



Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the Board of Directors of the Rowland Water District
July 8, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.
3021 Fullerton Road
Rowland Heights CA 91748

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

President John Bellah
Vice President Vanessa Hsu
Director Robert W. Lewis
Director Szu Pei Lu-Yang

ABSENT:

Director Anthony J. Lima

OTHERS PRESENT:

Joseph Byrne, Legal Counsel, Best Best & Krieger
Jody Roberto, Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Mike Ti, Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Matthew Litchfield Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Erin LaCombe, CV Strategies
Tara Bravo-Mullaly, CV Strategies
Alison Vela, Associate Intern, Best Best & Krieger
Denisa Tudorache, Associate Intern, Best Best & Krieger
Estrella Ramos, Associate Intern, Best Best & Krieger

ROWLAND WATER DISTRICT STAFF

Tom Coleman, General Manager
Dusty Moisio, Assistant General Manager
Myra Malner, Director of Finance
Allen Davidson, Director of Operations
Gabriela Palomares, Executive Services Manager
Elisabeth Mendez, Compliance and Safety Manager

ADDITION(S) TO THE AGENDA – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – Alison Vela, Denisa Tudorache, and Estrella Ramos, participants of Best, Best & Krieger’s Associate Internship Program, took a moment to introduce themselves to the Board of Directors. General Manager Tom Coleman gave them a warm welcome and a general overview of the District.

DIRECTOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION PURSUANT TO GOV. CODE §54953(f)

- Notifications Due to Just Cause – None.
- Requests Due to Emergency Circumstances – None.

1. PUBLIC HEARING – PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS REPORT

- 1.1 President Bellah opened the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. to receive and respond to public comment regarding Rowland Water District’s 2022-2024 Public Health Goals Report.
- 1.2 Elisabeth Mendez, Compliance and Safety Manager, reported on the findings stated in the 2022-2024 Public Health Goals Report included in the Board packet. Following the presentation, staff answered questions posed by Board members.
- 1.3 President Bellah invited members of the public to comment on the report findings, however no public comment were received.
- 1.4 President Bellah closed the public hearing at 6:25 p.m.

Upon motion by Director Bellah seconded by Director Lu-Yang, the Board unanimously received, approved, and filed the Rowland Water District’s 2022-2024 Public Health Goals Report. (Motion passed 4-0)

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion by Director Lu-Yang, seconded by Director Hsu, the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved as follows:

- 2.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held on June 10, 2025
 - 2.2 Demands on General Fund Account for June 2025
 - 2.3 Investment Report for May 2025
 - 2.4 Water Purchases for May 2025
 - 2.5 California Reservoir Conditions
- (Motion passed 4-0)

- Board members took a moment to add July 22, 2025, Special Board meeting, and August 12, 2025, Regular Board meeting to their calendars.

3. ACTION ITEMS

3.1 Review and Approve Directors’ Meeting Reimbursements for June 2025

Upon motion by Director Lewis, seconded by Director Lu-Yang, the Board unanimously approved the Directors’ Meeting Reimbursement Report as presented. (Motion passed 4-0)

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 4.1 Cross Connection Control Plan – Assistant General Manager Dusty Moisieo advised that the District submitted its Cross Connection Control Plan (CCCP) to the State Division of Drinking Water (DDW) by the required July 1 deadline for review and comment. Once the District receives feedback from the DDW, staff will present an ordinance, superseding RWD’s current Cross Connection Control and Backflow Prevention Program ordinance, that will incorporate updated compliance standards.

4.2 California Special District Association (CSDA) Board of Directors Election Ballot

General Manager Coleman reported that the District casted its vote for Don Bartz in the CSDA Board of Directors Election, Seat B – Southern Network.

4.3 National Safety Council Occupational Excellence Achievement Award

Compliance and Safety Manager Elisabeth Mendez highlighted the District's receipt of the Occupational Excellence Achievement award, earned for the third consecutive year, from the National Safety Council. This award recognizes organizations with strong safety practices and consistent low rates of workplace injuries and illnesses.

4.4 Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council Certificate of Appreciation

The Board received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council in recognition of its sponsorship of the Annual Picnic held on June 28, 2025. President Bellah, who attended the event, shared highlights with the Board.

5. PUBLIC RELATIONS

5.1 Community Relations and Education Update

Executive Services Manager Gabriela Palomares provided an update on the District's community relations and water education initiatives. She reported that the District successfully launched its first of seven landscape workshops planned for 2025, with positive feedback received from participants. Conservation messaging will remain the focal point during the summer. One approach includes the posting of approximately 280 yard signs throughout the District's service area to highlight the 31% state-mandated water use reduction requirement for RWD.

