

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
North Kern Water Storage District
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 16, 2025

A Meeting of the Board of Directors of North Kern Water Storage District was in person - commencing at 7:00 a.m., on September 16, 2025.

President Andrew declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order. The following Directors were present: Kevin Andrew, Joel Ackerknecht, Robert Holtermann, Monte Mitchell and Winn Glende. 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, Brett Stroud and Alan Doud (via remote) of Young Wooldridge, Guests present: Stephanie Hearn, Art Chianello and John Gaugel.

President Andrew called the meeting to order at 7:02 am and opened the floor for Public Comments. At this time, there were none.

Board of Directors –

- (25-88) Upon motion of Director Holtermann, seconded by Director Glende and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes from August 19, 2025, Regular Board Meeting.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Mitchell, Holtermann & Glende, Noes: None, Absent: None, 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
- E. Approve Agreement for Subsidence Monitoring, Provost & Pritchard

- (25-89) Upon motion of Director Ackerknecht, seconded by Director Holtermann and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Calendar.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Mitchell, Holtermann & Glende, Noes: None, Absent: None, Abstain: None)

General Informational Items –

Watermaster Chianello reported that the inflow at Isabella Lake was about 188 CFS and the outflow was 536 CFS. Mr. Chianello stated the highest elevation snow sensor was rebuilt with new instrumentation and is now operating as of September 11, 2025. He also stated two older sensors operated by DWR will be scheduled for maintenance next year. Mr. Chianello stated that the Annual California Cooperative Snow Surveys Coordination meeting will be held on Sept 30, 2025.

Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority/Kern Water Collaborative Update – Director Holtermann stated that the 2026 Assessment Fees were set at \$3.50 per acre.

Financial Matters –

- (25-90) Upon motion of Director Holtermann, 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 August as presented.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Mitchell, Holtermann & Glende, Noes: None, Absent: None, Abstain: None)

- (RR25-91) Upon motion of Director Holtermann, seconded by Director Ackerknecht and unanimously carried, to receive and file the Treasurer's Report for the Rosedale Ranch Improvement District for the month August as presented.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Mitchell, Holtermann & Glende, Noes: None, Absent: None, Abstain: None)

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

- (25-92) Upon motion of Director Mitchell, seconded by Director Glende and unanimously carried, to approve payment of the Accounts Payable balance for the North Kern Water Storage District for the month of August as presented.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Mitchell, Holtermann & Glende, Noes: None, Absent: None, Abstain: None)

- (RR25-93) Upon motion of Director Mitchell, seconded by Director Glende and unanimously carried, to approve payment of the Accounts Payable balance for the Rosedale Ranch Improvement District for the month of August as noted.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Mitchell, Holtermann & Glende, Noes: None, Absent: None, Abstain: None)

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

Project Summary – Mrs. Hearn stated that North Kern was awarded by the American Society of Civil Engineers for the Southern San Joaquin Branch and the Los Angeles Section for the District's Regional Drought Resiliency Project. An awards ceremony is scheduled later in the month.

Status of Grants –

Mrs. Hearn noted no significant activity this month. She indicated that there will be an annual IRWMP meeting this month to comply with regulations but stated that this program is anticipated to be terminated and likely replaced with a Watershed Program.

ILRP/CV Salts –No significant activity to report other than preparation for the next phase on nitrate control.

Budget & Personnel Committee – No report at this time.

Engineering Committee –

General Manager Hampton discussed RRID's Affentranger Groundwater Recharge and Banking Project. Mr. Hampton noted that though RRID is acquiring and will own the Affentranger Property where the project will be located, it would be beneficial for the North Kern Water Storage District to participate in the project to augment North Kern's existing groundwater recharge and banking facilities. North Kern's proposed participation would include a 25% priority use and a contribution of \$490,000 payable to RRID. The proposed agreement has no extraction or leave behind provisions and ownership of the land and project would be retained by RRID.

- (25-94) Upon motion of Director Ackerknecht, seconded by Director Mitchell and unanimously carried to Approve participation in the Rosedale Ranch Improvement District's Affentranger Groundwater Recharge and Banking Project and Agreement for Groundwater Recharge and Banking.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Mitchell, Holtermann & Glende, Noes: None, Absent: None, Abstain: None)

Groundwater Committee –

General Manager Hampton reported the Kern County Groundwater Subbasin

submitted the final adopted 2025 Groundwater Sustainability Plans to the State Water Resources Control Board on September 1, 2025. On September 5, 2025, the State Board Staff released the Kern County Subbasin Staff Review of the 2025 Draft GSPs Report which recommended that the Subbasin would return to DWR's oversight. As the three remaining issues were believed to have been adequately addressed, the expectation is that the probationary hearing scheduled on September 17, 2025, would proceed favorably for the Kern Subbasin.

Mr. Hampton also discussed the recently completed and ongoing work by the technical consultants and recommended approving the proposed amendment to the cost sharing agreement.

- (25-95) Upon motion of Director Ackerknecht, seconded by Director Glende and unanimously carried, to Approve Amendment No. 3 to the Kern Subbasin Cost Share Agreement to cover cost overruns and additional scopes of work to support the Kern Subbasin GSP through the September 17, 2025 Hearing. The total amount for the amendment is \$275,000 and each of the 22 participants will pay their equal share of \$12,500.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Mitchell, Holtermann & Glende, Noes: None, Absent: None, Abstain: None)

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 –

General Manager Hampton discussed RRID's purchase of the Affentranger property for the RRID Affentranger Groundwater and Banking Project and the benefits of North Kern's potential participation in the project. Ownership of the land and project would be retained by RRID and North Kern has approved the joint Agreement for Groundwater Recharge and Banking.

- (25-96) Upon motion of Director Ackerknecht, seconded by Director Mitchell and unanimously carried, to Approve North Kern Water Storage District's (North Kern) participation in the Rosedale Ranch Improvement District's Affentranger Groundwater Recharge and Banking Project and Agreement for Groundwater Recharge and Banking.
(Ayes: Andrew, Ackerknecht, Mitchell, Holtermann & Glende, Noes: None, Absent: None, Abstain: None)

General Manager's Report – No report at this time.

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:

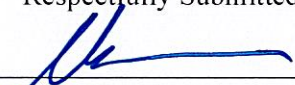
- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL EXISTING LITIGATION
(Govt. Code Section 54956.9(a) and (d)(1))
- (i) North Kern Water Storage District v. City of Bakersfield
(VCSC #56-2011-00408712-CU-CO-VTA)
 - (ii) State Water Resources Control Board, Administrative Hearing Office
Adjudicative Hearing on Pending Applications 31673, 31674, 31675, 31676,
31677, and 31819
 - (iii) North Kern Water Storage District v. Rosedale Estates
(BCV-24-101361)

(iv) 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: two 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 8:15 a.m. The Board reconvened back into the open session at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David Hampton, General Manager

Approved by Board
October 21, 2025



Kevin Andrew, President