

Minutes
Rio Linda / Elverta Community Water District
Executive Committee

August 12, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.

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The meeting was attended by Director Young, Director Liverett, Interim GM Felix Felix, and Contract District Engineer Mike Vasquez.

Chair Vicky Young: called meeting to order at 6pm.

Public Comment: None provided at this time.

Director Young: Let's move on to public works with District Engineer, Mike Vasquez.

Public Works Projects Update (Contract Engineer)

7. Century Palms Estates

District Engineer Vasquez: Thank you Director Young. I'm gonna start in the reverse order. So I can leave the best for last here. If that's okay with you, Director Young. I spoke with the developer's engineer, late last week after hearing nothing for about a month and a half or so. He informed me that D.R. Horton has pushed pause on the project. I haven't been in touch with the developer at all. It's always been through his, or their engineer. I did reach out to the county, I plan to see what the status is and what halted the project. So I haven't been notified yet, but as soon as I do, I'll let the committee and the board know. Why that's important, in addition to just growing the community, is that one of the conditions of approval for the project was for them to, initially pay upfront for a new water model for the district. They were going to get, capacity fee, reimbursement credits when they built the homes. So we were supposed to get the money ahead of time. So that's now it for us, moving forward. I do have a proposal from an engineer.

Director Liverett: Is that Sarah Rogers?

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District Engineer Vasquez: That's Sarah and I'm not sure how to present that moving forward, because I think it's one of the things that the district absolutely needs to better assess the infrastructure and things of that nature. So I'm not prepared for you to discuss it further at this point, but I'd like any feedback from you as to if you would like me to pursue funding for it or figure out if there's any possibility we have a budget for it up front. Or we just wait a few more months to see if the development comes back into fruition. So all those things are possibilities. But I don't want to lose the momentum with understanding that the water model is really important for our district.

Director Young: And does that apply to any of the other projects going?

District Engineer Vasquez: It would be useful to assess the pressure situation on the Eastern side of the district. Whenever one of the wells goes down, especially Well 15, it becomes an issue. The pressure drops significantly and it's difficult to make an assessment of what's causing it over there without having a model. It's a digital model where you're able to plug and play and then produce calculations and reports and exhibits that say, this is why this is happening. Whether it's just one pipeline segment or two, it's really very difficult to do without a water model.

Director Liverett: Yeah, that's funny because I had notes on that about JLR, right? And who would be paying them if they were going to do it because I wanted to make sure that the monies were in the district's control to pay them so that they would be our customer versus the developer's customer.

District Engineer Vasquez: That is correct. So, the way it would work is prior to authorizing or executing a contract with Sarah Rogers, DLR, the developer would have to pay the district up front. We can put it into an account. It wouldn't be an expenditure account that the district could use other than this. In their transparencies, where every invoice that comes in, the developer would see the copy of the invoice and the work. You'd see the proposal, all that stuff. Yeah, completely above board is the way this works.

Director Liverett: So we already have a proposal from Sarah, right?

District Engineer Vasquez: Correct.

Director Liverett: Can I ask you send me that?

District Engineer Vasquez: Sure, absolutely, yeah.

Director Liverett: Yeah. That was my only concern, was that I thought I was gonna talk to you about either on record or off record about looking at the possibility of waiting until we get through the three sites that we're working on, to see if that would affect the water model.

District Engineer Vasquez: The treatment systems wouldn't affect the water model that significantly, possibly 5% pressure difference or water capacity for each of the wells. But what it would do is give us a 95% confidence level of what the problem is for the east side of the district. You know, in that. And then also, future projects as an example, which I think is even more important, in making assessments as to where to put another storage tank, or well, things like that. Where you can put a node at the end of wherever this tic-tac-toe looking grid looks like, and then at one end, you put a new well. What does that do? And if we turn that well on and shut this one off, what does that do? If we abandon another well and construct a new one in that certain location, or tanks, or all those things that come together right now, are we doing our best that we can to make

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assessments, but it's very difficult to, you know, to state that, you know, I think we're probably functioning at a 35% confidence level at this point.

Director Liverett: It would be nice to see what's under the earth.

District Engineer Vasquez: So, I just want to make you aware of that and any other thoughts you guys may have, please share them with us.

Director Young: You said there might be grants available?

District Engineer Vasquez: There might be, but I think the way these grants are is the reimbursement. You know, so you kind of have to have them done, the work done before you can get, or even apply for reimbursement.

Director Young: Yeah, and we don't have any money budgeted anywhere for that.

District Engineer Vasquez: We do not.

Director Young: We'll have to think about that when we look at the budget.

District Engineer Vasquez: So, I know we have a lot of things going on with a lot of expenditures and we have rate study stuff that, you know, Felix will talk about at some point. So we have all these things that move around. It's \$55,000, you know, but it's still something that we should keep track of. But I think the value of that is, it's really important. If we can, you know, stuff like maybe not do a couple of valve locations next year and pay using capital improvement funding for that.

Director Liverett: Sarah would know too, if there was anything out there.

District Engineer Vasquez: She would know. The person that Maria is talking about is Sarah Rogers. Her firm, where she was the project manager for the design, is both, well, 15, and 16.

District Engineer Vasquez: She was involved in both well designs. Fantastic job. I've known her since 2000. And it's been a consultant. Obviously, they have to submit their qualifications, and she's very qualified. And the reason why I recommend her to do the work is because she's done previous modeling for the district, using the old water model that no longer is usable. So because she would be involved, she would then be able to utilize as much as possible of the old model. Again, it's not much, but it's still some savings. You know, so, and there's no one else I would recommend to do the model than her, and her costs are very reasonable, in comparison, to what these things usually cost, you know, \$100,000.

Director Young: Yeah. I think we should look at moving this water study up and trying to, you know, I mean, by the next board meeting, I would think you'd probably have been able to touch bases with county planning or whoever it is. If you can find out more information on why they're paused. And if it's a short term or a long term pause, and, you know, maybe have some idea on... if we should prioritize that out of a different funding source, or if we should just send it out for right now, but it's... So it's like it would be extremely helpful to know that...