Ms. Palomares also highlighted the continued progress of the Direct Install Program, which has resulted in 30 residential water use surveys and six irrigation retrofits, with individual retrofit values reaching up to \$650. Her report concluded with a listing of upcoming events such as the October 10 blood drive in partnership with LifeStream, participation in the October 18 Buckboard Days Parade, and sponsorship of the Industry Hills Pro Rodeo on the same date.

5.2 Communications Outreach (CV Strategies)

Ms. Erin La Combe highlighted media coverage generated from the First Public Hydrogen article and the RWD/Norzagaray Water District (NorWD) Mentoring Partnership feature. She added that CV Strategies is in the process of composing an article that will be featured in an ACWA newsletter on the City of Santa Ana's partnership with sister city Sahuayo, Mexico, and RWD's mentorship with NorWD.

6. DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, OR EVENTS (INCLUDING ITEMS THAT MAY HAVE ARISEN AFTER THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA) – None.

7. LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

7.1 General Manager Tom Coleman reported that SB 72 made it out of the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee with a unanimous vote and has been referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee on July 16, 2025. The District is part of a coalition letter in support of SB 72 (Caballero).

Discussion continued regarding AB 259 (Rubio) and SB 707 (Durazo), both of which propose amendments to the Brown Act's teleconferencing provisions. TVMWD General Manager Matt

Litchfield was invited to provide an update on these legislative matters. He reported that both bills have been combined into one bill at the request of Senator Durazo who chairs the Senate Local Government Committee where AB 259 was scheduled to be heard on July 16, 2025. Assemblymember Rubio is scheduling a meeting with Senator Durazo to work on the language of combining these two bills.

8. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE – None.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Joint Powers Insurance Authority – Dusty Moisia reported on Property Committee matters. Director Lu-Yang followed with a report on her participation in the Workers Compensation Program, Executive, and CWIF committee meetings.

9.2 Three Valleys Municipal Water District – President Bellah reported on his attendance at the TVMWD Board meeting held on June 18, 2025.

9.3 Association of California Water Agencies – Although there were no updates on ACWA matters, Director Lewis noted his interest in participating in the July 15 ACWA/CAPIO webinar: Combating Misinformation in Public Communications.

9.4 Puente Basin Water Agency (PBWA) – None.

9.5 Project Ad-Hoc Committee – None.

9.6 Regional Chamber of Commerce – None.

9.7 P-W-R Joint Waterline Commission – Myra Malner reported on the June 12, 2025, P-W-R Joint Water Line meeting held at Walnut Valley Water District.

9.8 Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council (RHCCC) – None.

9.9 California Special District Association (CSDA) SGV Chapter – The next remote meeting is scheduled for July 31, 2025.

9.10 Local Agency Formation Commission – None.

10. OTHER REPORTS, INFORMATION ITEMS AND COMMENTS

10.1 Finance Report

Director of Finance, Myra Malner, presented a year-to-date Financial Dashboard containing comparative graphs of Revenue and Expense by Category and Consumption by Class through May 2025 and answered questions posed by Board members.

10.2 Operations Report

Director of Operations Allen Davidson provided an Operations report for the month of June 2025, explaining the Field Operations services listed below. He also presented additional Water Systems departmental updates such as leaks and fire hydrant data, and water quality results (total chlorine and nitrite).

Field Operations – June 2025

- Water Samples - 225
- Site Inspections – 85

- Service Orders Completed - 446
- Meters Replaced - 48
- Modules Replaced - 43
- Dig Alerts - 395
- Service Lines Replaced - 3
- System Valves Replaced - 2
- Air Releases Inspections – 0
- Fire Hydrant Repairs – 1
- Recycled Water Inspections – 10

10.3 Project Update – None.

10.4 Personnel Report – General Manager Tom Coleman reported on the District’s internship program.

11. ATTORNEY’S REPORT – None.

12. CLOSED SESSION – 7:54 p.m.

A Closed Session was held in connection with the items listed below:

a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation [§54956.9]

Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of §54956.9

Haste, et al. vs Rowland Water District

b. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 One case.

13. Reconvene/Report on Closed Session – 8:19 p.m.

Closed Session Announcements – It was reported by Legal Counsel that the Board was briefed on the facts and circumstances of the matters regarding closed session items (a) and (b), and no reportable action was taken on the matter.

General Manager’s and Directors’ Comments – None.

Future Agenda Item(s) – None.

Late Business – None.

Director Hsu adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.


 JOHN BELLAH
 Presiding Director

Attest: 
 TOM COLEMAN
 Board Secretary

