

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
North Kern Water Storage District
Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 19, 2025

A Meeting of the Board of Directors of North Kern Water Storage District was in person - commencing at 7:00 a.m., on May 19, 2025.

President Andrew declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order. The following Directors were present: Kevin Andrew, Joel Ackerknecht, Winn Glende and Robert Holtermann. Others present: David Hampton (General Manager), Ram Venkatesan (Deputy General Manager) Marinelle Duarosan (Controller), Heather Williams (Operations Superintendent) and Christy Castaneda (Administrative Assistant) of North Kern Water Storage District, Scott Kuney, Alan Doud, Brett Stroud and Mark Bateman (District Counsel - Young Wooldridge), Guests present: Stephanie Hearn.

President Andrew called the meeting to order at 7:01 am and opened the floor for Public Comments. At this time, there were none.

Board of Directors –

(25-45) Upon motion of Director Ackerknecht, seconded by Director Holtermann and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes from April 16, 2025, Special Board Meeting.

(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Holtermann & Glende: Noes: None, Absent: Camarena: Abstain: None)

Consent Calendar –

Consent Calendar included the following:

- A. District Groundwater Levels
- B. PG&E Monthly Analysis
- C. District Exchange Balances
- D. Operations Report

(25-46) Upon motion of Director Ackerknecht, seconded by Director Holtermann and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Calendar.

(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Holtermann & Glende: Noes: None, Absent: Camarena: Abstain: None)

General Informational Items –

General Manager Hampton gave a brief update on the Kern River activities. The inflow at Isabella Lake is at about 2,398 CFS and the outflow is 911 CFS. The latest Bulletin 120 projection dropped to 82% of average.

Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority/Kern Water Collaborative Update – No report at this time.

Financial Matters –

(25-47) Upon motion of Director Glende, seconded by Director Ackerknecht and unanimously carried, to receive and file the Treasurer's Report for the North Kern Water Storage District for the month of April as presented.

(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Holtermann & Glende: Noes: None, Absent: Camarena: Abstain: None)

(RR25-48) Upon motion of Director Glende, seconded by Director Ackerknecht and unanimously carried, to receive and file the Treasurer's Report for the Rosedale Ranch Improvement District for the month of April as presented.

(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Holtermann & Glende: Noes: None, Absent: Camarena: Abstain: None)

The Financial Statements, Summary of Water Sales and the Accounts Receivable reports for the month of April were reviewed and accepted as presented.

(25-49) Upon motion of Director Ackerknecht, seconded by Director Holtermann and unanimously carried, to approve payment of the Accounts Payable balance for the North Kern Water Storage District for the month of April as presented.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Holtermann & Glende: Noes: None, Absent: Camarena: Abstain: None)

(RR25-50) Upon motion of Director Ackerknecht, seconded by Director Holtermann and unanimously carried, to approve payment of the Accounts Payable balance for the Rosedale Ranch Improvement District for the month of April as presented.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Holtermann & Glende: Noes: None, Absent: Camarena: Abstain: None)

Consulting District Engineer – Mrs. Hearn provided an update on the following:

Project Summary – Calloway Canal lining project from Snow Road to 7th Standard Road is nearing completion with a few final punch lists pending. The team is continuing work on the Calloway Canal lining, having completed 5.5 miles with 4.5 miles of earthen section remaining to be lined.

Status of Grants – Mrs. Hearn reported that the FEMA BRIC Program has been officially discontinued and is no longer available for the RRID groundwater recharge Project. However, there are other grant opportunities available such as Prop 4. GEI is monitoring upcoming grants and may shift to State grant offerings for further opportunities.

ILRP/CV Salts – No report at this time.

Budget & Personnel Committee – No Report at this time.

Engineering Committee –

Due to a potential conflict of interest, Director Holtermann left the meeting for the following motion. Staff discussed a summary of the proposed surface recharge site agreement with T&K1, LLC.

(25-51) Upon motion of Director Ackerknecht, seconded by Director Glende and unanimously carried, to Authorize the General Manager to execute the Landowner Groundwater Banking and Recharge Agreement with T&K1, LLC.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht & Glende: Noes: None, Absent: Camarena: Abstain: Holtermann)

Groundwater Committee –

General Manager Hampton gave a brief update on the GSP Amendment. He indicated that they are doing a lot of work in addressing the remaining issues, however, the State Board staff continues to request new additional revisions. Despite this, the group is making good progress and has addressed data gaps in groundwater quality and groundwater levels. The focus remains on wrapping up the remaining issues to meet the submittal deadline for the updated GSP's by June 20.

Mr. Hampton also gave a brief discussion on the two proposed Assembly Bills 1413 and 1466. He indicated that these two bills would impact SGMA and groundwater adjudications. The Board took the position to oppose the bills unless amended and authorized staff to participate in "Oppose Unless Amended" letters to the State legislators.

Produced Water Ad Hoc Committee – No report at this time.

Negotiating Committee – No report at this time.

Counsel of District – No report at this time.

Rosedale Ranch – No report at this time.

General Manager's Report – Mr. Hampton informed the Board that the District received a Notice of Preparation of EIR from the City of Shafter. District staff and legal counsel intend to submit a comment letter focusing on the evaluation of project water demands, available water supplies, and potential SGMA impacts.

The President publicly stated that the legal authorities for holding Closed Session at today's Board Meeting are the following sections of the California Government Code:

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL EXISTING LITIGATION
(Govt. Code Section 54956.9(a) and (d)(1))
 - (i) North Kern Water Storage District v. City of Bakersfield
(VCSC #56-2011-00408712-CU-CO-VTA)
 - (ii) Appeal of Regional Board General Order (R5-2013-0120) for Tulare Lake Basin to State Water Resources Control Board (re. Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program)
 - (iii) State Water Resources Control Board, Administrative Hearing Office
Adjudicative Hearing on Pending Applications 31673, 31674, 31675, 31676, 31677, and 31819
 - (iv) North Kern Water Storage District v. Rosedale Estates
(BCV-24-101361)
 - (v) North Kern Water Storage District v. Crimson Resource Management
(BCV-23-101912)
 - (vi) Bring Back the Kern et al. v. City of Bakersfield (Defendant/Respondent) and Buena Vista Water Storage District et al. (Real Parties in Interest)
(BCV-22-1030220)

- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: one case


- C. PERSONNEL MATTERS
(Govt. Code Section 54957)

- D. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
(Govt. Code Section 54956.8) – use of District and landowner facilities for various potential water management programs; negotiator, David Hampton

The above legal grounds were determined to exist based on advice of counsel, and discussion of such matters in an Open Session would cause prejudice to the District. The Board went into Closed Session at 8:10 a.m.

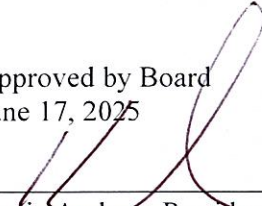
The Board reconvened back into the open session at 9:40 a.m. There were no reportable actions.

Respectfully Submitted,



David Hampton, General Manager

Approved by Board
June 17, 2025



Kevin Andrew, President