

Mendocino County

Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District

P.O. Box 2104, Ukiah, CA 95482 707.462.5278 Website: RRFC.net DistrictManager@rrfc.net

APPROVED MINUTES

Regular Meeting of April 6, 2026

At District Office: 304 N. State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482 and on Zoom

1. Roll Call

President Watt called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Trustees Present: Christopher Watt, President
John Reardan, Vice President
Tyler Rodrigue, Treasurer
John Bailey, Trustee (arrived 5:33 PM)
Dave Koball, Trustee

Staff: Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager
Jeanne Zolezzi, Legal Counsel (departed 7:08 PM)

2. Approval of Agenda

Trustee Rodrigue moved to approve the agenda. Vice President Reardan seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 4 (Koball, Rodrigue, Reardan, Watt)
Absent: 1 (Bailey)

CLOSED SESSION

3. (1) Government Public Employee Performance Evaluation: Gov. Code §54957 (General Manager).
(2) Conference with Labor Negotiators: board representative – Board President, Unrepresented Employee: General Manager
4. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Gov. Code § 54956.9) *Significant exposure to litigation:* One Case
5. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
(Paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Gov. Code § 54956.9) *Significant exposure to litigation:* Two Cases
6. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54956.8)
Property: Potter Valley Project | *Agency negotiator:* General Manager, General Counsel, Board Members *Negotiating parties:* Agency, Inland Water & Power Agency, PG&E | *Under negotiation:* Purchasing Entity

The Board entered closed session with legal counsel at 5:32 PM. The Board returned to open public session at 7:07 PM. There was no reportable action from Closed Session.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

7. Public Expression

No public present, no comments.

(Continued...)

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

8. Preliminary Draft of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget

GM Salomone noted the line items related to Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission (IWPC) (basic operations, Trans Basin Diversion, Coyote Valley Dam Modernization, and IWPC Special Projects) will be adjusted in the next budget version based on IWPC's developing budget.

The Board found consensus on the following feedback to the General Manager and Treasurer:

- Adjust the IWPC related line items to reflect the anticipated IWPC FY 26-27 Budget.
- Show all anticipated expenses in the expenses budget, including those shown in the preliminary budget as potentially drawing upon reserves.
- Show anticipated use of reserves as a revenue source.
- Draw upon inventory and replacement schedule to anticipate the need to purchase new meters and include as a water supply expense.
- Show surplus water sales as revenue drawing upon historical use and current water supply conditions to estimate.
- The District needs to develop a policy or cap on reserve drawdowns including a target minimum for the Water Supply Reliability Reserve. The Board has discussed it in the past but has not memorialized it in a policy.

A discussion was held regarding how to acknowledge the unknown costs of IWPC projects (trans basin diversion, Coyote Valley Dam modernization) and that the anticipation of increased funding to support these projects may result in RRFC drawing down reserves. There was general consensus that there is currently insufficient information to adequately forecast from IWPC for RRFC to record an informed acknowledgement. It was suggested that RRFC ask IWPC to develop this forecast of expenses over the coming years. IWPC needs to forecast its expenses into the future and how those will be paid for, relative to the member agencies. RRFC can use this information to build an adequate reserve to support the IWPC project expenses. The Board declined to increase the Trustee stipends rate.

9. Final Action on General Manager Evaluation & Compensation Adjustment

Trustee Bailey moved to approve the 2025 General Manager Performance Evaluation and the Elizabeth Salomone Amended and Restated Employment Agreement effective March 1, 2026. Trustee Koball seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 (Koball, Bailey, Rodrigue, Reardan, Watt)

REGULAR BUSINESS, INFORMATION, AND REPORT ITEMS

10. General Manager Report & Correspondence

No comments or questions.

11. Water Supply Conditions Update

The report was reviewed.

(Continued...)

12. Consent Calendar

- a) Acceptance of the March 2026 Financial Reports
- b) Approval of March 2, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes

Vice President Reardan moved to approve the consent calendar. Trustee Bailey seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 (Koball, Bailey, Rodrigue, Reardan, Watt)

13. Trustee & Committee Reports

Trustee Koball reported he has been asked to serve on the Mendocino County Farm Bureau Board and District Legal Counsel has confirmed it is not a conflict to his position as a Trustee on this Board.

Trustee Bailey reported on the recent Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board meeting, noting the appointment of a new General Manager, Maya Simerson, under the City of Ukiah service contract and that she has already made significant positive changes with more planned.

14. Direction on Future Agenda Items

Updated Reserves Policy including a target minimum for the Water Supply Reliability Reserve.


ADJOURNMENT

President Watt adjourned the meeting at 8:19 PM.

APPROVED by Board of Trustees on May 4, 2026



President of the Board of Trustees



Secretary of the Board of Trustees

President
Christopher Watt

Vice President
John Reardan

Treasurer
Tyler Rodrigue

Trustee
John Bailey

Trustee
Dave Koball