

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
March 11, 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 Robert Holmes.

In attendance were Directors and Alternates: Richard Wagner, Dante Momellini, Travis Kahrs, Regina Lackey, Christy McKinnon, Myron Blanton, Mike Henry, Jason Colombini, Scot Moody, Paul Canepa, Keith Bussman, Secretary Najee Zarif, Vice Chairperson Mel Panizza, and Chairperson Robert Holmes

Directors Absent: Craig Stevens, George Biagi, Alan Nakanishi, Michael Blower, Gary Tofanelli, and Dean Ruiz

Members of the Public in attendance: Julia D. Berry, Steve Schwabauer, Gavin Cline, Mary Elizabeth, Brittany Harker, Alex Chetley, Ashley Couch, A. Renshaw, E. Mijango, Chelsea Spier, Nancy Munoz, Melissa Anna, Jennifer Spaletta, and Louie Brichetto Jr.

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 and Louie Brichetto Jr. provided public comments.

IV. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

1. Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Director Bussman, seconded by Vice Chairperson Mel Panizza to adopt the minutes from the meeting on February 11, 2026. The motion carried with Mike Henry and Paul Canepa abstaining.

2. Kleinfelder – ARPA Grant and Scope of Work

Joe Zilles from Kleinfelder shared an update on the ARPA Grant and Scope of Work. There are no changes to the \$2.1 million in the budget from Federal Grant Funding for monitoring implementation, instrumentation implementation, monitoring network evaluation, and data management system/project management. He gave updates on projects in North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, Stockton East Water District, Central Delta Water Agency, South San Joaquin Irrigation District, and Eastside San Joaquin. Grant funds will be

used to drill monitoring wells, outfit wells with telemetry and implement a data management system to capture well data in the basin. Project management is shared by the Executive Director and Kleinfelder, while the Executive Director will head up the data management system development and Kleinfelder will manage the well placement, drilling and instrumentation.

3. Net Groundwater Impact – Scope of Work

A motion was made by Director Colombini, seconded by Director Panizza to authorize the Executive Director, or her designee, to enter into an agreement, in a form approved by General Counsel, with Zanjero to provide consulting services to draft a net groundwater impact program for the basin. The motion carried.

V. Authority Staff/Agency Reports

1. Julia D. Berry, Executive Director (ED), reminded the group that Form 700s are due by April 1, 2026. In addition, she shared Woodard & Curran will provide a draft of the Annual Report by the end of the week; comments should be submitted promptly, with a deadline for comments of March 21, 2026. The ED shared the SGMA portal required data cleanup, which was completed.

The ED shared that Woodard & Curran will present the Annual Report at an upcoming board meeting. Woodard & Curran are developing standardized protocols for data submissions to the SGMA Portal, cleaning up data gaps reduced the number of wells represented in the SGMA Portal, to include only the Representative Monitoring Wells.

GSAs are on track to receive the draft budget in April and ahead of schedule for adoption in May.

2. Chelsea Spier, Department of Water Resources shared Senate Bill 107, which will allow for funds under Prop 4 to bypass some permitting processes, thereby reducing the time to get projects shovel ready.

VI. Directors' Comments and Project Status

No Directors comments were recorded.

VII. Adjournment at 12:16 p.m.