

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, GROWERS & LANDOWNERS – ANNUAL MEETING

MINUTES - March 26, 2026

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1. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMING REMARKS

The 2026 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, Growers and Landowners of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT was held Thursday, March 26, 2026, at the offices of the District at 8749 9th Street, San Joaquin, California 93660. (Attendance Roster: Att.1) The meeting was called to order at time 12:30 p.m., by General Manager, Manny Amorelli .

2. OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Amorelli welcomed attendees and thanked everyone for their support of the District. He introduced himself as General Manager, noting his 10 years with the District 5 years in his current role of General Manager. He expressed his appreciation to the staff and Board Members who helped in meal preparation and Meeting set-up.

3. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

The following individuals were recognized for their service to the District:

- a. RETIREES
 - Daniel "Danny" Gutierrez, Lead Heavy Equipment Operator
-22 years (Retired November 2025)
 - Donna Y. Hanneman, District Secretary - 34 years
(Retired February 2026)
- b. NEW EMPLOYEES
 - Jesus Saldana , Lead Heavy Equipment Operator
- c. 23 YEARS
 - Catarino Saucedo , Lead Pump tender
 - Juan Juarez, Lead Ditch tender
- d. 41 YEARS
 - Ken Mancini , Superintendent

Mr. Amorelli thanked all District employees for their dedication and continued service. Mr. Amorelli presented a printed historical record of the District's Board of Directors in recognition of the Districts history and leadership. (Att.2)

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4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

OPERATIONS

- ▶ U.S.B.R / Central Valley Project BOR announced an initial 15% allocation, later increased to 20%.
- ▶ The District will receive 100% of its Riparian Water Rights (9,700 AF).
- ▶ The District collaborated with outside agencies to increase surface water supplies. Appreciation was extended to all partners.

PROJECTS

- ▶ MAIN CANAL PROJECT The Project continues, the project will increase Canal capacity to 200cfs (north and south) and relieve restriction at C Ditch and Colorado. The District is working with Dr. Burt (formerly of Calpoly) and Summers Engineering.
- ▶ EAST AUXILIARY CHANNEL PROJECT The District is constructing a new weir on the East side. This project will aid in pulling flood flows into basin #3 and be tied to basin #2. The \$1 million-dollar funding was provided through DWR and is anticipated to be completed by late April.

AGENCIES

- ▶ MCMULLIN AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (MAGSA) A settlement agreement was reached between MAGSA and the District. MAGSA excluded James' 100-year-old well field easement from their export policy. All related lawsuits have been dismissed and final scheduling is underway.
- ▶ KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (KINGS GSA) The Kings Basin has finalized a groundwater allocation framework, with six of seven GSAs agreeing to coordinate if DWR requires pumping reductions. A preliminary allocation of 0.65-0.75 acre-feet per acre were established before accounting for surface water. The agreement remains flexible and supports local control.

FINANCE

- ▶ WATER RATES The Board has set new water rates at \$160 acre-foot, (down from \$165.00). rate
- ▶ ASSESSMENTS Rate remains at \$75 per acre.
- ▶ OFFICE HOURS Effective April 1, 2026 new office hours will be 8am-4:30pm (12:00p.m-12: 30p.m lunch closure).
- ▶ POINT & PAY Auto pay available, sign up online receive email receipts.
- ▶ PAPERLESS BILLING The District has transitioned to paperless billing; monthly billing statements will be emailed. Exceptions available upon request.

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5. BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Riley Chaney opened by recognizing the General Manger Manny Amorelli, stating he is well-suited for the role and commending his work. He also acknowledges retired staff Donna Y. Hanneman and Daniel Gutierrez, for their service, and thanked District Staff for their efforts and support of the meeting. Mr. Chaney encouraged Growers to keep their crop information updated, as accurate data helps with budgeting and maintain lower water rates. He noted that grower rebates will be discussed at next monthly Meeting. He expressed his appreciation to those attending and encouraged Landowner / Grower communication with staff and Board Members.

6. QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

Members of the public were given an opportunity to comment; no questions or comments were presented.

7. CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Amorelli expressed appreciation for continued support of the District and recognized the efforts of the Board, staff and consultants. He noted the District continues to fulfill its purpose of over 100 years. Growers and landowner were encouraged to attend Board meetings and share input. He stated he’s available any time for questions, comments, or concerns.

8. ADJOURN

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 12:45 p.m.

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Mirian I. Esparza, Secretary

Riley Chaney, President
Board of Directors

Manny Amorelli
General Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

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1. Attendance Roster: March 26, 2026
 2. Board of Directors Historical Record