

**Lower Tule River Irrigation District
Board of Directors
Ground Sustainability Agency Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2026
Location: 357 E. Olive Avenue, Tipton, CA 93272
Time: 9:00 a.m.**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Barcellos.

Roll Call:

Director Div. 1 Alex Garcia
Director Div. 2 Louie Tristao
Director Div. 3 Tom Barcellos
Director Div. 4 Frank Mendonsa
Director Div. 5 Josh Pitigliano

District Staff:

Travis Millwee, Resources Manager
Mark Greenall, Controller
John Michael Domondon, Operations Manager
Kirk Masters, Water Resources Superintendent
Alex Peltzer, General Counsel
Jack Lopez, Operations Superintendent

Landowners and Public:

Douglas Jackson, Geoff Vanden Heuvel, Joshua Nugent, Elijah Greidanus, Christian Tufenkjian, Trey Koetsier, Vincent Sola, Jace Vanderham, Mark Larson, Paul Greidanus, Tim Marven, Justin Murray, Stacie Ann Silva, Rod Steifvater, Mike Kroes, Gary Bosma, Case Schaap, Andrew Brazil, Brian Hauss, John Ocana, Art Van Beek, Chad Schenstra, Geoff Vanden Huevel, Mike Faria, Austin Williams, Kolin Stock, Keith Gilbert, Cameron Ribeiro, Jake Duffin.

2. Public Comment.

No Public comment.

3. General Administration

- a. Agenda Approval

On motion of Director Mendonsa, second by Director Garcia and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved.

- b. Minutes of April 14, 2026, GSA Meeting
On motion of Director Tristao, second by Director Pitigliano and unanimously approved, the minutes of the April 14, 2026 regular meeting were approved as presented.
 - c. Minutes of April 24, 2026, Special GSA Meeting
On motion of Director Tristao, second by Director Pitigliano and unanimously approved, the minutes of the April 24, 2026 special meeting were approved as presented.
 - d. Minutes of April 29, 2026, GSA Meeting
On motion of Director Tristao, second by Director Pitigliano and unanimously approved, the minutes of the April 29, 2026 special meeting were approved as presented.
4. GSP Implementation
- a. Public Hearing – Resolution 2026-5-1 2026 Groundwater Consumption Fees – Action Item
Board President Barcellos opened the Public Hearing at 9:05 am. Resources Manager Millwee referred to mailed notices that were sent to all landowners within the GSA regarding the setting of 2026 groundwater consumption fees. Millwee then presented staff proposal to set the 2026 groundwater consumption fees at the maximum rates allowed under 2025 Prop 218 Fee Study. After Board discussion, on motion of Director Pitigliano, second by Director Garcia and unanimously approved, Resolution 2026-5-1 was approved, resulting in the 2026 groundwater consumption fees to be set at the maximum rates allowed.
 - b. March 2026 Groundwater Usage Report
Resources Manager Millwee presented the total ET and groundwater usage for the month of March.
 - c. SWRCB Updates – Subbasin Probationary Status
As a result of LTRID GSA having its request for exclusion denied, Resources Manager Millwee gave an update on the recent effort by GSA staff to help landowners register and report their wells and groundwater pumping to the State Water Resources Control Board.
 - d. Subsidence Management
No update
 - e. Projects
 - i. Kaweah/Tule Exchange Project Investigation
 - 1. Ewell Group Consulting Agreement – Action Item

Resources Manager Millwee presented a retainer agreement for the Ewell Group. The Ewell Group will be assisting the participants the Kaweah/Tule Exchange Project on coordination with potential exchange/banking partners, and the feasibility study for new infrastructure.

f. Other

Anja Raudabaugh from Western United Daries, gave a performance update on the Public Relations Campaign currently underway for the GSA. Raudabaugh showed data that supported the effectiveness of the promoted messages to specific audiences and advised the Board to consider a phase to the campaign.

i. Tule Subbasin Coordination

1. Updates

Resources Manager Millwee gave an update on the recent effort by the GSAs in the Tule Subbasin to develop a coordinated single GSP. The main goal of this effort is to properly address the remaining deficiencies identified by the SWRCB and to exit probation. Millwee also gave an update on the need to address subsidence locally and the potential for changes to GSA management action.

2. Resolution 2026-5-2 Appointment of Tule Subbasin Plan Manager– **Action Item**

Resources Manager Millwee presented a resolution that will officially appoint Don Tucker, as the Tule Subbasin Plan Manager. On motion of Director Garcia, second by Director Tristao and unanimously approved, Resolution 2026-5-2 was approved.

5. Closed Session. The Board entered Closed Session at the conclusion of the Irrigation District Board meeting open session.

a. Legal – Pending Litigation

b. Personnel – Possible adjournment to executive session to confer on employee related matters in accordance with Government Code Section 54957 (Brown Act).

c. Real Property – Possible adjournment to executive session to confer on employee related matters in accordance with Government Code Section 54957 (Brown Act).

i. District Negotiator: General Counsel

Closed Session adjourned. No reportable actions were taken during Closed Session

6. Next GSA Meeting: June 9, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
357 E. Olive Avenue, Tipton, CA 93272

7. Adjourned by Board Member Mendonsa.

CERTIFICATION: THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE ORIGINAL AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR MEETING AND GROUND SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY WAS POSTED AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE BY 9 AM, MAY 8, 2025.

IF ANYONE WANTS COPIES OF ANY OF THE REFERENCED BOARD MATERIALS THEY MAY CONTACT THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, CINTHIA CANALES AT 559-686-4716 OR BY EMAIL customerservice@ltrid.org.

Respectfully submitted,

Travis Millwee

Resources Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Travis Millwee', with a small '7' written above the 'i' in 'Millwee'.