

**Lower Tule River Irrigation District and
Lower Tule River ID Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes – July 14, 2026
Location: 357 E. Olive Avenue, Tipton, CA 93272
Time: 9:00 a.m.**

Sitting jointly as the Lower Tule River Irrigation District Board of Directors and the Governing Body of the Lower Tule River ID Groundwater Sustainability Agency

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Barcellos.
2. Public Comment and Agenda Approval.
 - a. Public Comment: During this item, members of the public will be afforded an opportunity to address the Board on any matter within the jurisdiction of the District at the beginning of the session or before the Board's consideration of an agenda item regarding that item. Comments are limited to 3 minutes per person, unless otherwise indicated by the Board President, with a maximum of 30 minutes for public comments overall. Cal. Gov. Code § 54954.3.
No Public Comment.
 - b. Agenda Approval (GSA and District Combined) – **Action Item**
On motion by Director Mendonsa, seconded by Director Garcia, and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as presented.
3. GSA/District Administration.
 - a. Minutes of June 9, 2026 Board Meeting (GSA and District Combined) – **Action Item – Attachment**
On a motion by Director Pitigliano, seconded by Director Tristao, and unanimously approved, the Minutes of June 9, 2026, combined GSA and Board Meeting was approved as presented.
 - b. Minutes of June 15, 2026 Special District Meeting – **Action Item – Attachment**
On motion by Director Garcia, seconded by Director Tristao, and unanimously approved, the Special Minutes of June 15, 2026 was approved as presented.
 - c. Recognition of Eric Limas, Resolution 2026-07-01 - **Action Item – Attachment**
Manager Peltzer reviewed the written staff report, Director Pitigliano offered the following motion:
“I make a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-07-01 recognizing Eric Limas for his dedicated service as General Manager of Lower Tule River Irrigation District and Pixley Irrigation District and expressing the Board of Directors' appreciation and gratitude for his years of exemplary service.”

The motion was seconded by Director Mendonsa, and adopted by unanimous vote.

Sitting as the Governing Body of the Lower Tule River ID Groundwater Sustainability Agency

4. GSP Implementation

a. April 2026 Groundwater Usage Report – *Attachment*

Manager Peltzer reviewed the April 2026 Groundwater Usage Report. No action was taken.

b. Subsidence Management Plan

i. April (first quarter) Subsidence Management Zone Update – *Attachment*

Manager Peltzer reviewed the 2026 quarter one subsidence data. No action was taken.

ii. Update on Development of Allocation Adjustments and SMMZ EAPs and CSMOs.

Manager Peltzer provided an update on the development of allocation adjustment and SMMZ EAPs and CSMOs. No action was taken.

5. Subbasin Probationary Status - Tule Subbasin Coordination

a. Tule Subbasin Policy Group Updates

Manager Peltzer provided an update on the Tule Subbasin Policy Group, including the single GSP and the coordination effort. No action was taken.

b. SWRCB Interim Plan Updates

Manager Peltzer provided an update on the SWRCB interim plan update, including the upcoming meeting at the Visalia Convention Center on July 16, 2026. No action was taken.

6. GSA Projects

i. ERA Economics Tule Subbasin Economic Analysis – *Action Item – Attachment*

Resources Manager Millwee reviewed the staff written report, after discussion, Director Garcia offered the following motion.

"I move to direct staff to continue participating in the ERA Economics Tule Subbasin Economic Analysis at a cost not to exceed approximately \$22,666.67, subject to future cost reductions should additional GSAs participate."

The motion was seconded by Director Pitigliano and adopted by unanimous vote.

Sitting as the Lower Tule River Irrigation District Board of Directors

7. Water Resources

a. Resources Manager Water Update - Current Declaration/Water Supply

i. Monthly Water Delivery Report – *Attachment*

Manager Peltzer reviewed the Monthly Water Delivery Report for June. No action was taken.

ii. Current Water Run/Rates

Manager Peltzer reviewed the current water run and water rates. No action was taken.

iii. CVC Water Deliveries

Manager Peltzer provided an allocation update. CVC allocation is currently at 25%. No action item.

8. District Operations

a. Operations Manager Update

i. Construction/Operations/Maintenance

Operations Manager Domondon reviewed construction projects, canal maintenance activities, and safety meetings. As well as the work completed for the East-Side District. No action was taken.

ii. Cal Trans Hwy 190/Rd 208

Operations Manager Domondon provided an update on the Caltrans Hwy 190/Rd 208 Project. It was reported that liquidated damages were claimed for the project.

