

**MINUTES OF THE
MOAPA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD
Thursday, February 13th, 2025**

PRESENT:	Robert Terril	Ryan Wheeler
	Tim Gordon	Kelby Robison
	Scott Farnsworth	Warren Hardy - Phone
	Joe Davis, General Manager	Marcus Jensen
	Lon Dalley, Assistant General Manager	Jennifer Farnsworth
	Kiley Bradshaw	Jeannie Fox
	Byron Mills	Vernon Robison

ORDER OF BUSINESS: At 4:01 pm, Chairman Kelby Robison Called to order the regular meeting of the Moapa Valley Water District. The agenda items were addressed in the following order:

- 1) **Public Comment (May be limited to five minutes)**
None
- 2) **Nomination and Election of Officers**
After some discussion between board members, Ryan Wheeler Nominated Kelby Robison for Chairman and Scott Farnsworth Nominated Ryan Wheeler for Vice Chair/Secretary. On a motion from of Scott Farnsworth and seconded by Robert Terril the board voted 5-0 to have Kelby Robison be the Chairman and Ryan Wheeler be the Vice Chair/Secretary of the Moapa Valley Board of Directors.
- 3) **Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting held January 9, 2025 (For Possible Action)**
On a motion of Ryan Wheeler and seconded by Scott Farnsworth the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of January 9, 2025 meeting.
- 4) **Legislative Update (For Discussion Only)**
Joe Davis General Manager turned the time over to Warren Hardy who was on the phone. Warren Hardy has been tracking the Bills for the District and emailed a list over to Joe and Lon so they could track them on their own to make sure if there was language that is out there that will help Warren along. Warren reported that it's been a crazy start to the session with the first two weeks being very busy. He said that a really big storm hit today which shut the Legislative session down for today. The timing was good though, because they were planning to shut down tomorrow to give staff time to catch up on bills. The list that Warren sent to Joe, is a list of bills that directly impact water, but we also look for administrative things, requirements, regulatory stuff, unfunded mandates on the administration of the Water District and local government. We track these things regularly. There was a bill that Joe, Lon and Warren met on earlier today. It was a little confusing, one of the senators who had a constituent of their district was concerned about the escalating sliding scale of water. So, they asked the in-room committee on match resources look at it. There was some verbiage in there that Joe caught that is very unclear, so we are going to get an amendment to clear that up. Warren reported that he tries to be in Vegas for his client's needs on either Monday or Friday but other than that, he is in Carson City full time for the duration of the session. He wanted Board members to know that he is available for any questions they may have.
Board
Member Scott Farnsworth asked for a list of the bills to be emailed to him. Joe said that he will forward the email to all the directors.
- 5) **FY26 Budget Review (for Discussion Only)**
Joe Davis reported that the budget is big, and the biggest portion of it is between the grants and loans that we have. We need to get the new board members to understand the flow of the chart, so we figured we would start off with the memo that Joe put together and then we would jump over to the actual nine pages of the state forms that have to be sent in.

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Staff has been working on a draft FY 2026 budget for review by the Board of Directors. Staff is projecting a 7% rate increase in the projected revenues. Small main water line replacement monies have been lowered from \$500,000 to \$370,000 to allow for minimal projects. Equipment replacement (water truck) slated for FY26 will be deferred to FY27. The attached budget shows a change in net position of \$5,252,703 = \$276,063 + \$4,976,640 in Grants and a total overall net decrease in cash and cash equivalents of (\$1,081,301)

Other items include

- Continued large and small meter replacement from broken or inaccurate meters (\$255,000)
- PRV upgrades (\$40,000)
- 24" line replacement in Glendale construction costs (\$525,360 + \$2,474,640 GRANT)
- Arrow Canyon #3 Well (\$2,500,000 GRANT)
- Narrows 3-million-gallon tank (\$10,130,000 1% loan)
- Valve repair/replacement (\$110,000)
- Vehicle Replacement (\$110,000)
- Equipment Replacement (\$161,000)
- Computer Replacements (\$60,000)
- Water Resource Development (\$200,000) SNWA payment for Church water purchase

Jeannie Fox went over the flow of the actual Capital sheet that goes to the State. She talked through the nuances so the new board members could understand how everything works. This is the first initial draft of the budget, so board members were encouraged to chime in with any questions, concerns or comments.

