



BIGHORN-DESERT VIEW WATER AGENCY

"To provide a high quality supply of water and reliable service to all customers at a fair and reasonable rate."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

**BOARD MEETING OFFICE
1720 N. CHEROKEE TR.
LANDERS, CALIFORNIA 92285**

**April 14, 2026
Time – 6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

President Miller-Boyer called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Director Miller-Boyer.

ROLL CALL

Directors present: Rodney Miller-Boyer
William Aldridge
Megan Close-Dees
JoMarie McKenzie
Jose Martinez

Staff present: Jennifer Cusack, General Manager
Marina West, Chief Engineer
Scott Nelson, Starting Line Advisory, Accounting Consultant

Public Present: Following Roll Call 1 member(s) of the public were present in the meeting room. There was no Zoom platform available to view this meeting remotely.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Martinez made motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Aldridge seconded. Unanimously approved.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Public Comment Period

None.

2. PARS 115 TRUST Annual Update with Advisory Team

Ms. Barnes of PARS gave a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the annual update on our 115 Program. Ms. Barnes noted that this fund is strictly for payment of pension obligations. Ms. Baires shared a summary of the plan history. Ms. Baires also reviewed the current status of the Agency’s pension liability noting that the Agency is currently well funded if the PARS 115 Trust balance is included in the analysis. Mr. Stribling investment manager reviewed the asset strategy.

Questions from the Board were asked and answered.

No Motion – Information Only

3. Consider Initiation Procedure to Implement a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) to the Board of Directors Per Diem Effective no sooner than July 1, 2026

GM Cusack and CE West provided input on the process in addition to the information provided in the staff report.

Questions from the Board were asked and answered.

Public Comment:

None.

Motion No. 26-016 - Motion to authorize staff to proceed with the procedure to hold a Public Hearing on an Ordinance adjusting the compensation of the Board.

Rodney Miller-Boyer	N
William Aldridge	Y
Megan Close-Dees	N
JoMarie McKenzie	N
Jose Martinez	N

MSC¹ (Miller-Boyer/Martinez) Motion Failed.

4. Review of Fiscal Year 2026/27 Proposed Cost-of-Living-Adjustment for All Staff

Agency accounting consultant, Mr. Nelson, Starting Line Advisory, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed cost of living adjustment noting that the General Manager and Chief Engineer have indicated their desire to decline the COLA adjustment for Fiscal Year 2026/27. Mr. Nelson provided a brief presentation on the total cost of the COLA to the Fiscal Year 2026/27 Budget.

Questions from the Board were asked and answered.

Public Comment:

None.

Motion No. 26-017 - Motion to authorize Cost-of-Living Adjustment for all staff except General Manager and Chief Engineer of 2.8% to be included in the budget and directing staff to return with a Resolution

amending Appendix C – Range and Step Scale Incorporated by Reference to the Employee Handbook.

Rodney Miller-Boyer	Y
William Aldridge	Y
Megan Close-Dees	Y
JoMarie McKenzie	Y
Jose Martinez	Y

MSC¹ (Aldridge/Miller-Boyer) unanimously approved.

- 5. Public Workshop #2 - Fiscal Year 2026/27 Budget Review Detailed Revenues and Expenses**
Agency accounting consultant, Mr. Nelson, Starting Line Advisory, gave the Public Workshop #2 presentation providing detail on revenue, expenses and capital expenditures projected.

Questions from the Board were asked and answered.

No Motion – Information Only

- 6. SWRCB Grant Agreement No. D2102065: Authorize Task Order to CA Rural Water Association for Construction Management Services Related to the Construction of the Zone B Transmission Mainline, Zone B and Zone D Pump Stations, HDWD#2 Intertie and Consolidation of Improvement District Goat Mountain with Bighorn-Desert View.**

Chief Engineer West gave an introductory PowerPoint presentation regarding the status of the project elements. CE West then introduced Ms. Cook and Mr. Carey with CA Rural Water Resources to provide a PowerPoint presentation on the proposal for Construction Management Services.

Questions from the Board were asked and answered.

Public Comment:

None.

Motion No. 26-018 - Motion to authorize Task Order to CA Rural Water Association for Construction Management Services Related to the Construction of the Zone B Transmission Mainline, Zone B and Zone D Pump Stations, HDWD#2 Intertie and Consolidation of Improvement District Goat Mountain with Bighorn-Desert View (SWRCB Grant Agreement No. D2102065).

