

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR RECLAMATION DISTRICT 1614
HELD MONDAY MAY 4, 2026**

The May 4, 2026 Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Reclamation District 1614 was held on Monday, May 4, 2026, at the hour of 5:00 p.m. The meeting was held at The Amblers Club in Stockton, CA.

Roll Call of Board Members and Staff:

Trustee Kevin Kauffman, Trustee Chris Gaines, Engineer Chris Neudeck, Superintendent Abel Palacio, and Attorney Andy Pinasco

The following members of the public were present: Kim Floyd (SJAFCA Public Relations), and approximately 12 members of the public.

Absent were: Secretary Rhonda Olmo, President Dominick Gulli (excused absence). President Gulli arrived at 5:25 p.m.

Item 1. Call to Order/Roll Call. Trustee Kauffman called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Item 2. Public Comment. The public may comment on any matter within the District's jurisdiction that is not on the agenda. Matters on the agenda may be commented on by the public when the matter is taken up. All comments are limited to 5 minutes for general public comment and per agenda item in accordance with Resolution 2014-06.

A member of the public commented regarding notifications from SJAFCA's notification system for Smith Canal Gate closures and requested that residents be signed up for the system.

A member of the public commented on the Smith Canal Gate project, expressing general satisfaction with the project. The member asked about plans to address graffiti on the Gate, noted that the planters installed at the Gate had died, and inquired about the period of time the Gate would be closed (through May 8, 2026), asking whether the closure duration could be shortened.

Item 3. Minutes. Approval of Minutes of April 6, 2026 Regular Meeting.

After review,

On a motion by Trustee Gaines, seconded by Trustee Kauffman, the Trustees present voted unanimously to approve the April 6, 2026 regular meeting minutes by the following vote:

Ayes: Kauffman, Gaines

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Gulli

Item 4. District Finances. Presentation of Financial Status Reports. Discussion and possible action.

Attorney Pinasco provided a written and oral report in the capacity of Secretary in the absence of Rhonda Olmo. Mr. Pinasco reported that the District is at 83.3% through the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. Total cash on hand as of April 30, 2026 is \$2,634,837.57. A question was raised regarding the assessment income appearing at 110%, and Mr. Pinasco noted that the County recently transitioned to a new software system (Workday) which may be affecting distribution timing; staff was directed to follow up with Rhonda Olmo to research the discrepancy.

After review,

On a motion by Trustee Gaines, seconded by Trustee Kauffman, the Trustees present voted unanimously to approve the Financial Report as presented, with the question regarding assessment income to be researched and reported back, by the following vote:

Ayes: Kauffman, Gaines

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Gulli

Item 5. Agency Reports. Report on San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency's Smith Canal Gate Structure Project.

a. Discussion and Direction Regarding District Review of Smith Canal Gate Operations and Maintenance Manual. Report provided. See Item 6 below.

b. Kim Floyd, SJAFCA Public Relations Consultant, reported that as of February 9, 2026, FEMA issued a Letter of Map Revision removing properties within RD 1614 from the Special Flood Hazard Area. Ms. Floyd informed property owners that flood insurance is no longer required and offered to assist any property owner experiencing difficulty having the flood insurance mandate removed by their lender. Ms. Floyd clarified that a Letter of Map Amendment is not required; rather, a map printout from the FEMA website showing the property in a low-risk flood zone is sufficient to provide to the lender's insurance compliance consultant. Ms. Floyd provided her contact information to property owners.

c. In response to questions from the public, Ms. Floyd reported that recent Gate closures have been due to startup activities and training, including installation of a variable frequency drive. Under normal O&M conditions, closures would permit boat traffic through the Gate. She reported that closures are expected to decrease going forward. The protocol for closing the Gate is when tides reach or are forecast to reach 8 feet or greater. Ms. Floyd reported that graffiti is being managed through security measures and should be addressed promptly upon occurrence. She reported that the irrigation pump serving the planters at the Gate was installed within the sheet pile wall in a location that did not allow water to penetrate; the pump location has been corrected and plants are expected to be replanted.

d. Mr. Neudeck and Ms. Floyd reported on golden mussel impacts to the Gate's operation. The mussels have accumulated significantly since entering the Delta environment in 2024–2025. SJAFCA has a plan to hire divers on a quarterly basis to clean the Gate. Ultrasonic wave devices are being tested as a means of preventing mussel attachment to metal infrastructure. Mr. Neudeck noted that the District is also evaluating ultrasonic devices for its

own metal siphons and pipe infrastructure. Ms. Floyd reported that the SJAFCA assessment includes funding for ongoing Gate maintenance, including mussel removal costs.

e. Ms. Floyd reported that FEMA does not anticipate remapping communities that are actively working toward increased flood protection.