District Engineer Vasquez: One last thing, yes, it would be. Once the district pays for a model, in previous years, some of this, the digital information didn't get passed on from consultant to consultant. In this case, what would happen is, as soon as the model was done and completed, that would be transferred over to the district, you know, in its complete nature, so that if Sarah all of a sudden retires, you know, that somebody else would come in, and, you know, one of the things we want to plan

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for as well, in future years, future years, is updating the software. So we don't have this issue in 10 years. So those are the things we're obviously are always in play.

Director Young: Yeah. And I mean, they've got two AM PMs proposed right now to get building over on the corner of the archway. There's two fields over there that could be, you know, developed. And then there's over at Dry Creek, so that's what, five different places for, whatever it is. I would think with that much going on you would want to know what your water capabilities are to serve all of that.

District Engineer Vasquez: Sure. It's easy to have discussions with someone who's building, you know, a four lot subdivision or someone who's building a high use water, commercial or industrial project, whatever it is, to give from understanding what it is. And, for us, part of this project is we're not able to. And so then and we haven't really had to throughout my tenure with the district, but if these kinds of projects are going to start coming into fruition, then, you know, but again, that's one phase. The other part of it is, even if there's no development at all, is for us to be able to make assessments with their own water system.

Director Liverett: Right. Something like North Precinct is facing that comes around, that's going to change the whole...

District Engineer Vasquez: Okay. So I'll let, you know, I'm on it, and if anything comes up before the board meeting, I'll certainly put something together for you. Well, at the very minimum, it'll be an update like this in my report.

Public: Mike, you're the engineer. What caused all the pressures to drop that people said they weren't getting. I personally went and turned the faucet, and no water came out. And I'm right in the middle of town.

District Engineer Vasquez: When was this?

Public: It was about a week before everybody else started complaining that they were having low psi.

Interim GM Felix: Power interruption caused all the wells to shutoff. Staff had to come in and assess the power issue, and then quickly turn on the wells to get the water pressure back up.

6. Water Meter Replacement Program

District Engineer Vasquez: Okay, Water Meter Replacement Program. I understand and I apologize for not being at the board meeting last time, I was ill, and I tried to get here, but I called Felix at about 5 o'clock, and I just couldn't make it. But, so I understand the water meter replacement item on the agenda, was postponed, for further discussion, to contract with Rawles Engineering, to continue with the water meter installation.

Director Young: So, I don't know if you got the background on that or anything, but, you know, we're looking at trying to upgrade our equipment so that we can do more of those types of services ourselves, without having to hire out, and with the amount of money, like, that we're paying for Rawles, because we have an older... extractor, not extractor, excavator, and I... Back up, yeah. And vacuum pumps that leaks and different stuff like that. You know, if we, you know, we're paying, uh, what was it, \$120,000 on the one project, and, uh, you know, that buys some equipment. Yeah. And that also, you know, Frank, according to Frank, he said we could use at least two more people, minimum, and four would be preferable just to keep up. So, that's kinda why it's on pause, so we can kind of review and flush that out to see how we can keep that money in house.

District Engineer Vasquez: Sure. And so I want to be really clear and transparent, so whenever I bring something to the board like this, it's for consideration, discussion, and for us to continue to do work, I'm 100% behind the statement of keeping as

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much work internally as possible. So, if we can leverage that or that portion of the budget to hire 100%. That makes a lot of sense. But also, I think it's, our responsibility to, you know, share that, we need to get these things done. And if it's gonna be, I know Felix is working on this as well, but if it's gonna be a year before we get additional resources, then we have a budget for a reason to be able to continue to make these changes. So I wanted to make sure I got some direction from the executive committee, how to move forward with the board. Is it still on pause? Would you like me to keep it on pause until further notice?

Director Young: Sure, I think this would, if we just talked about it, decide to table it for maybe a month or so, and then look back at it. But it was what I remembered happening anyway.

District Engineer Vasquez: Sure. Okay.

Public: Are you talking about the meters?

District Engineer Vasquez: About the meters, yeah.

Director Liverett: How many do you have still to go?

District Engineer Vasquez: 500.

Public: We have 500 in stock?

Director Young: No, we have to. This is for the coming year, they have in stock, I think. for what they're finishing with Rawles right now, but this would be for next coming year to continue doing that same program with Rawles, and the district would have to purchase that material, and then we would be paying Rawles for the installation.

Director Young: Well, we're talking about, you keep, you know, shutting down the Rawles project right now, if this one that we were just talking about, making it... getting... We only got, like, two yard guys right now. We've got Frank as a supervisor, and I think there's...

Director Young: Okay. Anyway, uh, we don't have enough manpower back there. And we haven't, and that's why they were putting it out, but, like I said, we were talking about trying to upgrade our material, and getting the staff, so that we can do all this stuff ourselves, and not need to hire Rawles or anybody. Rawles, normally, I think typically was used for heavier construction projects and large emergencies.

Public: Right, and that's kind of got, in the past,

Director Young: day to day operation which we're trying to push them back out and keep it in the house.

Public: Okay, just one more thing. So, if we only have two, didn't we have five at one time that got their treatment license, and then we had to give them money that was a two and a half years prior to October of 2026. And then, magically, every employee got a \$1,200 bonus. Now, I clearly remembered that, because that board packet is hanging up in my barn with a big old red flag on it. Okay? And I will make sure that I don't live this one down, okay? So why we have only two. Where did the rest of them go? I know where one land. He quit.

Director Liverett: Well, when he left, he had another guy, right behind him, leave. So we lost two guys.

Interim GM Felix: Are you referring to Chris and Justin?

