

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

Turlock, California
4 November 2024

The Commission Meeting of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority was called to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. in regular session on the 4th day of November, 2024, conducted in-person from the Turlock Irrigation District located at 333 E. Canal Drive, Turlock, CA and via Zoom Webinar.

Present were the following representatives of the member agencies:

Michael Frantz – Turlock Irrigation District
Robert Frobose – Modesto Irrigation District, Vice Chair
Glenn Spyksma – South San Joaquin Irrigation District, Chair

Commissioner Spyksma announced that the City and County of San Francisco does not currently have a representative serving on the SJTA but will likely by the next regular meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW SJTA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Commissioner Spyksma introduced new SJTA Executive Director Andree Lee and spoke about her experience and connection between urban, ag, and environmental water. Commissioners Frobose and Frantz also welcomed Executive Director Lee. Ms. Lee expressed thanks to the Commission and spoke about working to advance collaboration and implement the SJTA Strategic Plan to achieve SJTA's vision.

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 August 12, 2024, special meeting of August 29, 2024, and special meeting of September 12, 2024, be approved as presented.

Hearing no comments, the Commission took the following action:

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

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

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

MOTION APPROVING TREASURER'S REPORT

SJTA Treasurer Michael Clipper announced that the SJTA now has two accounts (interest bearing account and checking account) and presented the cash reconciliation, bank statement activity, and year-to date comparison of revenue and expenditures to budget for these accounts through the end of September 2024.

Hearing no comments, the Commission took the following action:

Moved by Commissioner Frantz, seconded by Commissioner Frobese, that the Treasurer's Report through September 30, 2024, be approved as presented.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

Ayes:	Commissioners Frantz, Frobese, and Spyksma
Noes:	None
Absent:	None

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 2

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2025

SJTA Executive Director Andree Lee provided information about the meeting schedule for 2025, noting the proposed schedule is generally consistent with the meeting schedule for 2024 with meetings being held quarterly on the second Monday of the month. However, there is one exception for the November meeting due to the veteran's Day holiday; therefore, the first Monday of the month has been proposed as the meeting date instead.

Hearing no comments, the Commission took the following action:

Moved by Commissioner Frobese, seconded by Commissioner Frantz, that the regular meeting schedule be approved for 2025 as presented:

Monday, February 10, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
Monday, May 12, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
Monday, August 11, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.
Monday, November 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

Ayes:	Commissioners Frantz, Frobese, and Spyksma
Noes:	None
Absent:	None

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

UPDATE ON STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND NEXT STEPS

SJTA Executive Director Andree Lee spoke about the purpose of this item to provide the Commissioners with a plan to advance the Strategic Plan over the next six months, efforts that have been achieved to date, and turned it over to Administrator Jennifer Persike. Ms. Persike presented a recap of efforts thus far including launch of the Strategic Plan effort in 2021, approval of the Strategic Plan by the Commission in August 2022, and the initial focused goals of “One Voice” and “Tell the Story”. Ms. Persike also reviewed the progress to date including the processes to hire and onboard the Executive Director, revise Bylaws, update key messages, as well as a website refresh/new domain name, and expressed thanks to the Commissioners, General Managers, and staff for their assistance.

Commissioners expressed thanks to Ms. Persike for her hard work and efforts in the Administrator role, which accentuated the need for an Executive Director, and inquired about the status of amendments to the SJTA JPA and Bylaws.

Ms. Lee also expressed thanks to Ms. Persike for her helpfulness and guidance, and reviewed next steps for the upcoming six months to 1) implement immediate actions for the One Voice, Tell the Story, and Cultivate Relationships goals and 2) identify steps and develop a work plan for Optimize Assets, Local Discretion, and Collaborate goals as well as any remaining items related to the Strategic Plan. Ms. Lee Also reviewed the input and roles of the Commissioners and General Managers to help develop and oversee the work plan, timeline and associated actions to be reviewed by the Commission at their upcoming meetings, the 2025 budget approval process scheduled to be considered today, as well as consideration of a future budget amendment in conjunction with the work plan if needed.

Commissioners spoke about the importance of cultivating relationships in a genuine manner, ensuring Ms. Lee is comfortable with the chain of command structure of answering to and having more regular check-ins with the General Managers and periodic check-ins with the Commissioners, encouraged interactions with the General Managers as well as their respective Boards/agencies, and concurrence with the proposed work plan and associated timeline.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - 3

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY 2025 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

SJTA Executive Director Andree Lee spoke about the importance of maintaining an adopted budget as we move into the next year and noted some uncertainties associated with the long-term work plan. SJTA Treasurer Michael Clipper presented information about the 2025 fiscal year budget including comparisons between the 2025 proposed and 2024 adopted budgets, budget considerations and assumptions including having received the reimbursement of legal fees from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) late last week, and reviewed the cost breakdown and cash call associated with the 2025 proposed budget.

Commissioners spoke about the desire to review the Oakdale Irrigation District claim at the February 10 meeting, clarification that the cash call within the proposed budget does not include reimbursement from SWRCB, recommendation to reduce the cash call amount less

\$100,000 per agency, and any potential impacts associated with budget amendments that may be brought forward at a later date.

Commissioner Frobose introduced a modified motion to approve the 2025 budget with a change to the cash call in the amount of \$264,621 per agency, with a window to ask for additional cash call at a later date if needed. Commissioner Frantz seconded the modified motion.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

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

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

MOTION ADJOURNING TO CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Spyksma adjourned the Commission meeting to closed session at 10:57 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 11:55 a.m. in open session with all Commissioners present as per the previous open session.

REPORT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Spyksma announced there were no reportable action items to report from closed session.

MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA

There were none.

FUTURE MEETING

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, moved by Commissioner Frobose, seconded by Commissioner Frantz, that the meeting be adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

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

Jennifer Land

Secretary to the Commission of the
SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY