public Outreach Update

Marcus Mendiola (WCOS) reported that he will lead upcoming high school tours to expand local educational outreach. He also shared his participation in the Career and Technical Education (CTE) working group on behalf of PV Water, noting his emphasis on maintaining a personal approach to education, vs the ever popular AI.

13. Correspondence

Correspondence can be found on pages 82-91 of the Agenda Packet

14. Future Meetings

A. Projects & Facility Operations Committee Meeting, Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 3:00 p.m., Water Resources Center, 500 Clearwater Lane, Watsonville
B. Administration & Finance Committee, Tuesday, March 10, 2026, 3:00 p.m., PV Water Conference Room, 36 Brennan St., Watsonville
C. Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday, March 18, 2026, 7:00 p.m., City Council Chambers, 275 Main St., 4th Floor, Watsonville
D. Ad Hoc Rate Setting Committee, Thursday, March 19, 2026*, Water Resources Center, 500 Clearwater Lane, Watsonville **Tentative*

Adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Corin Hammond, Board Secretary

March 18, 2026
Date Approved