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Public: Yeah, there's five guys who got treatment license. What? One, two and a half years prior to us. Uh... being... Hold on, Mary. No. Prior to us, having to answer to the state. And they got a huge raise having this treatment license. And then magically, every employee got a \$1,200 bonus. And that board pack is hanging up in my barn with a camera on it, so nobody can come and take it. Okay? And it has a flag, a red flag, and, well, orange one, 'cause it comes from my sea dew. And I'm serious with a heart attack, 'cause that I will not live down. Literally, I don't understand it.

Director Young: For the Chromium 6 treatment operators. We had to adjust the pay scale, where everybody was certified, that was four guys that got a pay bump, when we don't even have a plant yet. According to Tim, that was negotiated into the MOU prior to us being there.

Director Liverett: What treatment certification was that? Because we didn't even have a treatment...

Public: But that's why I raised Holy cane, because I'm like, why do they need this treatment license? Why are we paying them extra? You know? Why are we doing this? And then, like I said, magically, everybody got a \$1,200 bonus. That's, you know, ho, boy. You know, I think my point is, these people get these certifications, like Mitch, which is Frank, okay? And then there is no kind of payback that we have as a district stating, you cannot or you need to stay. And I know the MOU with those unions can be real sticky. But here's the point. It has to be negotiated. They have to stay with the district a minimum of two years. You know, or something of that nature. If not, they have to pay it back. You know, we're being ripped off left and right.

Director Liverett: I just don't know what certification that you guys are talking about. What did they get? Because, like, the treatment operators for...

Public: For the chromium 6

Director Liverett: We don't have any special treatment certification for what we're putting in right now.

Public: Well, Tim said. It was because these employees are gonna have to watch the whole process of the, you know, when you put treatment on the well. So that's the reason they had to have it. And which didn't make sense to me. But I do want to talk about something real quick. Mr. Felix, I remember, one of the employees came. I think it was Frank that came and tested my backflow device because he put a sticker on the door. And so, I... Now, I don't remember how long it's been at least two times, maybe three times ago, maybe three years. So, if he didn't have a license, why was he doing that? Because I think that's what I'm hearing is, he needs to get backflow device certified. So, I'm pretty sure it was him.

Public: Is that what the state, though?

Public: I am curious, Felix, or somebody, can you answer, maybe Mike? Does it have to be a new test every two years? On an employee that is doing the backflow? Is it mandatory through the state? That's every two years, three years, five years.

Director Young: Recertification? Anyway, we're getting off track here.

5. 2026 Consumer Confidence Report

District Engineer Vasquez: So, I'm working on the 2026 Consumer Confidence Report. Normally, Pat put together a report and analyzes the data for the previous year, water quality data, and then prepares a report that gets distributed to all the rate payers in their bimonthly bills. So I'm helping Frank with that. He hasn't done them before. So, I'm working with him, showing

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him how to do it. So the next year, he can do it on his own. So that should be done next week as well. And you'll see it with your next bill and will be posted online.

4. 2025 Urban Water Management Plan

District Engineer Vasquez: Next we have the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan. Waterworks is doing a really good job of asking for the information. It's taking a lot of work on my part to gather the information and sort it and give it to them. Still on schedule for getting this done by the end of the year. So those will be important items for the committee to know.

3. 2025/2026 FY CIP Valve Replacement Project

District Engineer Vasquez: So, I'm gonna jump to the 2025 - 2026 fiscal year, Capital Improvement Project, with the current Valve Replacement Project that's on going. So far, four sites went pretty well. However, the last site did not. What happens is, and again, the purpose of why we're doing these valve replacement projects, so that if there's a leak between a block that you can turn off valves and only affect a handful of property owners, then that's good. But, a lot of these valves crosses are frozen. So the next kind that Rawles is working on, it's up to district staff to shut the water off, so that Rawles can actually do their construction. They spent four hours trying to shut the water off and they weren't able to. So, Frank pushed pause that day and since then, the staff has been full-time working on leaks. So, it takes all the staff to go do that. They'll focus again on the valve replacement projects. So for right now, it's been halted, because of just the workload with the current staff. Frank is, and previous staff as well, have always done a magnificent job of trying to find the right valves and where they are. Sometimes the county comes in and paves over them, you know, so that they're lost, so they have to go find them. All those things are in play, but two things just to know is that staff is doing a really good job. I mean, they're trying their best, and then, but nothing's happening right now because staff is working on water leak preparation.

Director Young: Yeah, they certainly looked busy today when I was down there.

2. 2026/2027 CIP Project

District Engineer Vasquez: So, with item number three being the current fiscal year capital improvement project, we thought it would be good to continue the valve replacement at this point. I talked to Frank about it, but I think for now, let's get the first one done, and then let's make an assessment of what's left to do. Then once I know what that looks like, I'll present it back to the committee and to the board for, future movement, on what kind of project we want to do. At the same time, the water model could also fit within that budget as well. So I think, by default, we're being given a little bit of time to kind of make a decision. So I think that's the important part at this point.

Director Young: So you're saying with the one pipeline for next year, if we put that on hold, we could use that money instead on a...

District Engineer Vasquez: It would take a board action, you know? But that's another possibility if the developer component doesn't come to fruition as well. So there's a lot of ifs and thens about that.

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Director Liverett: To the 2027 fiscal year?

District Engineer Vasquez: The current fiscal year. I mean, the project that's going on still is last fiscal year's budget that was transferred to this fiscal year, but then also there was an additional amount that's always, put into a budget for the current fiscal year too. So you'll see \$450,000 or whatever in the budget. But that also includes the current project.