Item 6. SJAFCA LOMR. Discussion and direction regarding SJAFCA Letter of Map Revision.

a. Interior Drainage Analysis. Addressed in the context of the agency report above.

b. Base Flood Elevation. Addressed in the context of the agency report above.

c. Trustee Kauffman reported that as a condition of the encroachment permit issued by the District to anchor the Smith Canal Gate into the levee, SJAFCA is obligated to inform the District Board regarding Gate operations and maintenance, allow the Board to comment on the O&M Manual, and remain responsible for any impacts to the District's levee. The District retained special engineer Dr. Jordan Baldwin to review SJAFCA's responses to questions submitted by President Gulli, given Mr. Neudeck's concurrent involvement with the SJAFCA project. SJAFCA's written responses to the District's questions were included in the agenda packet. Trustee Kauffman noted that the District has further questions and that this is an iterative process. Mr. Neudeck concurred that Dr. Baldwin did a good job addressing issues not fully addressed in SJAFCA's initial responses. Staff was directed to work with Dr. Baldwin to prepare a follow-up letter to SJAFCA for President Gulli's signature.

Item 7. District Engineer Report. Presentation of Engineer's Report. Discussion and possible action:

I. LEVEE MAINTENANCE PROJECT – FY 2025-2026

A. Phase I – Residential Properties (Dino & Son Ditching, \$298,820). A biological survey is planned for the week of May 11, 2026. Construction is scheduled to begin the week of May 18, 2026, with a minimum of three properties expected to be completed before June 30, 2026. Properties receiving rock slope protection include: 1722 South Tuxedo Avenue; 2472 Country Club Boulevard; 2015 Moering Road (Zuckerman); 2141 Moering Court (Pack Family Holdings); Safeway – behind the City of Stockton pump station (1–2 loads of quarter-ton rock); 1640 South Tuxedo Avenue (Parrish condos); and 1542 South Tuxedo Avenue (Barrows). Phase I Construction Plans were presented as Exhibit A.

B. Phase II – Golf & Country Club (Dutra Construction, \$890,236). Biological surveys were conducted on April 24, 27, and 28, 2026, with a botanist survey on April 30, 2026. A Swainson's Hawk nest was identified near the parking lot and will be monitored during construction; a biologist may recommend a project shutdown if the hawk is disturbed, and the recommendation is to initially avoid that portion of the parking lot and return later. Mason's Lilaepsis was identified at the west end just below the water mark and will be flagged to avoid disturbance from construction above the water mark. Delta Tule Pea was identified near the Clubhouse, pending botanist verification; seeds will be harvested after pod maturity (within 60 days) and replanted, and the area will be avoided until maturity is confirmed. A pre-construction meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 5, 2026. Construction is expected to be completed within 30 calendar days pending botanist verification. Phase II Construction Plans were presented as Exhibit B.

Item 8. Superintendent’s Report. Presentation of Superintendent’s Report; request for direction.

Mr. Abel Palacio provided a written and oral report on the District’s 11 pump stations and approximately 2 miles of levee on the North Shore and Smith Canal. Mr. Palacio reported the following:

- a. Mechanical issues at two pump stations were addressed during the reporting period. At the Kirk Street pump station, a motor had burned out and was replaced; upon replacement, the pump’s impellers were found to be insufficient and the pump was sent to the shop for disassembly and inspection. An electrical overload device failure at a second pump station was also addressed and the part was replaced. Mr. Palacio noted these failures were atypical for a single month.
- b. Pump station painting is in progress. Wisconsin, Franklin, and Buena Vista pump stations have been cleaned. The Wisconsin pump station painting is ongoing and is expected to significantly improve the station’s appearance.
- c. A member of the public reported beaver activity just west of the Ambler’s Club, approximately two to three doors north of the meeting location, on Idaho Street. Mr. Palacio and Mr. Neudeck confirmed the District has authority to address beaver activity and, if necessary, can obtain an inspection warrant to access private property. Staff was directed to investigate.
- d. Mr. Palacio reported on a recent waterside slope inspection by boat, noting areas of overgrowth and boat docks in disrepair. Abandoned vessels were also noted. Mr. Neudeck noted that dock maintenance is not the District’s jurisdiction; the issue of abandoned vessels was referred to the applicable authorities.

For a complete list of items please refer to the Superintendent’s Report in the agenda packet.

Item 9. Report on Meetings Attended. No report.

Item 10. Trustee Reports. Discussion on Trustee Reports. No reports.

Item 11. District Calendar.

- a. Next Meeting – June 1, 2026. The draft budget will be presented at the June meeting.

Item 12. Items for Future Meetings.

- a. Budget.
- b. SJAFCA discussion (continued).

Item 13. Correspondence. Discussion and direction. The Trustees reviewed correspondence from Ava Community Energy. No action was taken.

Item 14. District Bills. Motion to Approve Bills.

After review,

On a motion by Trustee Gaines, seconded by President Gulli, the Trustees present voted unanimously to approve the April 2026 bills by the following vote:

Ayes: Kauffman, Gaines, Gulli

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Item 15. Adjournment. Trustee Kauffman adjourned the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rhonda L. Olmo
District Secretary