

EXETER IRRIGATION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
150 South E Street
Exeter, California

July 9, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Exeter Irrigation District was called to order by Vice President Crosson at 1:30 p.m. Directors present were Joseph Ferrara, Keith Cosart, Bob Ward, and David Nielsen. Director Greg Crosson was absent. Others present were General Manager Gene Kilgore, Office Manager Selena Rossman, TDWA Special Projects Administrator Cohen Hunter, growers Craig Hornung, Milo Gorden and Bennett, GreenLeaf Company representative James Bengtson

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Ferrara opened the floor for public comment. James Bengtson provided information and outlined the scope of services Bennett Company can provide should the District need external support in addressing Golden Mussel risks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Kilgore reported that Director Ferrara attended the EKGSA Technical Advisory Committee meeting held on June 12, 2026, and a Water Strategy meeting held on July 1, 2026; and that Director Cosart attended the FWA Board Meeting held on June 25, 2026.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

No changes were requested, and the agenda was accepted as posted and presented.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Ferrara called for the approval of the June 11, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes. On motion by Director Cosart, seconded by Director Nielsen and carried, the Minutes were approved as presented. Director Ferrara abstained.

WARRANTS/ACCOUNTS PAYABLES

Mr. Kilgore presented June's Payroll and Accounts Payables, which amounted to \$321,433.94.

Following review and discussion, on motion by Director Ward, seconded by Director Cosart and carried, the Board approved the expenditures for June as presented and ordered payments of warrants, Bank of Sierra, #1708 through 1749, and included herewith as Exhibit "A".

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

Mr. Kilgore presented the Financial Statements and Reports prepared for June, noting cash deposits of \$643,961.57. As of June 30th, the District's ending bank balances in the Bank of Sierra, and Bank of Sierra 5015 amounting to \$1,206,933.31 and \$74,705.20, respectively. Mission Bank MM account amounted to \$1,370,657.03, an increase of \$3,651.59 from the previous month's

ending balances. June's investments totaled \$1,076,100.56 an increase of \$2,518.94 from the previous month's ending balances. Total District funds amounted to \$3,728,396.10. Investments are earning interest between 3.25% and 3.81%. on motion by Director Ward, seconded by Director Cosart and carried, the Board approved the Financial Reports as presented and ordered to be placed on file, copies of which are included herewith as Exhibit "B."

Ms. Rossman reported the Grower Delinquent Accounts summary showing delinquent balances for 2022, 2023 and 2024 amounting to \$2,325.90, \$2,313.50, and \$11,682.19, respectively. As previously reported, property liens have been filed on all other delinquent accounts.

Mr. Kilgore reviewed budget variances and anticipated overages.

RESOLUTION 2026-03 BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

Mr. Kilgore requested adoption of Resolution 2026-03, consenting to the consolidation of the District elections with other elections to be held and directing the Tulare County Registrar of Voters to publish the notice of election and place four Board of Director seats on the November 3, 2026 General Election ballot. Directors up for election are Gregory Crosson, David W. Nielsen, and Kieth H. Cosart. On motion by Director Nielsen, seconded by Director Cosart, and carried the Board adopted Resolution 2026-03, by the following vote:

- Aye: Directors Ferrara, Cosart, Ward and Nielsen
- Nay: 0
- Abstain: 0
- Absent: Director Crosson

WATER SUPPLY

Mr. Kilgore reported that the District delivered 2,342 acre-feet of Class 1 water supply in June for irrigation demands. Remaining District water supply balance was 13,834 acre-feet. No precipitation was recorded in June and precipitation recorded to-date amounted to 12.77 inches. On July 9th, approximate reservoir conditions for Shasta, Millerton, San Luis, and Kaweah were 3,436,823; 383,158; 1,167,611 and 67,954 acre-feet, respectively.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Kilgore reported that Adair & Evans has initiated the District's fiscal year 2025 audit. He also noted that he is reviewing the District's Reserve Policy and will present a recommended revision at a future meeting. Mr. Kilgore reported that the credit card processing is up and running, the District is now ready to take credit card payments. Mr. Kilgore provided an update on the Paregien Project construction progress with anticipation of completion of the second cell by the end of August 2026. Mr. Kilgore reported he has entered into a pilot program with WildEye Company to install seven telemetry devices to record flow data that can be viewed by District staff. If proven reliable, it may allow for a more robust operation for water diversions.

Mr. Cohen provided an update on his integration of the District boundary to Arc GIS using the District's formation documents recorded with the Local Agency Formation Commission.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Staff continue to perform routine maintenance activities and complete line-leak repairs throughout the system. Photographs documenting the recent leak-repair work were presented to the Board for review.. Mr. Cohen provided an update on the GIS mapping progress integrating the District's conveyance system, valves, and metering facilities. He reported that the mapping products continue to be refined but once completed will provide a significant tool for Staff to use in the operation and maintenance of District facilities.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY (FWA)

Golden Mussel remains the primary concern for FWA. The vulnerability study has been completed and is currently available for contractor review. The FWA Board has allocated \$3.5 million in the 2026–2027 budget to support eradication or long-term control of any infestation. FWA is also evaluating requirements for additional water-quality analyses for non-project water and the development of an action plan should Golden Mussels be detected. Phase 1 pump station construction is progressing. FWA staff continue to coordinate with the contractor to confirm that all preliminary requirements are in place to allow construction activities to begin.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Coordination efforts between EKGSA, Mid-Kaweah GSA, and Greater Kaweah GSA regarding overdraft management and subsidence mitigation appear to have stalled. While prior discussions emphasized the need for consistent cross-GSA actions to stabilize groundwater levels and reduce subsidence risk, continued policy activity indicates limited progress toward a unified approach. EKGSA remains concerned that GKGSA's continued allocation of overdraft—without corresponding mitigation measures—creates a material risk to the overall sustainability of the Kaweah Subbasin. Persistent overdraft in one management area can accelerate localized subsidence, which in turn affects regional infrastructure, hydraulic gradients, and the ability of adjacent GSAs to meet SGMA's long-term sustainability criteria.

From EKGSA's perspective, the ongoing issuance of overdraft allocations by GKGSA undermines basin-wide efforts to curtail subsidence. Without coordinated reductions in groundwater extraction, the subbasin may fail to achieve measurable objectives related to land subsidence and minimum thresholds established in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. This divergence in management practices threatens to render the basin unsustainable under SGMA compliance standards.

EKGSA continues to advocate for renewed coordination among the GSAs, emphasizing that consistent overdraft management is essential to protecting the subbasin from avoidable subsidence impacts and ensuring long-term groundwater reliability.

YOKOHL CREEK PROJECT

Mr. Kilgore reported that the Component Managers for the SGMA Implementation Grant have requested a meeting with DWR on July 24, 2026 to discuss the time extensions proposed under Amendment 6. In advance of this meeting, DWR has directed all Components to provide trued-up project timelines, including Gantt charts identifying the critical path to project completion, no later than July 17, 2026 to allow sufficient time for DWR review. Mr. Kilgore noted that if the requested extension is not approved, the Yokohl Project may not have adequate time remaining in the grant performance period to complete construction, creating a significant risk of forfeiture of the associated grant funds.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board convened to Closed Session at 3:06 p.m.

RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION

The Board convened back to Open Session at 3:52p.m. There were no recordable actions taken in Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

President Ferrara adjourned the Board meeting at 3:56 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Exeter Irrigation District's Board of Directors is scheduled for August 13, 2026.

Gene Kilgore

Secretary/Manager