1. Hexavalent Chromium Compliance Planning

District Engineer Vasquez: Okay. Last but not least, is the Cr6 Compliance Plan. So moving along with assessing what the best course of action is to be in compliance by October of 2027. One of the things that I was made aware of, late last week, and then been working with one of the manufacturers for and suppliers for the Hex Chrome compliance project, and treatment systems is that the vessels take a lot of time to be manufactured and then be delivered. So, I asked for a quote to see what that would cost. It was a bit more than what was presented previously by the supplier. If you remember, it was a couple of gentlemen and a couple of women that came to the board meeting back in May. And so I asked, well, why? You know, why is it going to cost more? And so then the response that I received was because the price that they give us back then, and the price they're given us now, it also includes more operation and maintenance costs. That wasn't part of the capital cost back in April. Capital costs are what you pay for equipment. O&M costs are what you pay for, getting it going, and then transitioning it into connecting it into the distribution system, media regeneration, those kind of things. I did receive today, or I'm sorry, last night, a revised cost and proposal. So, let me back up a little bit. The vessels can take 6 months at a minimum to be put together and then delivered. I think it's a little more than that.

Director Liverett: He said 8 to 10.

District Engineer Vasquez: Yeah. So I think it's in the last one, you said 6 months, but I'm not, and that's, I feel like it's...

Director Liverett: That's after the action and placed the order.

District Engineer Vasquez: My recommendation to the committee, is to allow me an opportunity to fully vet what the cost is going to be, and then also vet what it does to our budget, overall for the project itself. Obviously, what's really important, what we're doing here with our budget and approval and discussion here today. I'm on vacation starting right after this meeting. I'll be back on Tuesday. I have 2 or 3 days on Tuesday to dig deep into this, which is not a lot of time, but if the urgency exists to get this done as soon as possible, I think I'll do the best that I possibly can to fully vet what that would look like. And then if the recommendation is to move forward and purchase the equipment, then what that would look like is the district would put together a PO, a purchase order, with the manufacturer. The district would then pay, a certain percentage up front, and a certain percentage, at a point in construction, and the remaining percentage when it gets delivered. Okay. So, those are things that are unknowns at this point, but I do want to make sure that, we have an understanding. Now, we have, when I say this, make sure we take it with the grain of salt. We have time to do this, this kind of stuff. But we don't want to lose momentum. One of the things I spoke with the waterboard this morning was that Rio Linda is doing a wonderful job of keeping the waterboard informed, that we're in compliance. We were one of the few water districts that actually submitted a compliance plan on schedule, and then when they responded back to us, we got back to them on schedule. I had a meeting with them this morning, to let them know that there may be a delay, in timing with vessel deliveries. They're very open to, you know, ensuring

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that, they're as lenient as possible with an extension, but I think our goal should still be to, you know, move forward with some momentum and some intensity, and try to get this done as soon as possible.

Director Liverett: And make our deadline.

District Engineer Vasquez: And, make our deadline. Now, why I think that's also important, this is a not district engineer statement. It is that I think that if we're one of the few districts that actually get in compliance on time, that's a big feather in the cap for the district. And I think culturally how the rest of the community sometimes may view us. I know Felix is working really hard on making sure we're doing a good job. So I wanted to reiterate that with the water board this morning. I spoke with our District Engineer, Austin Peterson and also his assistant, Water Resource Control Engineer Sepideh Feizi, and they were both very thankful that we were able to put in the time doing that. So, anyway, this could potentially cost more. I don't know, how much more yet. I need to dig deep into that, and if I can get everything done, that I need to get done next week, then, I'll coordinate with staff, and then making sure that, I have a recommendation for you at that point.

Director Young: Great. Sounds good.

Public: What was the number before?

District Engineer Vasquez: Uh, ballpark?

Public: Yeah, just give me a number.

District Engineer Vasquez: I know you love these numbers.

Public: Oh, yeah, I'm a number gal.

District Engineer Vasquez: And you haven't held me accountable, but I want to make sure, when I see these things, I mean, I'm not as passionate as you are with the numbers. But when I see something, that is more than what I thought, more than before, I also dig my heels in a little bit. I wanna find out why. I understand things cost more because, material is just increasing cost. I get all that stuff. So it was originally about 1.1 million. And the cost that I got now was about 1.3. But the 1.3 was broken down differently to where it also included O&M costs. So what I'm working on right now is I want an Apple's to Apple's comparison. I don't care about the other stuff. I want to know what part of \$1.1 million, it's going to end up being. I feel like it's gonna be, less than \$1.2 million. But, all the different components that are associated with it, I want to make sure where they're sorted out to be. You know, again, capital costs of things to always remember and also what operation and maintenance costs, what those look like as well.

Public: On those wells that you're talking about, what kind of gallons per minute are they going to be?

District Engineer Vasquez: They usually vary between 800 and 1,000 gallons per minute.

Public: Is there any grant money or anything that can help with this stuff?

District Engineer Vasquez: Not in the time frame that we need it to be.

Director Liverett: This is one year, and that's... Jim has already gotten, I would say, DDs, maybe 25%.

District Engineer Vasquez: A little less. than I've seen.

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Director Liverett: But I also wanted to say, I really think that Felix or you need to get Frank in touch with Jim. Because he couldn't get the pilot study started at all at well 10. Like, the plan was Monday, and he couldn't get a hold of anybody. So instead, he's working on the technical specs, and he wanted to know if the front ends from the previous one that he's done, if those were still good, do you know?

District Engineer Vasquez: I don't know.

Director Young: Could we find out?

Director Liverett: Let's schedule a meeting tomorrow.

District Engineer Vasquez: I'm not around tomorrow. (vacation)

Director Liverett: That's right. You're on vacation.

Public: When you said that, we don't have enough time, can you still apply, though? And then they could reimburse us after. Or is it something you can't touch it, tell they've given you the money?

District Engineer Vasquez: So there's a couple of things here. I know, with the SGA and RWA. I think Maria can speak to this, and that's just, that's what she meant.

Public: Yeah, I'm talking about the state here.

District Engineer Vasquez: I'm trying to respond to that. The district isn't disadvantaged. There's not a lot of reimbursable grant funding available specifically for these kinds of projects. If there's an ASR component to the project, then there could be some funding available.

Public: So we're gonna have to fund it ourselves?

