

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF THE SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY

Turlock, California
10 February 2025

The Commission Meeting of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority was called to order at 10:02 a.m. in regular session on the 10th day of February, 2025, conducted in-person from the Turlock Irrigation District located at 333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock, CA and via Zoom Webinar, and the remote teleconference location as described on the agenda.

Present were the following representatives of the member agencies:

Michael Frantz – Turlock Irrigation District
Kate Stacy – City and County of San Francisco
Robert Frobose – Modesto Irrigation District, Vice Chair (*remote teleconference*)
Glenn Spyksma – South San Joaquin Irrigation District, Chair

INTRODUCTION OF NEW SJTA COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Spyksma welcomed new SJTA Commissioner Kate Stacy from the City and County of San Francisco, reviewed her bio including current role as the Commission President of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, projects she has been involved with, board experience, law background, and having raised her family in San Francisco.

Commissioner Stacy expressed thanks for the introduction, noted she is happy to be part of SJTA for the collaboration, cooperation, and sharing mutual interest in protecting and developing our watersheds, and looks forward to working together and learning more.

Commissioner Frantz and Frobose also welcomed Commissioner Stacy and echoed the importance of collaboration.

General Manager Dennis Herrera spoke in support of Commissioner Stacy serving on the SJTA, noting there is no more thorough, collaborative, conscientious, and thoughtful professional than Ms. Stacy, and that she will make a tremendous contribution to the SJTA as we move forward with a collaborative relationship.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

MOTION APPROVING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Commissioner Frantz, seconded by Commissioner Frobose, that the minutes of the regular meeting of November 4, 2024, be approved as presented.

All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

MOTION APPROVING TREASURER'S REPORT

SJTA Treasurer Michael Clipper presented the cash reconciliation, bank statement activity, and year-to date comparison of revenue and expenditures to budget for the checking and interest-bearing (savings) accounts through the end of January 2025. Mr. Clipper noted since the inception of the savings account, SJTA has earned \$20,167.05 in interest.

Commissioner Spyksma inquired if there was anything the Treasurer would like to bring to their attention and expressed thanks for creating the savings account. Mr. Clipper noted the SJTA has a little more cash at this time due to attorney's fees and that he will be invoicing the respective agencies within the next few weeks. Hearing no further comments, the Commission took the following action:

Moved by Commissioner Frobose, seconded by Commissioner Frantz, that the Treasurer's Report through January 31, 2025, be approved as presented.

All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

MOTION APPOINTING TREASURER

SJTA Executive Director Andree Lee provided a brief overview of this item indicating the SJTA Joint Powers Agreement and Bylaws authorize the Commission to appoint a Treasurer. Michael Clipper has diligently served as the SJTA Treasurer for the past 10 years and kept finances in line; however, he is looking to transition out of this role and focus more on TID duties. The recommendation is to appoint TID employee Ashley Millsap as the new Treasurer. Ms. Millsap has been working closely with Mr. Clipper, Ms. Land, and Ms. Lee to become well versed on SJTA activities and will continue to do so upon appointment for a smooth transition. Ms. Lee also noted the appointment of Treasurer is typically a two-year term, but the recommendation for this appointment is one-year to align with other officer roles (*remaining terms*).

Commissioner Frantz commented he's worked with Ms. Millsap for a long time at TID and looks forward to working with her in this role. Commissioner Spyksma expressed thanks to Michael Clipper for his diligent work and time as Treasurer and welcomed Ms. Millsap.

Hearing no further comments, the Commission took the following action:

Moved by Commissioner Frantz, seconded by Commissioner Stacy, that Turlock Irrigation District employee Ashley Millsap is hereby appointed as Treasurer of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority for a term of one (1) year.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

Ayes:	Commissioners Frantz, Stacy, Frobose, and Spyksma
Noes:	None
Absent:	None

All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025 - 1

RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS OF THE SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY

SJTA Executive Director Andree Lee presented an overview of the proposed amendments to the Bylaws to align with revisions of the Joint Powers Agreement recently approved by the member agencies, including updates to the SJTA purpose statement, regular meeting schedule, and clarification on the officer terms and rotation process.

