



FLOOD CONTROL &  
WATER CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, May 6, 2025, 3:00 PM**

**YCFC&WCD Offices**  
**34274 State Highway 16**  
**Woodland, CA 95695**

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**The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (District)** was held at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at its regular place of business, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, California. Chair Tucker convened the meeting. The following people were in attendance:

District Board

Shane Tucker, Chair  
Mary Kimball  
Tom Barth  
Lee Smith

District Staff

Kristin Sicke, General Manager  
Erik Cadaret, Assistant General Manager  
Elise Nunez, Administrative Assistant  
Ryan Bezerra, Legal Counsel (via phone for Items 12 and 13)

Members of the Public

Duane Chamberlain  
Jim Barrett  
Geoff Klein  
Maddie Munson

**1. OPEN FORUM**

None.

**2. CONSIDERATION: Adding Items to the Posted Agenda**

Since Director Mayer was absent and Director Kimball was running late, Chair Tucker moved Item 4 to Item 7 so that there would be four Directors in attendance to continue declaration of the emergency at Indian Valley Reservoir for completing repairs to the spillway.

### **3. CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **a. Approval of April 1, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

There was no discussion on this item.

M/S/C approved the Consent Agenda.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Smith, and Tucker

Noes: None

Absent: Directors Kimball and Mayer

Abstain: None

### **4. CONSIDERATION: Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 District Budget**

Finance Director Villa reviewed the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2025/2026 District Budget. Villa shared the macro factors impacting the economy and the process to gather feedback from District management on budget items. Villa reviewed the estimated year-end of the FY 2024/2025 Budget. Villa reviewed the highlights from the Capital Expenses in 2024/2025 totaling ~\$3.40M. Consistent with the 2023 water rate study, the irrigation rates were announced as \$55.90/AF.

For the FY 2025/2026 Budget, the agricultural water sales are projected to be \$6.15M with hydro sales projected as \$250k. Proposed personnel changes include the addition of a Construction Manager, O&M Superintendent, and a few interns. Planned capital expenditures for FY 2025/2026 are estimated as \$3.65M with approximately \$2.06M dedicated to projects at Cache Creek Dam and Indian Valley Reservoir (upstream of the Capay Diversion Dam). The FY 25/26 Budget is estimated to result in a loss of approximately \$983k after expected capital expenses.

Smith asked the main driver of the difference in the non-agricultural water sales revenue from last year. Sicke mentioned it's reflective of the anticipated long-term water supply contract for supplying water to the Geysers. Smith also asked about the differences in shared services from the previous year. Sicke shared that given the full reservoirs and expected busy irrigation season, along with the large number of capital projects to complete, the District will be focusing on in-house items and will not have much availability for outside services.

Barrett asked about whether we anticipate additional declines in agricultural water sales from drip irrigation conversion. Sicke shared that the largest impact of conversion to perennial crops was seen in a decline around 2014, which has been stable since then. Sicke also commented that staff are currently outreaching solely-groundwater users to see how an extension of service can be accommodated for a dually plumbed system.

Chamberlain asked about the status of the trash screens at the Winters heading. He mentioned that there is debris in the water. Sicke shared that the trash screens are installed, but we are waiting on PG&E to connect and provide electricity to the unit. Sicke will share Chamberlain's comments with Sal so O&M staff can investigate debris in the canal, which is likely due to recent wind events.

Smith asked to clarify what the CCVT stands for in the Indian Valley Reservoir Construction of CCVT / 312 OCB Repairs capital project. Lopez stated that CCVT stands for Coupling Capacitor Voltage Transformer.

Tucker thanked Villa and staff for all the work in preparing the FY 25/26 Budget and for coordinating with the Finance Committee to prepare and share it with the Board today. There's a lot of work to do for capital projects and this coming year will be another year of getting those projects done. Tucker also noted that the large capital projects budget is primarily to fund repairs and upgrades for our water storage, not for our water distribution. It's a long-term major cost that needs a dedicated funding mechanism.

**M/S/C adopted Fiscal Year 2025/2026 District Budget.**

Ayes: Directors Barth, Kimball, Smith, and Tucker

Noes: None

Absent: Director Mayer

Abstain: None

#### **5. PRESENTATION: Review of IVR Hydropower Facility**

Facilities Supervisor Anthony Lopez reviewed anticipated repairs and upgrades at the IVR hydropower facility for the next few years. Sicke reviewed two hydropower purchase agreement options currently available to the District, which she would continue to investigate with District Legal Counsel and the District's energy consultant.

Director Smith asked about the consultant used. Sicke shared more details about the District's energy consultant.

Director Tucker suggested we keep looking into ways to fund the repairs and upgrades at the IVR Hydropower facility.

#### **6. PRESENTATION: YSGA Update**

General Manager Sicke and Assistant General Manager Cadaret shared updates on YSGA administration and GSP implementation progress through the SGMA Implementation Grant. The following was presented:

- Upcoming meetings: Nature Conservancy GDE Workshop (May 12), YSGA Board meeting (May 19), and YSGA Executive Committee meeting (June 30). YSGA staff also mentioned they are working on planning a Hungry Hollow Groundwater Working Group meeting in June and Yolo-Zamora Landowner meeting in July.
- To date approximately \$1.90M of SGMA Implementation Grant funds have been expended. It was also noted that Component 1 and 2 funds need to be fully expended by April 2026 and Components 3, 4, 5, and 6 must be spent by April 2027.
- YSGA staff will be proposing to the YSGA Board of Directors to contract with Consero Solutions on May 19 to assist with outreach for the Hungry Hollow Groundwater Working Group efforts and to initiate the North Yolo Management Area Public Advisory

Committee.

- MBK Engineers has drafted the water availability analysis for the District's long-term permit application for winter recharge. Winter water diversions under the temporary permit occurred in January and February in the amount of approximately 4,400 acre-feet. District staff are working to file a long-term water right application this summer and are coordinating with NCWA and SWRCB on the timing and application type. In addition, the District is working with landowners to prepare for 2026 on-farm recharge opportunities.
- Cadaret shared a map of all the tTEM surveyed canals to date. tTEM is being used to quickly identify potential recharge sites immediately adjacent to existing District canals.
- District staff collaborated with the USDA to install a fiber optic cable in the Hungry Hollow Extension south of Road 16. The fiber optic cable extends over a 1,500-foot-long section of the canal and was placed such that it forms a closed loop where the top of the cable sits about eight-inches below the surface and the bottom part of the cable sits about 24-inches below the surface. The fiber optic cable records temperature and an associated timestamp regularly. This data is analyzed to estimate canal seepage and recharge. This location was chosen due to the presence of a substantial gravel zone less than 30 feet below the canal. YSGA staff are evaluating the seepage at the canal to identify ways to potentially increase recharge in this area to stabilize declining water levels to the east in the Dunnigan Hills.
- Cadaret shared the 2025 winter season pilot on-farm recharge results in Yolo Zamora that indicate potential for applied water to replenish the underlying aquifer. In addition, Cadaret shared an update on the water availability analysis recently completed by Water Land Solutions, an example of the recently completed detailed hydrogeologic cross sections, and next steps for continuing progress on the project and where future recharge opportunities may be available to pilot in 2026.

#### **7. CONSIDERATION: Emergency Repairs at Indian Valley Reservoir Spillway**

General Manager Sicke asked the Board to continue declaration of emergency to continue work on spillway repairs.

M/S/C approved a continuation of the emergency for completing repairs to the Indian Valley Reservoir spillway.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Kimball, Smith, and Tucker

Noes: None

Absent: Director Mayer

Abstain: None

#### **8. DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

Director Tucker attended the *Lake County Long-Term Water Supply Agreements Committee* and *District Finance Committee* meetings with Director Barth and coordinated with the *District Personnel Committee* regarding General Manager Sicke's performance evaluation, including conducting 360-review interview. Director Kimball attended *District Personnel Committee* meetings with Director Mayer and conducted 360-review interviews.

In addition to what's mentioned above, Director Barth attended the YSGA Executive Committee meeting with Director Smith and the YSGA Hungry Hollow GW Working Group small group meeting. Director Smith attended YSGA Executive Committee meetings with Director Barth.

