

MEETING MINUTES



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SEPTEMBER 28, 2026, 10:00 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Doolittle called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM & ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: President Doolittle, Vice President Fick, Director Floen, Director Jarlsberg, Director Fawke

Staff Present: General Manager Pro Tem Roman, Director of Administration Shook, Accounting Supervisor Rich, Executive Assistant Thompson, Production Supervisor, Kenny Ware, Ray Kolisz

Consultant(s) Present: Legal Counsel, Jeff Hoskinson; Hammer Analytics Principal Data Analyst, Brian Hammer; Public Outreach Consultant, Kathleen Radich

Citizens Advisory Council Member(s) Present: Jeff Walter (attended via Zoom)

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Director Floen moved to approve the agenda and seconded by Director Jarlsberg and approved by the following vote:

1 st / 2 nd	Floen/Jarlsberg
Ayes:	Doolittle, Fick, Floen, Jarlsberg, Fawke
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

4. PUBLIC COMMENT –

Laraine Turk commended General Manager Pro Tem Anne Roman and staff for the informative agenda materials and FAQs, noting that they were clear, helpful, and provided a better understanding of the issues.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. DRAFT MINUTES – 09.16.26 – Director Jarlsberg requested that the minutes be pulled from the Consent Calendar.

6. ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION

- A. DRAFT MINUTES – 09.16.26 – Director Jarlsberg noted that the vote recorded for Agenda Item 7A, Election of a Vice President, incorrectly listed Director Floen under the Ayes as well as the Noes.

Director Floen made a motion to approve the 09.16.26 minutes as amended to correct the vote, seconded by Vice President Fick and approved by the following vote:

1 st / 2 nd	Floen/Fick
Ayes:	Doolittle, Fick, Floen, Jarlsberg, Fawke
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	None

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY JOSHUA TREE SEPTIC-TO-SEWER INITIATIVE - INFORMATIONAL SPECIAL MEETING

PRESENTED BY: GENERAL MANAGER PRO TEM, ANNE ROMAN

RECOMMENDED ACTION: RECEIVE PRESENTATIONS AND INFORMATION REGARDING SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY'S JOSHUA TREE SEPTIC-TO-SEWER PLANNING INITIATIVE; REVIEW AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER, REGULATORY, FINANCIAL, GOVERNANCE, AND WASTEWATER-PLANNING INFORMATION; DISCUSS THE COUNTY'S REQUESTED RESOLUTION; REVIEW THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ANY CHANGES; IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NEEDED; AND PROVIDE DIRECTION TO STAFF. NO FINAL ACTION ON THE COUNTY-REQUESTED RESOLUTION IS RECOMMENDED AT THIS SPECIAL MEETING.

General Manager Pro Tem Anne Roman introduced Brian Hammer, Principal Data Analyst with Hammer Analytics and former Mojave Water Agency analyst. Hammer presented an analysis of nitrate levels in Joshua Basin Water District production wells, including conditions at Well 10 and historical data regarding potential septic influence. Hammer stated that the District's production wells are below the nitrate maximum contaminant level and that the District does not currently have a nitrate issue. Hammer also noted the positive effects of the District's groundwater recharge program on water levels and nitrate conditions.

Roman reviewed the operational status of Well 10 and noted that Wells 10, 14, and 15 serve the same distribution zone. Ray Kolisz recommended increasing nitrate monitoring for Well 10.

Roman reported that staff had submitted questions to the Regional Water Quality Control Board at the request of President Doolittle and had not yet received a response.

Roman provided an update on the County's Joshua Tree Septic-to-Sewer Initiative, including project status, available funding, and the County's request for the District to adopt a resolution regarding continued planning and feasibility work. Roman also reviewed the District's prior wastewater strategy studies. She noted that the 2020 study update was not Board-adopted (2009 was adopted). Three draft resolution options were presented for Board consideration.

The Board discussed the resolution options and expressed support for Option 3, Qualified Support, with revisions to clarify the limited scope of the District's support, preserve the District's authority regarding any future phases, and establish the District's role in future planning.

The Board directed staff to revise Option 3 consistent with the Board's discussion and bring the revised resolution back for consideration at a future regular Board meeting.

Public Comment: Erin Gatlin expressed concerns regarding the County's progress and transparency regarding the Joshua Tree Septic-to-Sewer Initiative and emphasized the importance of meaningful community and District involvement in the planning process.

8. DIRECTOR REPORTS/COMMENTS

President Doolittle

- Doolittle addressed Director Fick's social media posts and stated that associating Board members' names with such posts could be confusing to the public. Doolittle emphasized the importance of keeping individual statements separate from the District and other Board members.

Vice President Fick

- Fick expressed concerns regarding the County's lack of transparency and communication with water districts, citing examples of other County projects and emphasizing the need for improved coordination with the District.

Director Floen

- Floen acknowledged Brian Hammer for his presentation on nitrites and expressed appreciation for his candid and informative presentation.

Director Jarlsberg

- Jarlsberg disputed statements made in social media posts by Director Fick regarding alleged County influence concerning the Board President matter, stating that the claims were inaccurate.

Director Fawke

- Fawke thanked HR & Risk Generalist Audriana Sheehan and Executive Assistant Lisa Thompson for their assistance with her director onboarding.

9. MANAGER'S REPORT

- None

10. AGENDA ITEMS REQUESTED BY THE BOARD

- Doolittle – None
- Floen – None
- Jarlsberg – None
- Fick – None

- Fawke – None

11. CLOSED SESSION

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Govt. Code § 54956.9(d)(4))

Initiation of Litigation: 1 case

B. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Govt. Code § 54957)

Title: General Counsel

The meeting adjourned to closed session at 1:02 pm

The meeting reconvened to open session at 2:22 pm

President Doolittle reported that no reportable action was taken.

12. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Director Floen seconded by Director Jarlsberg, and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



ANNE ROMAN (Oct 8, 2026 16:13:31 PDT)

Anne Roman, General Manager Pro Tem & Board Secretary

TO VIEW THE MEETING RECORDING ON YOUTUBE, CLICK HERE:



2. JBWD MINUTES MEETING AMENDED

09.28.26

Final Audit Report

2026-10-08

Created:	2026-10-08
By:	LISA THOMPSON (lthompson@jbwd.com)
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"2. JBWD MINUTES MEETING AMENDED 09.28.26" History

-  Document created by LISA THOMPSON (lthompson@jbwd.com)
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