Commissioners expressed support for the amendments and increased transparency, clarity, and collaborative nature of the SJTA.

Hearing no further comments, the Commission took the following action:

Moved by Commissioner Stacy, seconded by Commissioner Frantz, that the resolution approving amendments to the SJTA Bylaws be approved as presented.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

Ayes:	Commissioners Frantz, Stacy, Frobose, and Spyksma
Noes:	None
Absent:	None

All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the resolution adopted.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

SJTA Executive Director Andree Lee presented an update regarding SJTA activities related to the Strategic Plan implementation, including actions taken over the last couple of months to support the “One Voice” and “Tell the Story” goals -- developed a scope of work for branding, prepared a draft RFP for the website, completed the Executive Director onboarding and management transition, and coordinated completion and approval of amendments to the SJTA JPA and Bylaws, as well as input received from the agencies to identify key issues for 2025, developed a request for information to put together a SJTA fact sheet, and opportunities to meet with the agencies to build relationships and develop a broader stakeholder list. Ms. Lee also presented an overview of the Work Plan development process, including current efforts to review progress to date and seek input on the priority areas for “Tell the Story” and “Cultivate Relationships”, with the intent of presenting the draft plan to the Commission at the May meeting for consideration of approval and any associated budget implications.

Commissioners and Ms. Lee discussed membership expansion, support for the positive direction and broader outreach, website efforts are important but relationship building has a much higher value, providing the draft Work Plan in advance of the Commission meeting, positive outcome of the meetings with other agencies, and encouraged Ms. Lee to bring any necessary matters to the Commission’s attention.

MOTION ADJOURNING TO CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Commissioner Frantz, seconded by Commissioner Stacy, that the Commission meeting be adjourned to closed session at 10:31 a.m.:

A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

California Government Code Section 54956.9

San Joaquin Tributaries Authority, et al vs. California State Water Resources Control Board

Tuolumne County Superior Court – Case Number CV62094

Judicial Council Coordinated Proceeding No.5013

- Valerie Kincaid, Legal Counsel

B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

California Government Code Section 54956.9

San Joaquin Tributaries Authority vs. California State Water Resources Control Board

Fresno County Superior Court – Case No. 21CECG02632

- Valerie Kincaid, Legal Counsel

C. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

California Government Code Section 54956.9

San Joaquin Tributaries Authority, et al vs. California State Water Resources Control Board

Court of Appeals 6th District – Case No. H047270

Consideration of Settlement Proposal

- Valerie Kincaid, Legal Counsel

D. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

California Government Code Section 54956.9

San Joaquin Tributaries Authority, et al vs. California State Water Resources Control Board

Fresno County Superior Court – Case No. 23CECG04201

- Valerie Kincaid, Legal Counsel

E. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)-(3)

Anticipated Litigation – three potential cases

Potential future State Water Board Action

- Valerie Kincaid, Legal Counsel

All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

RECONVENE – OPEN SESSION

The Commission meeting was reconvened at 11:46 a.m. in open session with all Commissioners present as per the previous open session.

REPORT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

At the request of Commissioner Spyksma, Legal Counsel Art Godwin and Secretary Jennifer Land announced that Commissioners approved settlement of the Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) claim for attorney's fees related to the 2014/2015 Curtailment Cases in the amount of \$84,928.81 and noted Mr. Godwin will be working with OID legal counsel to formalize reimbursement. This action was approved by a 4/0 vote of the Commission.

MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA

There were none.

FUTURE MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 12, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, moved by Commissioner Stacy, seconded by Commissioner Frantz, that the meeting be adjourned at 11:49a.m.

All voted in favor with none opposed. The motion was carried.

Jennifer Land

Secretary to the Commission of the
SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY