

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SERRANO WATER DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Serrano Water District met in a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 27, 2026. The meeting was held at the District Office located at 18021 Lincoln Street, Villa Park, California.

CALL TO ORDER: President Mills called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

### ROLL CALL:

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Mills	President
Robbie Pitts	Vice-President
Brad Reese	Board Member
Frank Bryant	Board Member
Jerry Haight	Board Member

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

### STAFF PRESENT:

Jerry Vilander	General Manager
Jennifer Westrum	Administrative Assistant
Jeremy Jungreis	Legal Counsel
Scott Nelsen, CGFM	Starting Line Advisory
Ian Berg, CPA	Starting Line Advisory

### GUESTS PRESENT:

Paul Shoenberger	General Manager, Mesa Water District
Stacy Taylor	Water Policy Manager, Mesa Water District
Sanjay Gaur	Water Resources Economics
Charles Diamond	Water Resources Economics ( <i>via zoom platform</i> )
Jeffrey Corless	Venture Strategic
Nicol Jones	Villa Park Resident
Katherine McBride	Villa Park Resident
Lisa Ohlund	<i>Via Zoom platform</i>
Member of the public	<i>Via zoom platform</i>

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Katherine McBride announced that she is a member of the Villa Park Women's League (VPWL) and is requesting Board permission, on behalf of the VPWL, to paint approximately six fire hydrants throughout the City as part of the Centennial celebration in July. Nicol Jones commented that the City of Villa Park is very patriotic and that residents she has spoken with are excited about the project. She noted that four artists have been selected to paint a limited number of fire hydrants around the City. Since the fire hydrants are owned by Serrano Water District, Board approval is required to proceed. The Board was agreeable to the request.

*President Mills stated that items on the agenda were being moved out of sequence to accommodate scheduling needs.*

### RATE STUDY UPDATE

Paul Shoenberger, General Manager of Mesa Water District, introduced himself and Stacy Taylor, Water Policy Manager of Mesa Water District, to the Board of Directors. He explained that Mesa Water District utilizes a uniform billing structure that is simple and easy to understand. Mr. Shoenberger noted that, with most other commodities, prices typically decrease as customers purchase more of a product (i.e., buying in bulk). He commented that, in his view, it does not make sense to charge water customers higher rates under a tiered rate structure for increased water usage, stating that water is the only commodity for which this pricing approach is commonly applied. Mr. Shoenberger then presented the Board with an overview of Mesa Water District's current uniform rate structure. The Board thanked Mr. Shoenberger and Ms. Taylor for their informative presentation.

Sanjay Gaur of Water Resources Economics provided an update to the Board of Directors on the Water Rate Study that is currently in progress. His presentation included preliminary water rate projections and a proposed timeline for Proposition 218 water rate increases. Mr. Gaur noted that the Water Rate Study is anticipated to be finalized and delivered in mid-March, and that a Special Board Meeting and Public Hearing will be scheduled for May. Additional details will be provided as soon as they become available.

### BOARD MINUTES

Consideration of Board Meeting Minutes for December 16, 2025 and January 6, 2026. The Board reviewed the minutes of both Serrano Water District Board meetings held on December 16, 2025 and January 6, 2026. Director Pitts made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Director Haight seconded the motion, and the motion unanimously carried, with Directors Reese, Bryant, Mills, Pitts, and Haight voting in favor.

### GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager Vilander informed the Board that bids for the well-drilling contract were received, with the most competitive bid totaling approximately \$1.9 million. He mentioned that this item will be agendized for consideration and action at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Vilander also reported that he explored outsourcing meter-reading services to an outside company. The proposed cost is approximately \$40,000 annually, which would allow field staff to focus on more technical work and repairs during the first few days of each month.

In addition, Mr. Vilander stated that quotes were received to outsource the District's monthly billing services. Utilizing a mail-house company would result in an estimated annual savings of approximately \$8,000. The Board expressed consensus and was agreeable to moving forward with this item.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Scott Nelsen, of Starting Line Advisory, presented the financial reports for December, noting that the target for this point in the fiscal year is 50% of the budget. He reported that water sales are leveling off due to decreased water usage over the winter months. He further noted that source water operating expense is trending higher due to increased groundwater usage.

A motion to approve the monthly disbursements totaling \$362,817.36 was made by Director Haight, seconded by Director Pitts, and unanimously approved by Directors Reese, Bryant, Mills, Haight, and Pitts.

### WATER REPORT

General Manager Vilander presented the water report for the month of December. He reported that Serrano Water District has approximately 300 acre-feet of water remaining in Irvine Lake. The report was received and filed by the Board.

### CORRESPONDENCE

None.

### DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Director Haight stated that there are some items that need to be updated on the Serrano District website. He noted that the Reserve Policy as of June 30, 2025 should be added under Transparency - Financial Reserves. In addition, more recent Town Hall meetings should be moved under the Town Hall section of the website. Finally, all contracts should be uploaded under Transparency – Contracts, noting that only one contract is currently listed in that section. Staff stated they will take care of those updates on the District's website.

### ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Jungreis stated it would be necessary to enter into a closed session today.

*The Board of Directors announced they would be entering a closed session at 10:55 a.m.*

### RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

#### A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1): *Vittorio Roggero v. Serrano Water District*, Case No. 30-2025-01469424-CU-WT-CJC.

#### B. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Government Code § 54957, Performance evaluation of General Manager.

*The Board resumed open session at 11:07 a.m. with no reportable action.*

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was formally adjourned at 11:08 a.m. The next meeting will be a regularly scheduled Board meeting to be held on February 24, 2026 @ 8:30 a.m.

Jennifer Westrum  
Administrative Assistant