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Special Reservoir Committee/Authority Board Meeting November 6, 2026

Authority Board Chair:	Fritz Durst (Reclamation District 108)
Authority Board Vice Chair:	Jeff Sutton (Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District)
Reservoir Committee Chair:	Mike Urkov (Westside Water District)
Reservoir Committee Vice Chair:	Robert Cheng (Coachella Valley Water District)
Treasurer:	Jamie Traynham (Davis Water District)

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Chair Durst called the Authority Board (AB) and Reservoir Committee (RC) Special Meeting to order at 9:01 a.m., followed by Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE:

Authority Board: 7 members were present, constituting a quorum.

Reservoir Committee: 19 representatives (91.24%) were present, constituting a quorum.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Members of the Authority Board, Reservoir Committee and public introduced themselves.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

ACTION RC: It was moved by Ms. Traynham, seconded by Mr. Azevedo, to approve the November 6, 2026, meeting agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: It was moved by Vice Chair Sutton, seconded by Director Vanderwaal, to approve the November 6, 2026, meeting agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION

General Counsel (GC) Doud announced that the Authority Board of Directors and the Reservoir Committee Members would consider Closed Session Items 3.1 and 3.2.

PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Durst opened the period for public comment.

One public comment was received. The commenter congratulated the Authority on obtaining the water right permit and acknowledged the significance of the milestone. The commenter noted that the Authority's legal counsel had previously explained that water right adjudicatory proceedings were encompassed within the Brown Act's litigation exception and questioned whether those proceedings had concluded.

Executive Director (ED) Brown clarified that the Funks Creek and Stone Corral Creek portions of the water right application had been bifurcated and would continue through adjudicatory proceedings into the following year. The commenter acknowledged the clarification.

Hearing no further public comment, Chair Durst closed the period for public comment.

1. ACTION ITEMS:

1.1 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider authorizing the Executive Director to accept the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit for Work Package 1 of the Project and direct staff to proceed with implementation of the permit and associated compliance requirements.

ED Brown reported that, following the recent water right decision, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit represents the final major permit needed to construct and operate Sites.

Ms. Forsythe explained that the USACE Record of Decision established a permitting approach using individual work packages to address detailed requirements, particularly wetlands delineations and mitigation work. Work Package 1 includes geotechnical investigations, haul road activities, and other necessary work to advance Project design. She noted that the priorities included in Work Package 1 have been surveyed and that a viable pathway exists to secure the required mitigation.

Ms. Forsythe reported that staff had no concerns with the permit conditions.

In response to questions from Board members, Ms. Forsythe explained that staff currently anticipate five USACE work packages, although that number could change as the Project progresses. She estimated that future work packages would require approximately six to seven months for

USACE approval following submittal, and with additional time needed beforehand for property access, surveys, and other required information.

Board members questioned whether the permitting process could affect the Project schedule. Ms. Forsythe acknowledged the scheduling risk but noted that the Authority's reimbursable agreement with USACE has helped support agency staffing and responsiveness.

In response to a question from Mr. Kunde, Ms. Forsythe confirmed that Work Package 1 supports activities through the previously identified resolve to construct period. She emphasized the importance of continuing property acquisition, surveys, and other preparatory activities to maintain the Project schedule.

ACTION RC: It was moved by Mr. Kunde, seconded by Mr. Weghorst, to recommend approval of agenda item 1.1 to the Authority Board. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: It was moved by Director Kaplan, seconded by Director Vanderwaal, to approve agenda item 1.1. **Motion carried unanimously.**

1.2 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider increasing the previously authorized task order amendment with Barnard Construction Company by $610,000, from approximately $1.05M to $1.66M, inclusive of a $150,000 change order authority, to support geotechnical investigations on Authority owned property along with the left abutment of the proposed Golden Gate Dam.

ED Brown emphasized the importance of the proposed geotechnical investigations to inform potential value engineering and cost reductions associated with the Golden Gate Dam alignment. He noted that staff had carefully evaluated the work against the Project's current funding and schedule constraints and determined that proceeding was a priority.

Mr. Robinette presented the proposed $610,000 increase to the previously authorized Barnard Construction Company task order amendment to support geotechnical investigations. He explained that the investigations are necessary to evaluate a potential realignment of Golden Gate Dam before advancing the design from 30% to 60%, with potential cost savings of $100 million to $200 million identified in the Project Baseline Report.

