



Regional Water Authority
BUILDING ALLIANCES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

**RWA Board Meeting
Final Minutes
November 13, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ewart called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 9:05 a.m. the meeting location was at the Sacramento Association of Realtors, 2003 Howe Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821. A quorum was established of 16 participating members present in person. Individuals who participated are listed below:

RWA Board Members

Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District
Cathy Lee, Carmichael Water District
Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom
Chris Nelson, City of Lincoln
George Hanson, City of Roseville
Lisa Kaplan, City of Sacramento
Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento
Rebecca Scott, City of West Sacramento
Wade Kirchner, City of Yuba City - Arrived at 9:06 a.m.
Paul Penn, El Dorado Irrigation District
Pravani Vandeyar, El Dorado Irrigation District
Tom Nelson, Elk Grove Water District
Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District
Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District
Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District – arrived at 9:29 a.m.
Nicholas Schneider, Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District
Sean Twilla, Golden State Water Company
Chris Wilson, Placer County Water Agency
Patrick Kennedy, Sacramento County Water Agency
Michael Grinstead, Sacramento County Water Agency
Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Dan York, Sacramento Suburban Water District
Ted Costa, San Juan Water District
Adam Larsen, San Juan Water District
Greg Zlotnick, San Juan Water District

RWA Associate Members

Rebecca Guo, El Dorado Water Agency; Jose Ramirez, Sacramento Area Sewer District

RWA Affiliate Members

Vanessa Nishikawa, Stantec

Staff Members

Jim Peifer, Tom Hoffart, Ryan Ojakian, Michelle Banonis, Trevor Joseph, Monica Garcia, Ashley Flores and Gavin Ralphs, Legal Counsel

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Director Wichert pulled Consent Calendar Item 3.3 and requested it be amended striking “should” to “ shall.”

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approve the draft meeting minutes of September 11, 2025, RWA Regular Board Meeting

3.2 Approve the 2026 Board of Directors and Executive Committee meeting schedules

A motion was made to approve the Consent Calendar items 3.1 and 3.2 as presented.

Motion/Second/Carried Director Greenwood moved, with a second by Director Wilson

Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom; Chris Nelson, City of Lincoln; George Hanson, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Rebecca Scott, City of West Sacramento; Wade Kirchner, City of Yuba City; Paul Penn, El Dorado Irrigation District; Tom Nelson, Elk Grove Water District; Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District; Sean Twilla, Golden State Water Company; Chris Wilson, Placer County Water Agency; Michael Grinstead, Sacramento County Water Agency; Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District; Ted Costa, San Juan Water District; voted yes.

Ayes	16
Noes	0
Abstained	0
Absent	4

3.3 Approve Revisions to RWA Policies 300.1 (Authority Delegated to the Executive Director), 400.2 (Compensation Policy), and 400.4 (Executive Director Review Policy)

A motion was made to approve 3.3 as amended.

Motion/Second/Carried Director Wichert moved, with a second by Director Costa

Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom; Chris Nelson, City of Lincoln; George Hanson, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Rebecca Scott, City of West Sacramento; Wade Kirchner, City of Yuba City; Paul Penn, El Dorado Irrigation District; Tom Nelson, Elk Grove Water District; Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District; Sean Twilla, Golden State Water Company; Chris Wilson, Placer County Water Agency; Michael

Grinstead, Sacramento County Water Agency; Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District; Ted Costa, San Juan Water District; voted yes.

Ayes	16
Noes	0
Abstained	0
Absent	4

4. INFORMATION: HEALTHY RIVERS AND LANDSCAPES PROGRAM UPDATE

This was an information item presented by Michelle Banonis, Manager of Strategic Affairs to provide an overview of the current process working toward the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program also called Voluntary Agreements by the State Water Resources Control Board. The Voluntary Agreements is an alternative that is included in the Draft Staff Report in Support of Potential Sacramento/Delta Updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary and the Program of Implementation published by the State Board.

