

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
LOWER SAN JOAQUIN LEVEE DISTRICT
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025**

Pursuant to the Call of the Chairman, a regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lower San Joaquin Levee District was held in the office of the San Luis Canal Company at 11704 W Henry Miller Avenue, Dos Palos, Merced County, California on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at the hour of 8:30 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman George Park presided over the meeting and called it to order, with the following Directors present in the board room: Sean Howard, Case Vlot, and Bob Kelley. Directors Breanne Vandenburg, Steve Shehadey, and Roy Catania were absent. The following staff were present in the board room: Legal Counsel Lauren Layne, Secretary-Manager Shane Swartz, Superintendent Jody McClellon, and Office Administrator Raegan Huff. There were no guests present in the boardroom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Vlot led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No corrections or additions.

BOARD MINUTES

Following a discussion regarding the previous Board minutes, the minutes of the Board's general meeting, held on March 11th, 2025, were approved on a motion by Director Vlot and seconded by Director Howard.

LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

Attorney Layne provided a brief update on recent legislative developments. She updated the Board on some correspondence she has received. She mentioned being contacted by the D&D Land and Water Duck Club attorney, who requested proof of ownership of the State Plan of Flood Control Levee. S-M Swartz assisted Attorney Layne by providing maps and a link to the DWR website. Attorney Layne then forwarded that information to the attorney representing D&D Land and Water.

Attorney Layne also mentioned being contacted by the attorney representing Modesto Properties regarding the conveyance fee that the District approved when adopting Resolution 735-25. Attorney Layne noted that they had a telephone conference with their attorney on April 11th to discuss this topic further.

Attorney Layne then provided an update on State Assembly Bills AB810 and AB404. AB810 discusses internet websites and email addresses, urging every public agency to switch to a “ca.gov” domain name for their websites and Board members’ email addresses. AB404 pertains to an exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act for CEQA compliance related to rebuilding buildings damaged in the Los Angeles fires.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent McClellon reported that grading and rolling of the levee roadway has been completed for the year.

Superintendent McClellon stated that the spraying of the levee roadway has been completed for the year, with touch-ups to be done as needed.

Superintendent McClellon reported that the vertebrate control program is ongoing, using Diphacinone bait and carbon monoxide devices.

Superintendent McClellon stated that the Deadman Creek Overflow gates on the Eastside Canal were opened to help drain flood waters received during the storms experienced in mid-March. These gates were opened for 6 days, and this was also coordinated with the Stevinson Water District.

Superintendent McClellon reported that while the San Joaquin River Restoration Program was releasing their pulse flows of 1,000 cfs from Friant Dam, he had the opportunity to flush the Hyacinth out of the Eastside Bypass Control structure.

Superintendent McClellon stated that two new patrol road gates were installed: one at Road 21 in Madera County, in unit 23 mile marker 9.75, and one where Napa Road ends at the San Joaquin River in Fresno County, in unit 24 mile marker 6.

Superintendent McClellon reported that he met with the District’s PCA, Jason Robbins, to discuss the results of this year's chemical applications. He was pleased with the outcomes they observed. They also talked about the potential use of Plant Growth Regulators to manage the growth of natural grass, which could help reduce the need for mowing the area.

Superintendent McClellon stated that the Flood System Repair Project (FSRP) gravel project will begin on Thursday, April 10th, on Unit 17 upstream of Avenue 17.

Superintendent McClellon reported that the Deferred Maintenance Project (DMP) is currently undergoing CIPP lining at various locations throughout the District, coordinated with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and AECOM, the subcontractor to the state. This will take several weeks, as we will visit each site to confirm that the necessary repairs can be carried out. Additionally, he noted that 25 of these locations will need to be revisited this summer due to excessive water accumulation.

Superintendent McClellon stated that he will be traveling to Olivehurst, CA, on April 29th. He has been in contact with representatives from Reclamation District 784, who will be using their burrow grouting equipment that day. The plan is to observe their operation and try to replicate it for the District's purposes.

Superintendent McClellon reported that gate and fence repairs continue as needed.

SECRETARY MANAGER'S REPORT

S-M Swartz presented current updates on flood operations and Friant Dam flows.

S-M Swartz reported that the encroachment permit for Modesto Properties is still in progress, and mentioned that there were some questions regarding the conveyance fee mentioned in Resolution 735-25. S-M Swartz noted that he is in contact with them for any further questions or concerns.

DWR – Deferred Maintenance Program (DMP) Update

S-M Swartz provided an update on DWR's Deferred Maintenance Program. S-M Swartz stated that Phase 2 of the DMP project, Package B, which includes six additional pipe replacements, has begun. He also mentioned that Package C is in progress for five additional pipe replacements and that AECOM engineers were on site reviewing the sites from April 8th to 10th.