Mr. Robinette reported that the proposed alignment could reduce construction quantities by approximately 35%, resulting in reduced traffic, hauling, and carbon emissions. He explained that the investigations would

evaluate the stability and quality of the ridge to determine whether the alternative alignment is feasible. He noted that the work was competitively priced compared to prior geotechnical investigations and that Barnard had developed a cost-effective approach using winches and tracked drilling rigs to access the investigation locations while avoiding impacts to surrounding resources.

Board members discussed the potential schedule benefits of the alternative alignment. Mr. Robinette estimated that the realignment could reduce the Golden Gate Dam construction schedule by approximately six months, potentially shifting the Project's critical path to other facilities or transmission work.

In response to questions regarding funding, staff explained that the additional $610,000 would be accommodated by reallocating funds from several previously budgeted activities. ED Brown clarified that no additional revenue was assumed and that the reallocations would not change the previously identified June 30, 2027 funding limitation.

Mr. Kunde asked about the drilling contractor's qualifications and the timeline for evaluating the alternative alignment. Mr. Robinette confirmed that the subcontractor met the required qualifications and anticipated an initial feasibility assessment in early 2027, with Division of Safety of Dams review to follow if warranted.

After conclusion of the presentation related to item 1.2, Chair Durst opened a period for public comment.

One public comment was received. The commenter questioned the increases in Barnard's pre-construction contract costs, including the amounts previously authorized in January and August, and the proposed change order authority. He expressed concerns regarding cost increases, transparency in prior Board approvals, and the potential for additional pre-construction expenditures. He acknowledged the potential value of the geotechnical investigations but encouraged the Board to consider the costs and contracting approach.

Director Kaplan questioned whether additional steps could have been taken to improve transparency. Mr. Robinette explained that staff has presented the work and associated costs incrementally to manage limited funding and respond to evolving project needs. He noted that the proposed change order authority was intended to address potential weather-related conditions near the end of the dry season without including those costs in the base contract. He further distinguished the current pre-construction

work from future construction activities, which will involve a more rigorous guaranteed maximum price process and independent cost estimates.

Board members acknowledged the additional context and discussed the potential for significant project cost savings resulting from the investigations.

ACTION RC: It was moved by Mr. Plinski, seconded by Mr. Eckhart, to recommend approval of agenda item 1.2 to the Authority Board. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACTION AB: It was moved by Vice Chair Sutton, seconded by Director Vanderwaal, to approve agenda item 1.2. **Motion carried unanimously.**

2. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

2.1 Review and comment on the progress toward recommendations from the Project Alignment Ad Hoc Workgroup to add language to the Benefits and Obligations Contract that support continued Sacramento Valley participation, improve project performance, and advance the shared interests of all Participants.

ED Brown provided an update on the Project Alignment Ad Hoc Workgroup's progress toward developing additional language for the Benefits and Obligations (B&O) Contract to support continued Sacramento Valley participation and advance shared participant interests. He reported that, although the Workgroup had made significant progress, several issues remained under discussion and certain provisions required legal review. A working document outlining six areas of focus was provided to the Board and posted on the Authority's website for review and feedback.

ED Brown explained that the document was not yet a final recommendation and encouraged Board members to provide input before the Workgroup concluded its discussions. A November 16 deadline was requested. Chair Durst emphasized the importance of Board members reviewing the proposed provisions and contacting Workgroup representatives for clarification, noting the significance of completing the agreements to advance to investor commitments and project financing.

Workgroup members reported that significant progress had been made and that common ground had been identified, although several issues remained unresolved. Mr. Smalls questioned whether the proposed provisions allowing Reclamation to acquire defaulted capacity included a specific timeframe for its decision. ED Brown indicated that staff would confirm how the applicable timeframe was addressed.

Board members discussed the proposed schedule for completing the B&O Contract and Facilities Use Agreements (FUAs), initially targeted for November 20, 2026. Several members expressed concern that the remaining negotiations, legal review, and individual agency approval processes would make that timeline difficult to achieve. ED Brown clarified that anticipated action would be to determine whether the agreements were ready to proceed through the investor commitment process, rather than requiring individual agencies to execute the agreements by that date.

ED Brown emphasized that completing the agreements remained on the Project's critical path, noting that further delays could affect the June 30, 2027 funding limitation, could result in significant overall project cost due to construction escalation and ~~and~~ lost opportunity to begin fieldwork during the next construction season. Board members acknowledged the urgency and cost implications but emphasized the need for adequate review time, resolution of outstanding Project Alignment and FUA provisions, and the consideration of individual agency approval requirements.