District Engineer Vasquez: Yeah. It does seem like that, we look around some places where we should be disadvantaged, and we're not.

Director Liverett: Well, they were checking the boxes with what they want to see in order to qualify for the grants, which one is to ASR stuff. And so Mike and I were speaking earlier about getting in tight with, including the state, with brainstorming, with us, so that they can help support us in that decision at the moment..

Public: What doesn't make sense is the state wants you to have 10 parts per billion, but you have a small district like this, it doesn't get a lot of revenue coming in. It doesn't make sense that there's nothing out there to help for this chrome six stuff.

District Engineer Vasquez: So part of what we're doing that hasn't been done before is being more involved with the Division of Drinking Water. And I mentioned this to Felix earlier today, I think that conversation went very well. Normally, when someone from the district calls the water board it's for something bad that happened, and we need to give them bad news. And this situation, it wasn't bad news per se. But it was introduction of a possibility, and we have a plan. Like, oh, this is great. You guys are doing great. And then I left the meeting with, I'd like to continue the conversation more regularly with our District Engineer. Now, I said, our District Engineer, it's our district area. You know, that's the state water board, who oversees all the Water Districts in our area. So he knows other water districts like that. So, it went really well and I want to continue that part of the conversation. The other part, too, that I think it's easier to say in this setting is that when people speak in certainty that there's

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money available, I would like for us to ask, okay, show me, where is it available? Because that shuts them up pretty quickly because if there was money available, we would be working really hard to try to get it. And I think, that then puts the public, asking staff and the board, why aren't you getting grant money? I mean, so when people tell you that, if you hear throughout the industry, whatever it is, say, can you please just show me what those are? There's state revolving funding for drinking water projects available. But it's a loan and other loans may be better getting then on our own. But, that's not always the case. There could be a little bit available, but, you know, it's not to where you're going to make so much, you're only gonna get so much grant funding, and by the time you put together the application, the cost in time and work prevents the application, to what they were gonna give you from a grant perspective. It's not always the case, but in our situation, because we're not disadvantaged, that is more of a reality.

Director Liverett: And to it, I was in an ACWA meeting this morning and there are some new opportunities. And so they sent us a link to the chat feature and I have a copy of that link and I can share it with anybody interested. But it's, there's some new stuff that are becoming available. So, they have been working on that a lot, and they're looking for more people to join, and they're kind of excited that they had some small districts on there. When I showed up. And I think that they want more people from our district, to join in on these committees.

District Engineer Vasquez: So the last thing that I'll share is, with the potential increasing costs, again, it's very important that we circle back with our budget and public hearing, in August. And to give you some other perspective as well, to put together an agenda item. After today, it's got to be done by Friday. I'm sorry, by Wednesday at 5 o'clock internally so that it can be given to the staff by Friday or to give it to the board by Friday. Usually, it's delivered on Thursday? Yeah, so, you know, when we have these kinds of, intents and trying to be efficient with that. We have to pretend a board meeting is on Wednesday. So we can get all the information we need put together and then submit it.

Director Young: And how are you working with the Jim Carson? You guys working together quite a bit or?

District Engineer Vasquez: He's, yeah, I mean, we've met probably a couple times over the last couple of weeks.

Director Young: Is there anything we could do to help him be integrated and get up to speed with everybody? Because he's new on the team.

Director Liverett: Well, I probably speak to him daily. And that's why I knew he's been trying to get a hold of Frank. And I think that if we could help him get out to start understanding operations and to let Frank know, hey, these ones have to run for 3 months straight. So there's gotta be some operational things that need to take place because just to do the pilot testing requires our wells to run. I'm correct, right? That has to run for 3 months straight, those two wells. Which is going to change some of the way the operations are.

District Engineer Vasquez: One of the things I'm working with him on, I think, besides, you know, the projects is just trying to get some budgets under control. That's a bad word. Let me take that back. To understand budgets, because I think part of my responsibility is to make sure that whatever we're paying out is in the best interest of the district. So I'm doing that. Felix knows that, and Maria knows that. And just like this, I'll never nickel and dime the district for my own business, I try to make sure that I hold other people accountable as well.

Director Liverett: You did a good job with, the Chart Waters quotation.

District Engineer Vasquez: Well, they kind of ticked me off.

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Director Liverett: I know, I liked it, though.

Director Young: How long have you been on this current contract we're on with you? It's been, what, 3 years

District Engineer Vasquez: I think it'll be 3 years in September.

Director Young: How long is that contract for, or is that just ongoing?

District Engineer Vasquez: It's ongoing.

Director Liverett: Well, I saw your emails, and I thought you were doing a really good job, and he brought his pricing back down too. I thought was very nice.

District Engineer Vasquez: So with that, that's all I have.

Director Young: Looks like you have a long list of things you have to do.

District Engineer Vasquez: We've hit a different time with the district's infrastructure where compliance issues are big, you know, they're massive.

Director Liverett: Well, something that...

Public: So are we going to meet the deadline on these?

District Engineer Vasquez: To be determined. Our plan is to work very hard to meet...

Public: So what happens if we don't?

District Engineer Vasquez: We ask for an extension.

Public: Okay, so you've talked to District Engineer, Austin Peterson about that?

District Engineer Vasquez: Yes, I have. If that should happen. We ask for an extension.

Director Liverett: If we could get the vessels ordered and iron out everything, I think that it's very doable. But we have to keep everybody moving. Keep everybody moving.

Public: It's like, we wasted 2 years for nothing.

Director Young: It doesn't matter if we did or didn't, we have today. We got to keep working forward. Yesterday, we can't change.

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Mike: So we have time, the response is, if we need an extension, a reasonable extension will be approved. And based on our tracking, we look to be in compliance by the deadline. I think it'd be a huge feather in the cap of this district if we're able to do that.

Director Liverett: And then I would be able to get ACWA. They're giving out small district awards for, you know, making some of these compliance deadlines and things. And so I would immediately put in for this district to have that award.