DWR – Flood Maintenance Assistance Program (FMAP) Update

S-M Swartz provided an update on DWR's Flood Maintenance Assistance Program. S-M Swartz informed the Board that the finalized budget from DWR indicated that the FMAP program would not be funded in the 2025 calendar year. There is a possibility that funding may be restored in 2026, allowing the District to apply for the FMAP 2026 application in September.

DWR – Flood System Repair Program (FSRP) Update

S-M Swartz provided an update on DWR’s Flood System Repair Program. He informed the Board that the FSRP gravel project on Unit 17 will commence on April 10th; this contract has been awarded to San Joaquin Sand and Gravel. He also mentioned that the FSRP Erosion project is still in progress, and the District is awaiting the finalized engineering plans.

DWR – Regional Flood Management Plan (RFMP) Update

S-M Swartz provided an update on DWR’s Regional Flood Management Plan. S-M Swartz stated that he is waiting for the updated contract from DWR to continue funding with the District.

BUDGET STATUS REPORT

Following a discussion on the claims present, on a motion by Director Howard and seconded by Director Howard, the following claims were unanimously acknowledged and approved for payment.

Anthem Blue Cross	Employee Group Insurance	10300	\$12,401.36
Alhambra	Household expense-supplies	20900	\$137.11
Associates Lock & Safe	Maintenance- structures, other	21300	\$227.00
Baker Manock & Jensen	Professional services	21800	\$5,248.72
Baker Supplies & Repairs	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$662.29
Big Creek Lumber	Maintenance- structures, other	21300	\$265.00
CAL NET	Communications	20600	\$78.20
Cool World Enterprises	Communications	20600	\$337.00
CoPower	Employee Group insurance	10300	\$70.20
Elite Credit Card (Shane)	Tactacam, Parcel Quest		\$1,240.00
Elite Credit Card (Jody)	Home Depot		\$140.29
Fresno Wire Rope & Rigging	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$839.94
Gilton Waste	Household expense-supplies	20900	\$152.07
Henry Miller Rec. (rent)	Office expenses/supplies	21700	\$1,508.00
Henry Miller Rec. (propane)	Office expenses/supplies	21700	\$65.05
Humana	Employee Group insurance	10300	\$367.45
Jacobs Engineering Group	Professional services	21800	\$126,566.43
Justin's Tire and Auto	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$21.72
Kellogg Supply	Maintenance-equipment, other	21200	\$1,007.06
Kimball Midwest	Maintenance- structures, other	21300	\$1,274.34
Linde Gas & Equipment	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$2,596.43
Marfab Ag	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$121.09
Manuels Tire Service	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$399.98
Merced Co. Department of Ag	Maintenance- structures, other	21300	\$1,120.00
NAPA Auto Parts	Maintenance-equipment, other	21200	\$96.40
N&S Tractor	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$454.36
Office Supply Express	Office expenses/supplies	21700	\$37.86
PG&E (Cathodic Protection)	Utilities	22600	\$14.76
PG&E (Office)	Utilities	22600	\$68.19
PG&E (Shop)	Utilities	22600	\$504.56
PG&E (Structures)	Utilities	22600	\$499.68
PG&E (Indiana House)	Utilities	22600	\$8.06
Rene Torres	Clothing & Personal Supply	20500	\$135.93
Safe-T-Light	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$299.89
Shane Swartz	RFMP Expense	22387	\$392.20
Shane Swartz	Memberships	21500	\$239.88
Sparkletts	Household expense-supplies	20900	\$70.44
Stocking & Cozzi Insurance	Insurance	21000	\$159,184.00
Summers Engineering, Inc.	FSRP Expense	22388	\$5,042.93
Summers Engineering, Inc.	DMP Expense	22389	\$7,522.37
Summers Engineering, Inc.	Professional services	21800	\$106.60
Target Specialty Products	Maintenance- structures, other	21300	\$229.37
Tharp's Farm Supply	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$125.47
Tucci Machine Shop	Maintenance- structures, other	21300	\$749.32
UniFirst	Clothing & Personal Supply	20500	\$321.39
Valley Wide Cooperative	Maintenance- structures, other	21300	\$896.98
Valvoline	Maintenance- equipment, other	21200	\$462.37
Verizon Connect	Communications	20600	\$273.20
Verizon	Communications	20600	\$164.79
WestAir Gases	Maintenance-equipment, other	21200	\$47.60
Windecker	Transportation and Travel	22500	\$4,182.02
Wood Bros., Inc	DMP - Package B - Payment #1	22389	\$87,979.50
Wood Bros., Inc	DMP- Package B - Payment #2	22389	\$307,056.61
Wood Bros., Inc	Release of Retention	22389	\$100,451.24
			\$834,508.70

OTHER BUSINESS


No other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Catania declared the meeting adjourned at 9:48 AM.



Shane Swartz, Secretary-Manager