9. District Administration

a. General Manager Updates

i. Presentation from Michelle Paul, Executive Director of the California Farm Water Coalition – Introduction and Update on CFWC Activities

Manager Peltzer introduced Michelle Paul from CFWC. Following the introduction, a presentation was provided. No action was taken.

b. General Administration Items

i. 2027 Initial Draft Budget Review and setting 2026-2027 District Assessment – Review and Adoption – Resolution 2026-7-1 Setting 2026-2027 Assessments and Authorizing Collection through Tulare County Property Tax Collector – *Action Item – Attachment*

Manager Peltzer reviewed the written staff report. Following discussion, Director Mendonsa, offered the following motion:

“I make a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-7-2, levying the 2026 annual assessment at \$165.00 per acre, authorizing the inclusion of delinquent water and other service charges in the annual assessment, and directing staff to take all actions necessary to collect the assessment in accordance with the California Water Code.”

The motion was seconded by Director Tristao and adopted by unanimous vote. * Due to an error in calculation of the maximum allowable assessment per the adopted assessment study discovered following the close of the meeting, the approved assessment has been administratively reduced to \$159.32, which is the maximum assessment allowed under the correct formula.

ii. Financial Statements – Action Item

Controller Greenall reviewed the June financial reports and statements. On motion by Director Garcia, seconded by Director Pitigliano, and unanimously approved, the Financial Statements were approved as presented.

iii. Accounts Payable – Action Item – Attachment

1. Approve the actions of the Finance Committee in the payment of May bills.

The Board reviewed the June bills paid. On motion by Director Pitigliano, seconded by Director Tristao, and unanimously approved, the accounts payable for May were approved.

10. Friant Water Authority

a. Friant Kern Canal General and O&M activity updates

General Manager Peltzer updated the Board on the efforts of the Friant Water Authority Staff to combat the spread of Golden Mussels, as well as the recent announcement of \$200 million in non-reimbursable funding allocated to finishing Phase 1 and the start of Phase 2 of the Middle Reach Capacity Correction Project

11. Tule River Association.

a. SREP Update

General Manager Peltzer gave an update on the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project, relocations, and efforts to ensure funding for the remaining amounts needed for the project remain in place and spent according to the project budget. Any funding provided through the appropriations will be subject to the original Project Cost Agreement cost share structure and will take time to reconcile with the USACE once the project is deemed complete.

Adjourn to Closed Session sitting as the Lower Tule River ID GSA Governing Body

12. GSA Closed Session Items.

a. Litigation

- i. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION - Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(b): (two potential matters)

Adjourn to Closed Session sitting as the Lower Tule River Irrigation District Board

13. District Closed Session Items.

a. Litigation

- i. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION - Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(b: (one potential matter)
- ii. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – PENDING OR THREATENED LITIGATION (Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of GC Section 54956.9): (7 Cases)
 - Name of case: Richard A Jones Jr. v. Lower Tule River Irrigation District, Tul. Co. Sup. Ct. Case No. VCU 329566
 - Sierra Range Construction v. Lower Tule River ID, Tul. Co. Sup. Ct. Case No. VCU 335769
 - Name of case: NRDC v. United States
 - Name of case: Rosedale Water Storage District et. al. v. Kern County Water Agency et. al.
 - Center for Biological Diversity, et. al. v. United States Bureau of Reclamation, et. al.
 - North Coast Rivers Alliance v. United States Bureau of Reclamation, et. al.
 - Haag v. LTRID
 - In re Hundal, Pavinder, et al. Bankruptcy. US Bankruptcy Court, ED Cal, Case No 26-12349

b. Real Property – Real property negotiations and related matters in accordance with Government Code Section 54957 (Brown Act).

i. Water Contract Transactions

Description of Property: CVP contract water exchanges
Agency Negotiator: Alex Peltzer, General Manager
Under Negotiations: Terms and Conditions of Water Purchase

The Board went into closed session at 11:30 a.m.

Adjourn To Open Session

14. Report from Closed Session (If Any)

15. Report of action taken at prior Closed Sessions that became final after the adjournment.

- a. Action taken at the closed session meeting of June 15, 2026: By a vote of 5-0, the Board authorized the acquisition of 8,712 a.f. of Central Valley Project/Unreleased Restoration Flows (San Joaquin River Restoration Project),

Board, to be purchased by Pixley Irrigation District, for the benefit of LTRID, as satisfaction of return water obligation under LTRID-PixID Exchange Program.

16. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. by President Barcellos.

Next District/GSA Board of Directors Meeting: August 11, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., 357 E. Olive Avenue, Tipton, CA 93272

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, JULY 10, 2026.

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 CCANALES@LTRID.ORG

Respectfully Submitted,



Alex Peltzer
Board Secretary