

**PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
January 14, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on January 14, 2025, at 9:00 am. Those present at the meeting were:

Directors: Aaron Barcellos, President  
Beau Correia, Vice-President  
Steve Fausone, Secretary  
Neill Callis, Director  
Wayne Western, Director

Staff: Patrick McGowan, General Manager  
Juan Cadena, Water Resources Manager  
Chris Carlucci, Maintenance Manager  
Josh Marquez, Contracts Administrator  
Sandra Reyes, Water Master

Others: Phil Williams, Legal Counselor  
Palmer McCoy, Grassland Basin Authority (GBA)  
Chris Linneman, Summers Engineering, Inc.

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Barcellos called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Barcellos led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

A quorum of the Board of Directors was present.

**POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

There were no conflicts of interest.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVING THE DECEMBER 10, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Upon a motion by Director Callis and seconded by Vice-President Correia, the Board approved the December 10, 2024, regular board meeting minutes as presented.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Callis, Correia, Fausone, Western

Nays: None

Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT DRAFT TILE LINE POLICY**

General Manager Patrick McGowan reported a draft tile line policy was on the Grasslands Basin Authority’s agenda in the December board meeting. District engineer Chris Linneman of Summer’s Engineering and General Counsel Phil Williams were able to discuss the proposed policy. Mr. Linneman noted that there are two criteria that must be met by the landowner, a flow meter that totalizes and is incorporated into the SCADA system, so that the District has the discretion to operate the sumps. Mr. Williams explained that there are two separate policies needed, one for the Panoche Drainage District and a joint policy, as well for the Panoche Drainage District (PDD) and Panoche Water District (PWD). Applications received will be reviewed by the Water and Drainage District prior to review by the GBA. Upon a motion by Director Western and seconded by Secretary Fausone, the board approved the PDD draft tile line policy.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Callis, Correia, Fausone, Western  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT / PANOCHÉ WATER DISTRICT JOINT DRAFT TILE LINE POLICY**

After discussion by the Board above and upon a motion by Director Western and seconded by Secretary Correia, the board approved the PDD/PWD joint draft tile line policy.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Callis, Correia, Fausone, Western  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

- A. Accounts Payable**
- B. Monthly Financials**
- C. FYE 2025 Budget to Actual**
- D. Other financial matters**

Upon a motion by Director Callis and seconded by Director Western, the board approved the financial reports as presented by Water Master Sandra Reyes for Accounting Supervisor Mrs. Brazil, who was absent. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Callis, Correia, Fausone, Western  
Nays: None  
Absent: None  
Abstain: None

**REPORT ITEMS**

**BOARD TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM DISTRICT ENGINEER CHRIS LINNEMAN OF SUMMER’S ENGINEERING ON VARIOUS DISTRICT PROJECTS**

Engineer Chris Linneman noted that the PDD tile line policy had already been discussed and covered. Mr. Linneman had scheduled an upcoming meeting with Fresno County LAFCO for the end of next month to review the proposed annexation of various properties and gather the next steps required. The process is expected to take months to complete. Mr. Linneman reported that the Short-Term Basin Project is nearly complete. However, they are awaiting Pacific Gas and Electric and significant precipitation to test and finalize. It was reported that the Re-bordering/Land leveling Project on the west side of Russel Avenue was approximately 15% complete. Additionally, the OD Pump Station and Pipeline Infrastructure Project will soon begin. The Westside Conveyance Project is 90% complete on design and expects to bid at the beginning of March. Mr. Linneman concluded by noting that the Grassland Bypass Project stakeholder meeting that is held annually is coming up and scheduled for February 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**

Maintenance Manager Mr. Carlucci reported on the following operations and maintenance activities for the month of December:

- General Maintenance
- Staff started mowing Russell, Buick, and Hicks drain.
- Staff made repairs to Russell Emergency spill gate.
- Charleston Drainage District – Checking oilers on CH-2 pumps.
- Mr. Carlucci started working on the PDD chemical cost estimate for 2025/26 spray program.
- Mr. Carlucci also started working on the PDD winter project list. (locations & cost)

### **DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT**

Water Resources Manager Juan Cadena reported on the following drainage management activities for the month of December:

- Collecting water samples weekly and Site D has remained below target.
- A storm is expected at the end of January into February and 3 inches is predicted.

### **GRASSLAND BASIN AUTHORITY**

The General Manager of the Grassland Basin Authority (GBA) Mr. Pamer McCoy reported on the following:

- Mr. McCoy noted that Mr. Linneman had covered the majority of GBA topics in his discussions earlier.
- The GBA continues to work on the transition of the San Luis Drain, so that the GBA can take over as of March 1.

### **THE BOARD TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM STAFF ON VARIOUS MATTERS AFFECTING THE DISTRICT**

Staff reported on various items that had been completed, or were ongoing, on the Action Items List presented - dated December 10th, 2024. Mr. McGowan reported that staff have been diligent in completing items from this list.

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Mr. McGowan reported on the following:

#### **A. Prop 84 Grant**

Mr. McGowan noted that Mr. Linneman and Mr. McCoy had reported on Prop 84.

#### **B. Annexation, Landowner Authorization Forms**

Mr. McGowan added the expected expense associated with the annexation process and mentioned conversations he has had with the landowners.

#### **C. San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority (SJVDA)**

Mr. McGowan reported that the SJVDA did not have a quorum in this month's meeting.

**D. Other**

Mr. McGowan noted that staff continues to work with the Grassland Basin Authority to ensure a smooth transition process with the transition of responsibilities of the San Luis Drain.

**REPORTS ON OTHER ITEMS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.2 (a)(3)**

There were no other items.

**PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT CLOSED SESSION: Conference with Legal Counsel**

At 11:50 am, the Board met in Closed Session to discuss with legal counsel on related anticipated litigation. At 11:55 am Mr. Williams stated that no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

**PANOCHÉ WATER AND DRAINAGE DISTRICTS JOINT CLOSED SESSION: Conference with Legal Counsel**

At 11:56 am, the Boards met in Closed Session to discuss with legal counsel on related anticipated litigation.

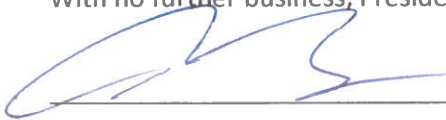
At 12:22 pm, Mr. Williams stated that no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES**

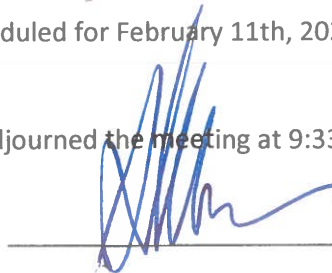
The next regular meeting of the Board was scheduled for February 11th, 2025, at 9:00 am.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, President Barcellos adjourned the meeting at 9:33 am.



Aaron Barcellos, President



Steve Fausone, Secretary