



MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LA PUENTE VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
112 N. FIRST STREET, LA PUENTE, CALIFORNIA
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025, AT 4:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Escalera called the meeting to order at 4:37 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Escalera led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Present | Present | Absent | Present | Present |

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff and Counsel: General Manager & Board Secretary, Roy Frausto; Distribution Supervisor, Miguel Molina; Customer Service & Accounting Supervisor, Shaunte Maldonado; HR Coordinator/Admin Assistant, Angelina Padilla; and District Counsel, Reid Miller were present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Adopt the Agenda

1st: President Escalera

2nd: Director Hernandez

| | President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Vote | Yes | Yes | Absent | Yes | Yes |

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.

6. PUBLIC HEARING PURSUANT TO AB 2561

A. Open Public Hearing

President Escalera opened the Public Hearing at 4:39 pm.

B. Report by Staff

Ms. Padilla presented the staff report on this item and was available for any questions.

C. Receive Public Comments

None.

D. Close Public Hearing

President Escalera closed the public hearing at 4:42 pm.

E. Receive and File the Report on Job Vacancies, Recruitment and Retention

Motion: Receive and File.

1st: Vice President Barajas

2nd: President Escalera

| | President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Vote | Yes | Yes | Absent | Yes | Yes |

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.

7. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Adopt the Consent Calendar.

1st: President Escalera

2nd: Director Hernandez

| | President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Vote | Yes | Yes | Absent | Yes | Yes |

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.

8. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Consideration of Annual Cost of Living Adjustment for District Employees for an Effective Date of January 1, 2026.

Mr. Frausto presented the staff report on this item and was available for any questions. The Board had some discussion, and President Escalera proposed a 4% cost of living adjustment opposed to the 3.5% that was presented by Mr. Frausto. The Board agreed and President Escalera made the motion.

Motion: Approve the Annual Cost of Living Adjustment at 4% for District Employees effective January 1, 2026

1st: President Escalera

2nd: Director Rojas

| | President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Vote | Yes | Yes | Absent | Yes | Yes |

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.

B. Review and Approval of the Proposed District Budget for Period Ending December 31, 2026.

Mr. Frausto presented the staff report on this item and was available for any questions.

Motion: Approve the Proposed District Budget for Period Ending December 31, 2026.

1st: Director Rojas
2nd: Vice President Barajas

| | President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Vote | Yes | Yes | Absent | Yes | Yes |

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.

C. Approval of the Proposed 2026 Salary Schedule for an Effective Date of January 1, 2026.

Mr. Frausto presented the staff report on this item and was available for any questions. He noted that while the presented salary schedule reflected a 3.5% increase, the Board had approved a 4% COLA, and therefore the motion should be to approve the salary schedule with the 4% COLA adjustment.

Motion: Approve the Proposed 2026 Salary Schedule with the 4% COLA Adjustment.

1st: Vice President Barajas
2nd: Director Rojas

| | President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Vote | Yes | Yes | Absent | Yes | Yes |

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.

D. Consideration of the Investments of the District's Reserve Funds.

Ms. Maldonado presented the staff report on this item and was available for any questions.

Motion: Approve the Transfer of \$1,000,000 from the Districts Checking Account to the California CLASS Account.

1st: Director Rojas
2nd: Vice President Barajas

| | President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Vote | Yes | Yes | Absent | Yes | Yes |

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.

9. OPERATIONS AND TREATMENT REPORT

Mr. Frausto presented the staff report on this item and Mr. Molina presented the distribution activities for the month of November. They were both available for any questions.

Motion: Receive and File.

1st: Director Rojas
2nd: Director Hernandez

| | President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Vote | Yes | Yes | Absent | Yes | Yes |

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Ms. Padilla went over her report and was available for any questions.

11. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Frausto presented his report and was available for any questions.

12. OTHER ITEMS

A. Upcoming Events.

Ms. Padilla went over the upcoming conferences with the Board.

B. Information Items.

Included in the Board Packet.

13. ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS

Mr. Reid Miller wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

14. CLOSED SESSION

The Board recessed into closed session at 5:16 pm to discuss the following item:

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

POSITION: GENERAL MANAGER

15. CLOSED SESSION REPORT

The Board reconvened at 5:25 p.m. Mr. Miller reported that the Board met in closed session pursuant to the exception to the open meeting requirements to discuss the public employee evaluation of the General Manager. The only reportable action was that the General Manager met all expectations at a satisfactory level and his contract will automatically renew.

16. ACTION ITEM

A. Consideration and Possible Approval of Amendments to General Manager's Employment Contract.

Mr. Miller noted that Mr. Frausto had a satisfactory performance review and that while a merit increase is at the Board's discretion, Mr. Frausto will be receiving the cost of living adjustment. After discussion, the Board agreed to approve a 6% merit increase.

Motion: Approve the fifth amendment to the General Manager's employment contract with a 6% merit increase.

1st: Director Rojas

2nd: Director Hernandez

| | President Escalera | Vice President Barajas | Director Argudo | Director Hernandez | Director Rojas |
|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Vote | Yes | Yes | Absent | Yes | Yes |

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.

17. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

A. Report on Events Attended.

President Escalera and Director Hernandez reported on their attendance to the ACWA Fall Conference and the SCWUA Christmas Luncheon. Director Rojas reported on his attendance to the SCWUA Christmas luncheon also.

B. Other Comments.

None.

18. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

19. ADJOURNMENT

President Escalera adjourned the meeting at 5:33 pm.

Attest:

John P. Escalera, Board President

Roy Frausto, Board Secretary