Public: You're not the representative, are you?

Director Liverett: No.

Public: We need to change, and you need to ask to take over..

Director Liverett: Yeah. I just... Anyways, I think that there's some really cool things coming down the pipe with ACWA, so we can look at trying to keep our projects on task. So, like you said, feather in the hat is something we could use.

District Engineer Vasquez: And for those of you that don't know much about ACWA, go online, look at a few webinars, some of the meetings that they have. It's, the best agency, I think, in California to help us move forward with water.

Director Liverett: The largest one too.

Director Liverett: Well, these little meetings, you know, like today, they're beneficial, and there's another one coming up on the 17th, and another one on the 23rd. And, they work right with legislation and you can have a voice on all of that. There some of the biggest players.

Interim GM Felix: A lot of proactive lobbying too. They also provide continuing education. It's a nice plus to attend these seminars, trainings, etc...

Director Liverett: And they have a bunch of workbook, workshops that are coming up on the new legislation coming down, and then they get everybody's opinion on whether they want to support it or not. They go straight to the governor's office with their yays or nays.

Director Young: Alright, lets move on.

2. CPS HR Invoice for GM Recruitment 7-24-26

Director Young: Felix what do you have for us?

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Interim GM Felix: So we're all familiar with CPS HR. The concern with them is that somehow, they feel compelled that they can charge us an invoiced amount of \$1,800, even though we didn't sign an agreement with them.

Director Liverett: So, can they give us a date of each service that they performed, the name and title of each and the time spent on each task? Give us a copy of the work that they produced?

Director Young: I think we should just stall this. We're not decided to use them yet. We don't want to tick them off if we do end up using them down the road. But we don't really want to pay for something that we never agreed to. So, would you guys just propose it as a good strategy for stalling for a while on this and be able to figure out what we're doing on it?

Director Liverett: Yeah \$150 an hour. You better give me the name and the title of the person who did the work for us.

Interim GM Felix: There is a due date, which is 8-23-26. So, we still have time, but I wanted to make sure you received this and come up with a consensus. Let me know what you want to do. We want to make sure the rest of the board sees it. I want to make sure everyone's on board. But in the interim, I can reach out to them and ask for a more detailed breakdown.

Director Young: We need that. I'm looking to ask for more details on billing.

Director Liverett: Scope provision. Yeah.

Director Young: We're just gonna take our time and find a way through that is the most advantage to this district.

Director Liverett: I wouldn't... There was no authorization. Who authorized it? Show me who gave you authorization to perform any work on our behalf?

3. Verizon Antenna & Radio Unit Replacement on District Water Tank

Director Young: Let's talk about Verizon. There's a good bit to figure out. All this contract, first up, before you... From 2002, all the way up to today, and who owns it.

Interim GM Felix: So, we now have Diamond Infrastructure. They are the real estate facility management agent, if you will, for Verizon. So it's changed a lot of hands. You can see the diatribe with regards to all the different companies that did own it in the past. According to the purchase and sale, lease agreement,

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there is what's called a plan reversion date, and that is November 1st of 2034. I had legal take a look at it to make sure that everything is relevant. Are there any issues with this? And they said, yes, what you're seeing here is correct. That said, they have the right to enter our property and replace their old antiquated radio and antennas.

Director Young: Between 50 and 70 feet on the tower.

Interim GM Felix: Yes, that is correct.

Director Liverett: They have six antennas?

Director Liverett: Well, I was gonna ask if there's a structural analysis included in that prior to them performing the work?

Interim GM Felix: Thus far, they provided the renderings, the specs of the equipment that they're gonna be replacing. And so everything is specked out. If you go to A-3.1, that's a better rendering, a comparison of what they're going to be changing.

Director Young: What is it that, what are they trying to buy from us specifically?

Interim GM Felix: They're not, this is just replacement of equipment. So, they have the right to enter the property and replace the antiquated, the old stuff with newer stuff.

Director Young: It's the title, Purchase and Sale Lease?

Director Liverett: I read that.

Interim GM Felix: If you take a look at the back of the agreement, you'll see who signed it and that was approved by the board then.

Director Liverett: It was a one-time big purchase. I've already analyzed the lease.

Director Young: Twelve hundred bucks, 10-year contract. They sold it out for \$50,000 for the 10- year period instead of collecting the \$144,000.

Director Liverett: Did you have a chance to review the plans, Mike?

District Engineer Vasquez: No, I haven't seen the plans. Normally, I don't need to see them, because it's stuff that they replace. But from a structural perspective, I think when it gets closer, I certainly would like to.

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Director Liverett: They have the right according to their lease to come out to the property and change out the... According to the plans, there are 6 antennas, 3 radios, some cabling and the surge protection. I'm just wondering if they're going to keep this work within, inside of the existing leased area? And they need to provide a structural analysis, the weight difference between the old and the new, permits, current insurance, and if our district operations are gonna be affected. I think that they have the right to do that, but we also have the right to say these are the items that your here about.

Director Young: So, they got equipment up there that nobody is paying a lease on, and then they want to come in and tell us...

Public: Did Verizon, were they the ones that entered into a contract with us, or was somebody else and they took over later?

Interim GM Felix: The property manager provided the lease agreement to Verizon, to service the area.

Director Young: How much are they proposing to pay us a month for a lease? Has that been proposed?

Interim GM Felix: The district is already paid off.

Director Young: That was back in 2000 something for a 10-year piece.

Interim GM Felix: Once the revision date is over, then we can take ownership.

Director Young: What's the revision date?

Interim GM Felix: It's November, 2034.

Director Young: Did they get it for 30 years?

Director Liverett: So there is an area in the lease that is a gray area. Yes, they have a one lump sum for this amount of time. But because this lease has changed hands and been resold to so many different people, it completely muddies the waters. There is an amount that should have been getting paid to the district every month. And I haven't been able to get that. I was gonna work with the previous attorney on that, and then that didn't happen and it fell to the wayside.