6) Managers' Reports

Jeannie Fox, Office Manager, reported on the budget that is 50% gone through December. Revenues are still looking good. Expenses are still low. We don't have the depreciation expenses because those are done at the end of the year. Everything looks good in the budget. Jeannie went over the Capital Budget and all the projects we have spent money on and are currently spending money. The Main Street is unbudgeted however we do have the grant money coming back at us for that. Jeannie said that she will add a line item that says grant refunds so the board will have a note of that. The Financial Dashboard is looking good, she did add the infrastructure management service charge down at the bottom of FY25 cash. That just shows currently what we have brought in from this Infrastructure Management Service Charge.

Lon Dalley Assistant General Manager reported on the Spring/ Ground Water Production. In January Arrow Canyon #2 pumped 39,842,259 gallons. Baldwin Springs pumped 4,301,000 gallons for a total of 44,143,259 gallons. Lon went over the Arrow Canyon Well levels.

Joe Davis, General Manager reported on the bill SB 143, It is the bill that had the language we did not like and he'll forward it on to board members. Lon and Joe traveled to Reno for the NV Water Resource conference. They had the opportunity to interact with the state engineer. One year it is in Vegas and the next year it is in Reno. In Past years when it was in Vegas and Board members were available, we ended up getting them a membership and they were able to sit through some of the panels that talk about proposed water law and things that they would like to see changed. You get a lot of one-on-one time. While we were there our purchase of the LDS church water was a topic of discussion. They started the conference off with a speak easy. Lincoln County was talking about water rights and the center for biological diversity. It was explaining that it is a property right, but it is a right to use the water and put it to beneficial use like Moapa Valley did. Everyone is working cohesively to maintain the water usage of existing communities. The very last session they had a round table that went in on the water rights retirement program. We were a topic of discussion throughout the conference. It was a good meeting. Board Members had several questions that were discussed and answered.

7) Public Comment (May be limited to five minutes)

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8) Directors' Preference

-Review Monthly Expenditures – Board Member Tim Gordon had the opportunity to meet with staff this past week. They discussed many things but one of things they talked about was a cost of living raise. Talking to staff, they have not received a cost of living raise since 2011. Board Member Tim Gordon asked older Board members to explain why this was. Scott Farnsworth said he understood that the district has run off a private sector mode for a long time. So, benefits are given through incentives instead of cost of living. Farnsworth agreed that something needs to happen for staff. Tim Gordon asked how we are going to keep good employees if they are not compensated and appreciated. Robert Terril said that right now is the perfect time to talk about this because they are making the budget for next year. There was much discussion back and forth between board members. After some time, Chairman Kelby Robison asked if staff would put together a presentation to be presented at next month's board meeting for possible action.

-Litigation -

-Other Related Water Rights

9) Public Comment (May be limited to five minutes)

Community member Marcus Jensen stated that he was very happy to be able to attend this meeting as a customer and rate payor. He found the conversation to be very interesting. He complimented staff and Board members that they were doing a great job. He stated that the district is dealing with difficult issues. He understands the challenges of trying to balance so many different factors. In the discussion of the compensation for the employees he asked everyone not to forget about our customers who are grappling with the same inflation pressures that the employees are. So, look for balance and consider that the customers have no other options. He thanked everyone again for the wonderful job they are doing.

10) Approval of the March 13, 2025 Board Meeting

Board Members agreed to hold the regular board meeting on March 13th, 2025, at 4:00 pm

11) Adjournment

On a motion of Robert Terril and seconded by Scott Farnsworth the meeting adjourned at 5:56pm. The Board voted 5-0