## **9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Sicke provided reports on the following:

- a) Operations, Maintenance, and Water Conditions: Sicke provided an overview of current water conditions as of May 6, 2025:
  1. Clear Lake is currently at 7.91 feet Rumsey, and Cache Creek Dam is releasing flows in the amount of 144 cfs
  2. Indian Valley Reservoir is currently at 273,200 AF storage and releasing 494 cfs.
  3. Sicke noted that the irrigation diversions started on April 18 and were releasing 195 cfs into the West Adams Canal and 376 cfs into the Winters Canal.
  4. Sicke reviewed real-time groundwater levels for April 2025, and reviewed the updated District Spring 2025 hydrograph for periodic monitoring wells
  5. Sicke reviewed the top 20 crop types signed up. The top three crops signed up and irrigated with District surface water include almonds, tomatoes, and olives.
- b) Financial Report Summary – There was no financial report since Villa provided a comprehensive overview in the FY 25/26 Budget update.
- c) Capital Improvement Program – Provided updates on the planning and construction activities related to capital projects, what has currently been completed to date, and what's anticipated to be completed before the start of irrigation season.
- d) General Activities – A list of outreach activities and projects (in-house and coordinated with other agencies) was reviewed.
- e) The following upcoming events were announced:
  - YSGA: Lower Sac Valley GSA Interbasin Coordination Meeting (May 9)
  - TNC Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems in the Yolo Subbasin Workshop (May 12)
  - ACWA Spring 2025 Conference: Region 4 Board and Groundwater Committee Meetings (May 13-15)
  - Westside Sacramento IRWM Meeting (May 14)
  - Meeting with Supervisor Frerichs Regarding Rolling Acres Outreach (May 16)
  - YSGA Board of Directors Meeting (May 19)
  - CSDA Legislative Conference (May 20-21)
  - Meeting with Supervisor Allen (May 22)
  - South Colusa North Yolo Coordination Meeting (May 23)
  - GRA Spring Conference (May 27-28)
  - UCD Groundwater Shortcourse (May 29)
  - ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting (May 30)
  - NCWA Bay-Delta Task Force Meeting (June 2)
  - Sac Valley Flood Diversion and Recharge Enhancement Workgroup (June 23)
  - YSGA Executive Committee Meeting (June 30)

# **10. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Chamberlain mentioned federal land trust concerns around easements.

## **11. CONSIDERATION: Payment of Bills**

M/S/C approved the following claims for payment – Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Checks #64725-64752.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Kimball, Smith, and Tucker

Noes: None

Absent: Director Mayer

Abstain: None

## **12. CLOSED SESSION: Bay-Delta**

Closed session conference with legal counsel for existing administrative proceeding and anticipated litigation/significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, subsections (d)(1) and (d)(2) – State Water Resources Control Board Bay/Delta Plan update proceeding.

*Closed Session Report:* Chair Tucker reported that the Bay-Delta closed session item was moved up in order prior to the Long-Term Water Supply Agreements closed session item, and that the Directors, General Manager Sicke, Assistant General Manager Cadaret, and Legal Counsel Bezerra participated the discussion and that there was nothing to report.

## **13. CLOSED SESSION: Long-Term Water Supply Agreements**

Closed session conference with real property negotiators pursuant to Government Code § 54956.8

Property: Long-Term Water Supply Agreements under District's Clear Lake Water Right

Agency negotiators: Tom Barth, Shane Tucker, Kristin Sicke

Negotiating parties: Lake County Sanitation District, Calpine, NCPA

Under negotiation: Price and terms of agreement

*Closed Session Report:* Chair Tucker reported that the Directors, General Manager Sicke, Assistant General Manager Cadaret, and Legal Counsel Bezerra participated in the closed session item and that there was nothing to report.

## **14. CLOSED SESSION: Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code § 54954.5(e) and 54957)**

Title: General Manager

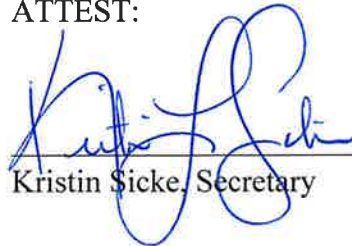
*Closed Session Report:* Chair Tucker reported that the Directors and General Manager Sicke participated in the closed session item and that there was nothing to report.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

  
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Shane Tucker, Chair

ATTEST:

  
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Kristin Sicke, Secretary