Director Liverett: There are some clauses in there that I think that we can research further, that there is something that was supposed to be obligated to the district, paid to the district, but it was getting paid to the lessor. And then it moved, and then it moved, and then it moved. And now it looks like it's moving again. So it's just been so muddled.

Director Young: Theres not a good updated contract with any of these inbetweeners.

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Director Liverett: I didn't continue down that road.

Director Liverett: Yeah, there's some other areas in the lease language that, but you have to dig into all of it. There were some amendments that were missing, I didn't get all of them from Tim. And that's where we left off and just didn't do it.

Director Young: There's still more records that are relevant that we don't have.

Interim GM Felix: It's possible. I requested for them to provide me all the purchase lease agreements, as well as the different parties, the companies that exchanged hands regarding all this. And I had legal review it. And they said, it looks right to them.

Director Young: I mean, didn't it start out as a 10-year contract?

Interim GM Felix: Many agreements were made.

Director Young: Doug Cater signed off on it, Mary Henrici signed off on it. Were they renewing it for nothing, or, you know, because the original contract was 2002. So, 2012, they should of owed us money again.

Director Liverett: Well, this date was negotiated.

Public: Yeah, I don't recall it 2002, but then that's just about the time I was elected. I thought this all took place in 2014. when Mary Enrici was here.

Director Liverett: Yeah, but, Felix, I found a clause in this. The whole system, with the fact that if they could not provide us with proof and documentation, where they could stop making these payments, then we can null and void the lease moving forward to date. And that's when everyone went dark on me.

Interim GM Felix: What year was this? When was this?

Director Liverett: I'd have to pull up all of my notes. I have a whole bunch of notes on this. Because I dug in really deep on this lease.

Director Liverett: And I found an area, and I said, I asked our attorney, would you please request these documents? Because if they can't produce them in a timely fashion, we can void their lease entirely.

Interim GM Felix: And this was before Jeff?

Director Liverett: this was the other attorney that...I can't remember his name, it doesn't matter. Anyway, I'll share those documents with you. I think that might be a path worth going back down.

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Interim GM Felix: I'm going to reach out to them for any missing items. But it would be nice to find out if they were transparent with providing us with all the documentation that we should have on our end, for our records.

Director Liverett: It's just lease agreements. It's pretty easy. You just have to have all the pieces.

Director Liverett: I'm just gonna find all my old stuff and send it to Felix and let him figure it out.

Director Liverett: Well, they wanted to lease more of our property, which is why I dug deep in the first place.

Director Young: Yeah, but that's a secondary project.

Director Liverett: And then that's when I had said, we need to request this period, when the lease left this office, because it just has a hole through here. I need this clarity. So did we have another agreement? And then Tim said yes, but he couldn't show it to me. So, there's some mystery.

Director Young: I would assume you could look through the files and see if anything was missed, Felix?

Interim GM Felix: I'll look into the matter and reach out to Diamond.

Director Young: Let's go. This is..., Felix, could you present that?

4. Expenditures & 5. Financial Reports for June 2026

Interim GM Felix: So, agenda item 4 expenditure report. Are there any...?

Director Liverett: So I, um, cut off again from the districts.. So I wasn't able to look at any of that.

Interim GM Felix: Are there any ones in particular?

Director Young: Are there any comments on the finances, checks, expenses?

Director Liverett: I briefly saw something about executive committee payment before the executive committee happened date. I don't remember where I saw that.

Interim GM Felix: Like I mentioned prior, you're gonna start to see less of these Walmart transactions. Unless there's an emergency, I'm having staff, order from Quil, or Office Max for office supplies.

Director Young: This Doug Cater, on the back flow, do we have some kind of contract with him about this or I see a couple different ones. How did he end up doing our back flow testing?

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Interim GM Felix: That's probably a question I need to ask... Mike.

District Engineer Vasquez: I don't. I believe there's an agreement, this is only for memory of how, it was either presented in one of these meetings or something like that, but that's something I'm never involved in.

Director Young: Somebody called him and said, come and do this work.

Interim GM Felix: When did this happen?

Director Young: I think it was right before Tim left that we started seeing Doug Cater's name, so that might be a leftover from him. We need to find out, I mean, do we need this guy to be doing that back flow testing for us?

Interim GM Felix: I think, in the interim, until we can hire more field staff. I just met with Frank today to discuss how many candidates we have and if we can move forward with the interview process.

Director Young: Does he have people applying?

Interim GM Felix: We've got two for the foremen, and we have potentially eight for the regular field staff position. I'm a little uncomfortable with just interviewing two people for the foremen position. I'd like to interview more, so we may consider extending a little longer until we get more for the foreman.

Director Young: Yeah, don't just fill it just to fill it. If there's somebody that can do the job.

Interim GM Felix: That's qualified, correct. That was his concern, as well. The idea is to pull away from other vendors and contractors.

Director Young: I really want to see what kind of agreement we have with him, because it just popped up.

Interim GM Felix: I assumed that it happened organically. Because of Pat and Justin and Chris leaving. But I don't know the backstory about how this all played out and why we're using him now.

Director Young: If he's doing it himself as an independent contractor, that's one thing. But if he's hiring other people to work under him, then we'd probably have a duty to make sure that, you know, like, most of the contracts we signed, with Rawles, or anybody else, that they have employees there, they'd have to be paying prevailing wage, and, you know, there's certain terms and conditions for those people to work because of, you know, us being a district. So, you know, if he's, like I said, if he's just himself, does one thing, as an independent contractor, that's served by...

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Interim GM Felix: When I spoke with Frank earlier today, I asked him, is there anyone working with him? And he said, no, it's just him.

District Engineer Vasquez: So I just saw this back from the April meeting, in the general manager's report. It just has a line that said, "The general manager also engaged in a contractor to reduce the number of back flow assemblies that are overdue for testing." So, there is an engagement. I don't know that it was, or if it came to the board. It could have been under \$10,000 where he has the authority to do the engagement. But normally, what I've seen is any engagement, would come as an informational item. So there probably is something there. This is a month before your time. But also, I think it was April.