Rodney Miller-Boyer	Y
William Aldridge	Y
Megan Close-Dees	Y
JoMarie McKenzie	Y
Jose Martinez	Y

MSC¹ (Martinez/Close-Dees) unanimously approved.

- 7. DWR Grant Agreement No. 4600013807: Authorize Change Order to South West Pump and Drilling for Equipping the Goat Mountain Well No. 13**

CE West gave the staff report as provided in the agenda packet.

Questions from the Board were asked and answered.

Public Comment:

None.

- 1. Motion No. 26-019** - Motion to authorize Change Order No 1 to South West Pump and Drilling for Equipping the Goat Mountain Well No. 13 (DWR Grant Agreement No. 4600013807).

Rodney Miller-Boyer	Y
William Aldridge	Y
Megan Close-Dees	Y
JoMarie McKenzie	Y
Jose Martinez	Y

MSC¹ (Martinez/Aldridge) unanimously approved.

- 2. SWRCB Grant Agreement No. D2102065: Contract PWC25-01 Accept Completion of Work, Authorize Filing of Notice of Completion and Release of Retention Amounts Held to J. Colon Coatings, Inc. for Phase 4 B-Tank Rehabilitation.**

Questions from the Board were asked and answered.

Public Comment:

None.

- 3. Motion No. 26-020** - Motion to Accept Completion of Work, Authorize Filing of Notice of Completion and Release of Retention Amounts Held to J. Colon Coatings, Inc. for Phase 4 B-Tank Rehabilitation (SWRCB Grant Agreement No. D2102065: Contract PWC25-01).

Rodney Miller-Boyer	Y
William Aldridge	Y
Megan Close-Dees	Y
JoMarie McKenzie	Y
Jose Martinez	Y

MSC¹ (Close-Dees/Martinez) unanimously approved.

- 4. Schedule Annual Board Workshop and Proposed Agenda Topics**

President Miller-Boyer led the discussion on scheduling the Workshop and asked the directors for input on the Agenda. Expectations for the general manager performance and a review of the Organizational Chart. The Board selected May 2, 2026 at 9:30am for the Workshop.

5. Consent Items

- a. Board Meeting Minutes
 1. March 10, 2026 Regular Meeting
- b. Financial Statements
 1. Balance Sheet(s) – February 2026
 2. Budget Sheet(s) – February 2026
- c. Receive and File Disbursements – March 2026
- d. Service Order Report – December 2025 and January 2026
- e. BDV Production Report – March 2026
- f. Goat Mountain Production Report – March 2026
- g. Ratify Amendment No. 1 to Employment Contract with Jennifer Cusack changing effective date to April 6, 2026
- h. Resolution No. 26R-XX Establishing its Banking Policy with Banc of CA
- i. Receive and File Committee Meeting Minutes
 1. Planning/Legislative/Engineering/Grants Standing Committee
 - Committee Meetings on-hold
 2. Finance/Public Relations/Education/Personnel Standing Committee
 - Committee Meetings on-hold

Public Comment:

None.

Motion No. 26-021 - Motion to adopt Consent Calendar items a-i as presented.

Rodney Miller-Boyer	Y
William Aldridge	Y
Megan Close-Dees	Y
JoMarie McKenzie	Y
Jose Martinez	Y

MSC¹ (Martinez/Aldridge) unanimously approved.

6. Matters Removed from Consent Items

None.

7. Items for Next or Future Agenda

Dir. McKenzie requested a review of the Dues and Subscriptions.

8. Verbal Reports – Including Reports on Courses/Conferences/Meetings.

- a. General Manager Report – Ms. Cusack thanked the Board for their support in selecting her as the new General Manager. She mentioned she is traveling to Sacramento next week to testify on behalf of Sen. Ochoa Bogh's bills regarding the Western Joshua tree.

b. Director Reports -

Dir. McKenzie reported on the Landers Association meeting she attended on April 13, 2026 summarizing the topic of the road maintenance.

Dir. Martinez reported on the Landers Association meeting he attended on April 13, 2026 summarizing the topic of the road maintenance.

9. Adjournment

President Miller-Boyer adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Approved by:



Megan Close-Dees, Secretary of the Board

MSC¹ – Motion made, seconded and carried



Official Seal