

**EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**

**Board of Directors**

**Meeting Minutes**

**January 14, 2026**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT/ROLL CALL**

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Board Meeting convened at the Council of Governments building at 555 E. Weber Ave. Stockton, CA 95202. At approximately 10:30 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Bob Holmes.

In attendance were Directors and Alternates: Craig Stevens, Richard Wagner, Alan Nakanishi, Regina Lackey, Michael Blower, Myron Blanton, Mike Henry, Jason Colombini, Scot Moody, Keith Bussman, Secretary Najee Zarif, Dante Nomellini, Travis Kahrs, Christy McKinnon, Vice Chairperson Mel Panizza and Chair Bob Holmes.

**II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

The Board may add an item to the agenda if, upon a two-third vote, the Board finds that there is a need for immediate action on the matter and the need comes for the attention of the Authority after the posting of this agenda.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mary Elizabeth, Delta Sierra Club, provided verbal comments.

**IV. ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Approval of December 10, 2025, Board Minutes**

Motion: Keith Bussman

Second: Michael Blower

The vote was unanimous.

**2. Approval of Resolution R-26-01, authorizing the Chairman of ESJGWA or his/her designee to approve expenditures and execute contracts within the designations and limitations of the approved budget.**

Motion: Jason Colombini

Second: Michael Blower

The vote was unanimous.

## **V. PRESENTATIONS**

GSA Spotlight – Keith Bussman, Woodbridge Irrigation District

## **VI. AUTHORITY STAFF/AGENCY REPORTS**

1. Executive Director (ED), Julia D. Berry Staff Report -  
The ED noted that Woodard and Curran sent out data requests to all GSAs to report by January 23 to meet the GSP Annual Report submission date. She noted that Justin Hopkins from Stockton East Water District will be the GSA Spotlight at the February Board Meeting. The ED shared an update on the ongoing work her and her staff put into the ESJGWA Well Monitoring Network including coordinating with DWR to identify missing data, remove/update well information, and ensure the GWA meets the commitment made in the 2024 GSP update. She also noted the need to formalize the process to support the Well Mitigation program and allocation of funds supported by the development of a formal application. The ED shared work will start next month to develop the ESJGWA 2026-2027 Budget for the upcoming fiscal year and also noted the recommendation to aim for the February Meeting to seek direction from the board to develop a process for accounting each GSA's annual Net Groundwater Impact.
2. CA Department of Water Resources, Chelsea Spier announced Groundwater Awareness Week is coming March 8 – 14<sup>th</sup>, DWR will be releasing educational material.

## **VII. DIRECTORS; COMMENTS AND PROJECT STATUS REPORTS**

Chairperson Holmes shared management actions and scheduling will continue moving forward to include Executive Committee Ad Hoc Meetings in the next few weeks.

Scot Moody shared that DWR is scrutinizing GSAs and asking for evidence to support effective projects and management actions.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

11:30 a.m.