Director Liverett: But that was still under Tim.

Public: Correct, but I'm seeing him on 6/10 here for \$1,450, and then you turn it over here on 6/25, and it's another \$1,550. And he's been charging. So, if I total all this up, I mean, I'm just pulling out of my memory bank, We're closing into \$8,400 there, just in backflow, on Doug Cater alone. I've never, in all my years, attending, seen so much charged on backflow.

Director Young: Okay, I think we need to take a look at whatever agreement we have with him. You agree?

Director Liverett: Yeah, just bring it to the next board meeting, I guess. You can send it to us, or...

Director Young: Yeah, you wanna email this one?

Director Young: Okay, any other charges in here?

Public: I see Affordable Heating and Air. Is that pump maintenance for the AC at the building? At the office, at the district office?

Interim GM Felix: If you are referring to AC for pump maintenance facilities, the electric panels can get really hot, and we need them to stay cool. So there's an air conditioning unit in all of our electrical control rooms, because heat is a killer. And that would help explain for instance, if you have a power interruption, that power surge can cause high flow of electrons rushing through something and overheat it. So, take into consideration, the variable frequency drive at one of the wells that went out, and we paid \$70 K for that. That's what I mean by over time, when something cycles on, off, on, off. It gets hot.

Public: Yeah, but they get it through their allowance. They get money to buy the steel toe boots. And then we got, again, Amazon for \$223.29. It says safety equipment again, and we got safety equipment on 5/28. So, back to back, one day, there was safety equipment for \$1,800.03, and then you go down, and there's

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another safety equipment and billed IT for \$2,223.29. I mean I'm not understanding this. But it just is... I don't want to say overwhelming. It just don't make sense to me.

Director Liverett: It's just being classified in this class code, it's a reused, explanation, like, safety equipment. So, without the backup documents, you can't actually see what was bought.

Public: Right. And I'm going to put in public Republic request, because I need to see, you know? I need to start witnessing this.

Director Young: You're supposed to be able to be seeing what these expenses are.

Interim GM Felix: I'm gonna look into that link again and make sure that you guys get one that's serviceable, that's working, so that you guys can have access to all this for transparency.

Director Young: We'd save a lot of time at these meetings if we knew what all those were.

Public: Yeah, I got another one, Home Depot, up here on 5/21, for \$548.45, shop supplies again. So we got two guys in there. And that's over \$2,000 bucks we spent on shop supplies.

Director Young: So, I tell you, you know, that, that \$2,000 here in the \$2,000s there, and all that, isn't worth your blood pressure getting that high?

Director Young: So it's just never gone through you or somebody, because, I mean, it's one thing for \$100 or something, you know, you need some parts at the hardware store for a job or whatever, but, we recently spent on one visit at \$17,000 bucks for the vaccum pump. Here we go harping on that again. Then they spent another \$1,700 on it, and then we looked at it, and it's leaking like a sieve, because it's all rotted out. So why are we putting any money in it? You know, but who authorized the \$17,000 repair on that? That wasn't in the budget that wasn't anywhere. So somebody said, I need it for this job, and it's okay if you, at least for this one, but, you know, I really, so let's go spend \$17,000 instead of renting a machine for the day.

Director Young: Do they take the vehicles home?

Interim GM Felix: They take trucks when they're on standby. It's policy.

Director Young: For jobs, but, you know, overnight, I mean, even Tim looked down on that, because one guy would take it home, and every time it would be broke into. So they took that policy off the books.

Director Young: There's a fair amount of money that they get for this standby last year, too.

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Director Liverett: All of my superintendents take their trucks home. My project manager, they all have their jobs and take it home, and I know that that's not standard for here, but they're not allowed to use it after hours or on the weekends. They only use it for work.

Public: Yeah, but we don't we've asked for GPS. We've asked for air tags. We've asked...

Director Liverett: Well, he said there is GPS.

Interim GM Felix: I have access to monitor vehicles.

Public: Oh, that's kind of funny, 'cause I don't know when that happened. In all the meetings I've ever attended, nobody's ever approved of GPS.

Interim GM Felix: Are you sure?

Interim GM Felix: Who did?

Director Liverett: Maybe we just put that on the next district, policy agenda.

Interim GM Felix: I'll look into it. I'll look into the policies and provide you with some information.

Director Liverett: Well, if you can see them, then they can see them where they're at. So, that means they're in there.

Director Young: Well, let's move on.

6. Discuss Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2026/2027

Interim GM Felix: This is supposed to be the final budget, but then after I heard from, Mike that there may be monies out there that we're not taking into consideration. We'll do our best to get all the numbers updated, so everything's accurate for the budget. But take into consideration what we have here, there may be some adjustments to this again. I'll wait to hear back from Mike. But for now, what you're seeing here is the latest recommendation for the budget.

Director Young: Do you want to wait until you hear back from Mike? And then they can be more reflective of the numbers that they are gonna actually be..?

Interim GM Felix: I think it's best till I hear from Mike regarding the engineering projects and wait till the board meeting to present more accurate numbers.

Director Young: Yeah, I mean, I don't want to have to revise this budget 10 times.

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Interim GM Felix: I think that would be smart.

Director Young: Okay. All right, any comments, anybody?

Director Young: So... Any other comments?

Director Young: Mike, anything you see coming up that we're gonna be interested in?

District Engineer Vasquez: More aware of just doing research on funding availability. But I think, as of today, I think the continued conversation and progressive conversations with the state waterboard, which is gonna be probably one of the most helpful things the district has experienced since I've been around.

Director Young: I like the way that things are going right now. Yeah. I appreciate your work.

District Engineer Vasquez: Appreciate it. Thank you so much for that.

Director Young: Alright. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.