Following further discussion, the Board generally discussed December 18, 2026, as a revised target for final consideration of the B&O Contract and FUAs and setting the deadline for concluding the investor commitment period where acceptance of offers of capacity are completed. Staff intends to work on a schedule for finalizing the documents that includes distributing final documents approximately 10 days before the December 18 Board meeting. Board members discussed the importance of continued communication and exchanging revised provisions as negotiations progressed.

3. CLOSED SESSION:

3.1 Water Right Application 25517X01 (Govt. Code §54956.9(c) and §54956.9(d)(1)).

3.2 Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Govt. Code Section 54957)
Title: Executive Director

4. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION: 11:57AM

Counsel Doud reported that no action was taken in closed session.

5. **Recap:**

5.1 Suggested Future Agenda Items.

None.

5.2 Next Board Meeting, **Friday, November 20, 2026** (9:00am to TBD)
Maxwell Project Office & Virtual

Chair Durst adjourned the Special Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting at 11:59 a.m.

_____ _____

Fritz Durst,
Authority Board Chair

Mike Urkov,
Reservoir Committee Chair

_____

Wendy Ambriz
Board Clerk

Current Voting Committee Participants (22):

	%	Participant		%	Participant
☒	3.47	American Canyon, City	☐	2.57	LaGrande WD
☐	2.42	Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	☒	17.29	Metropolitan WD
☒	5.28	Coachella Valley WD	☒	3.47	Reclamation District 108
☒	5.28	Colusa County	☒	2.42	Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD
☒	5.05	Colusa County WD	☒	8.70	San Bernardino Valley MWD
☒	2.41	Cortina WD (1)	☒	6.48	San Gorgonio Pass WA
☒	2.87	Davis WD	☒	2.42	Santa Clara Valley WD
☒	4.22	Desert WA	☒	3.77	Santa Clarita Valley WA
☒	3.17	Dunnigan WD	☒	3.89	Westside WD
☐	3.77	Glenn-Colusa ID	☒	3.19	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD
☒	2.57	Irvine Ranch WD	☒	5.28	Zone 7 WA
				100.00	Total

19 Voting members represented at the start of the meeting
91.24% Represented participation percentage.

Representation has been delegated as follows:

(1) Proxy to Jamie Traynham, Davis WD

(‡) Not present after _____

Current Voting Authority Board (8)		**Primary**		**Alternate**
Colusa County	☒	Gary Evans	☒	Randy Wilson
Colusa County Water District	☐	Joe Marsh	☐ ☒	Hal Charter Shelly Murphy
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District	☒	Jeff Sutton	☐	Logan Dennis
Reclamation District 108	☒	Fritz Durst	☐ ☐	Sean Doherty Hilary Reinhard
Placer County Water Agency/City of Roseville	☒	Pauline Roccucci	☐	Karen Alvord
Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority	☒	Bill Vanderwaal	☐	Jim Jones Zack Dennis
City of Sacramento/Sacramento County	☒	Lisa Kaplan	☐ ☐	Anne Sangar Brett Ewart
Westside Water District	☐	Doug Parker	☐ ☐	Zach Dennis Allen Myers

Associate Members (non-voting)		**Primary**		**Alternate**
Glenn County	☒	Tony Arendt	☐	Jim Yoder
Western Canal Water District	☐	Greg Johnson	☒ ☐	Ted Trimble Jenny Scheer
Zone 3	☒	Mike Urkov	☐	Jamie Traynham

Non-Voting Committee Participants (2)		**Primary**		**Alternate/Other**
Department of Water Resources	☒	David Gordon	☐	Lincoln King
Bureau of Reclamation	☐ ☐	Scott Taylor Allison Jacobson	☒	Jesse Sikora

Current Voting Reservoir Committee (22)		**Primary**		**Alternate**
American Canyon, City	☒	Jason Holley	☐	
Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	☐	Matt Knudson	☐	
Coachella Valley Water District	☐	Robert Cheng	☒	Petya Vasileva
Colusa County	☒	Mike Azevedo	☐	Daurice Kalfsbeek Smith
Colusa County Water District	☐	Halbert Charter	☒	Shelly Murphy
Cortina Water District	☐	Jim Peterson	☐ ☒	Chuck Grimmer Jamie Traynham
Davis Water District	☒	Jamie Traynham	☐	Tom Charter
Desert Water Agency	☒	Esther Saenz	☐	David Tate