No action taken, information only.

5. INFORMATION: STRATEGIC PLAN 2030 UPDATE

This was an information item presented by Jim Peifer, Executive Director, on the process of soliciting a consultant to assist in developing the Strategic Plan. Last August, Chair Ewart formed an Ad Hoc committee. The committee recommends a consultant be selected and presented this recommendation to the Executive Committee. Director Wichert prepared a draft scope of work to assist in the acquisition of a consultant. A copy of the scope is attached. The Executive Committee discussed which consultants should be sent a request for qualifications and a short list.

No action taken. Staff was provided direction to not conduct a strategic plan prioritization process this year or put the entire focus on developing an updated strategic plan.

6. INFORMATION: WATERSHED RESILIENCE PILOT PROJECT UPDATE

This is an information item presented by Executive Director, Jim Peifer and Ryan Ojakian, Manager of Government Relations briefing the Board of Directors on the Watershed Resilience Pilot Project activities. Staff and consultants continue to work on the Watershed Resilience Pilot Project, which is being funded by a grant from the Department of Water Resources. Most recently, the consultants have been focused on setting up technical tools for analysis and developing a framework for prioritizing the strategies to adapt to climate change. The Board of Directors received a presentation on the recent activities.

The next phase will involve identifying adaptation strategies and projects for inclusion in the Watershed Resilience Plan. DWR has emphasized that regions further along in planning will be better positioned to compete for Proposition 4 funding. Progress to date, supported by the collaboration of local agencies, NGOs, community partners, and Water

Forum members, strengthens the region’s ability to attract the resources needed to put resilience strategies into practice.

No action taken, information only.

7. 2026 RWA BOARD ELECTIONS OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Jim Peifer, Executive Director, presented this action item for the Board of Directors to elect the 2026 Chair; and to identify candidates for Vice Chair and the Executive Committee.

Chair Ewart nominated Michael Saunders as the incoming RWA Board Chair

A motion was made to elect Michael Saunders as 2026 RWA Board Chair.

Motion/Second/Carried Director Wichert moved, with a second by Director Costa

Ron Greenwood, Carmichael Water District; Marcus Yasutake, City of Folsom; Chris Nelson, City of Lincoln; George Hanson, City of Roseville; Brett Ewart, City of Sacramento; Rebecca Scott, City of West Sacramento; Wade Kirchner, City of Yuba City; Paul Penn, El Dorado Irrigation District; Tom Nelson, Elk Grove Water District; Randy Marx, Fair Oaks Water District; Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utilities District; Sean Twilla, Golden State Water Company; Chris Wilson, Placer County Water Agency; Michael Grinstead, Sacramento County Water Agency; Robert Wichert, Sacramento Suburban Water District; Ted Costa, San Juan Water District; voted yes.

Ayes	16
Noes	0
Abstained	0
Absent	4

The following Directors requested to be placed on the ballot and provided a statement of interest to be the RWA 2026 Vice Chair:

Sean Twilla – Golden State Water District

The following Directors requested to be placed on the ballot and provided a statement of interest to be on the RWA 2026 Executive Committee:

Bruce Kamilos – Elk Grove Water District
Robert “Bob” Wichert – Sacramento Suburban Water District
Ron Greenwood – Carmichael Water District
Brett Ewart – City of Sacramento
Chris Nelson – City of Lincoln
Michael Grinstead – Sacramento County Water Agency

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Peifer reported out on several upcoming events including the RWA Holiday party and the member reception at the upcoming ACWA Conference in San Diego, CA.

9. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Chair Ewart reported that the City of Sacramento has hired a new Director of Utilities Dalia Fadl.

Director Kamilos reported that the Elk Grove Water District's Board of Director's have signed and submitted payment on their Phase 3 Water Bank Agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Chair Ewart adjourned the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

By:



Michael Saunders, RWA Chair

Attest:



Ashley Flores, CMC, Clerk of the Board