Dunnigan Water District	☒	Jordon Navarrot	☒	Lewis Bair
RD 108	☒	Jordon Navarrot	☒	Lewis Bair
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District	☐	Logan Dennis	☐	Louis Jarvis
Irvine Ranch Water District	☒	Paul Weghorst	☐	Robert Huang
LaGrande Water District	☐	Zach Dennis	☐	
Metropolitan Water District	☒	Randall Neudeck	☐ ☒	Nina Hawk Sam Smalls
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water District	☒	Trent Taylor	☐	Dan Bartel
San Bernardino Valley Water District	☒	Michael Plinski	☐	Heather Dyer
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	☒	Lance Eckhart	☐ ☐	Jennifer Ustation Emmett Campbell
Santa Clara Valley Water District	☒	Katherine Maher	☐	Cindy Kao
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency	☐	Steve Cole	☒	Ali Elhassan
Westside Water District	☐	Allen Myers	☒	Mike Urkov
Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District	☒	Rob Kunde	☐ ☒	Sheridan Nicholas Eric McDaris
Zone 7 Water Agency	☒	Valerie Pryor	☐	Ken Minn

Authority Shared Seats		**Primary**		**Alternate**
Roseville	☐ ☐	George Hanson Joshua Alpine	☐ ☐	Sean Bigley Darin Reintjes
Sacramento County	☐	Kerry Schmitz	☐	

Sites Project Authority:

☒	Jerry Brown	☒	Ali Forsythe	☒	Kevin Spesert	☒	JP Robinette	☒	Shayleen O'Connell	☒	Wendy Ambriz	☒	Alan Doud
☒	Dan O'Connell	☐	Kyle Hughes	☒	Rob Natoli	☒	Mario Manzo	☒	Conner McDonald	☒	Sarah Hodge		

Members of the Public

Name	*Representing*	*Name*	*Representing*
Chuck Adamson	OE3	Hailey Traynham	Brown & Caldwell
Mike Fuller	Barnard	Stephen Peterson	City of Roseville
Maria & Agustin Munozguren	Land Owner	Jeff Wisilenski	WSP

Members of the Public

Name	*Representing*	*Name*	*Representing*
Chuck Crete	MJB Welding Supply		

Virtual Attendance

Virtual Attendance	**73**	
Sarah Hodge	Nestor (Unverified)	Fritz Durst RD108 (Unverified
Wendy Ambriz	Robert Huang (External)	Fritz Durst RD108 (Unverified
15304546811 (Unverified)	Matt Goody (External)	Brian Thomas (External)
Conference	Brian Thomas	Grace Lui
Leslie Moulton-Post (External)	Nevis, Andrew@DWR (External)	David Haywood (External)
Cordi, Juleah	Meyer, Scott@Wildlife	
Jerry Brown	Russell, Larry (External)	
Esther Saenz (External)	Marcus Maltby (External)	
Gabaldon, Michael (External)	Ryan Shaw	
Tony Arendt (External)	Rob Natoli	
Fritz Durst RD108 (Unverified)	Young, Amy@DWR (External)	
Jordon Navarrot	Douglas Montague (External)	
Quin La Capra (External)	Paul Weghorst (External)	
Sara M. Katz (External)	Ayoub Antabeel	
Alexander, Jeriann (External)	Bronson, Lars (External)	
Alan Doud (External)	Keith Dunn (External)	
C McD	Pamela Katleba-Jenkins Westside Water	
Brandon Coppedge (External)	Hentz, Chris (External)	
Petya Vasileva	Punyamurthula, Sujan (External)	
Eric.Patterson1	Rivera, Itzia@DWR (External)	
Smalls,Samuel L	Michael Plinski (External)	
Summer Shadley (External)	Edstrom, Andrew	
Korf, Darryl (External)	15307589774 (Unverified)	
Sikora, Jessica L (External)	Shelly Murphy (Unverified)	
Shayleen O'Connell	Nestor Garcia	
Pryor, Valerie (External)	Eric McDaris (External)	
Ali Elhassan (External)	Amanda Dwyer (External)	
Jason Holley (External)	Lewis Bair (External)	
Collin Wogenstahl (External)	Brendan Leonard (External)	
Smith, Michael (orange) (External)	Katherine Maher (External)	
Tom Jacoubowsky	Elizabeth L. Cousins	
Charles Gardiner (External)	Cheyanne Butcher (External)	
Alan Boyce (External)	Darin Reintjes (External)	
Trent Taylor (External)	Brian Kirwan (External)	