Approved
Board of Directors
Wynola Water District
Saturday, March 14, 2026
22135 CA-79, Santa Ysabel, CA 92070

1. Call to Order: 9:00 am
2. Roll Call of Board of Directors:
    - Jim Madaffer, President-present
    - Sandie McCann, Vice President-present
    - Brenden Kelso, Treasurer-present
    - Steve Kincaid-present
    - Ken Weber-present
3. Additions to the Agenda-none
4. Approval of meeting minutes of February 14, 2026. Motion by Weber and seconded by McCann to approve minutes. Approved 5 Ayes, 0 Noes, 0 absent.
5. Public Comment – Opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction. People addressing the Board are requested to state their name and address for the record.
    - Karen Harris commented about the Flume device being effective in notification of the leak. A new meter has already been ordered and will be put on Dixie Moore's house along with a Flume to make sure the new meters will be compatible. If it works, we will order more meters and replace all the meters eventually. We are looking for alternative pricing for the installation of the meters as it is quite pricey going with Tim Guishard's company.
6. Treasurer's Report:
    - A CD was terminated, incurring an early withdrawal penalty but still netting a 3.5% gain over 18 months, growing from $175,000 to $181,000. This was transferred to the Chase Savings Account.
    - CD (Frontwave): $103,000, which has gained $3,100 since its inception.
    - Total Cash Assets: Approximately $273,000.
7. Office Manager's Report
    - Property Sales: The Wisenor house and Dan Richard's house are still for sale. Another house on Mountain Brook (3300 sq ft) will be listed for sale in about two weeks, as the owners are moving to Texas.
    - Staff Departure: Karen Kincaid is departing. Her contributions were praised, especially her assistance with the district's books.

- Role Consolidation: The previously split office manager and bookkeeper roles will be consolidated, with Karen Harris taking on both responsibilities.
- Systems Transition: Coinciding with Karen Kincaid's departure, the district will transition its email system from an old Gmail account to the wynolawater.com domain. The new WWD email will be info@wynolawater.com and billing@wynolawater.com.
- Website Update: A new website with unlimited storage is nearly complete and will replace the old, space-limited GoDaddy site. Marty Harris will be trained to upload historical minutes and agendas to the new website.

8. Old Business:
   a) Report by Board President Jim Madaffer (this will include the actions taken to date since the last Board meeting on February 14, 2026)
      i. Well 10: The well is back in service as of Wednesday, March 11, 2026. The district was able to put it back online without extensive bureaucracy because it was technically never taken out of service. The total rebuild cost was $130,000, which has been billed by Stehly but not yet paid. Fencing work is pending electrical rerouting. This well has shown low levels of manganese and iron, and it's hoped that its operation will lower the overall concentrations in the system
      ii. Well 11: Production has dropped from 60-70 gallons per minute (GPM) to about 25-30 GPM. A suspected leak in the drop pipe is causing water to pump up and leak back into the well shaft. Stehly is providing a quote to fix it, which is a priority. The proposed work includes a larger 2.5-inch drop pipe (up from 2 inches), a new sounding tube, and installing a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD). A VFD acts like a dimmer switch, starting the pump slowly to prevent the "hammer" effect. The goal is to upsize the well from its current 33 GPM. The repair is estimated to cost $30,000 to $50,000 and will be paid for by the district, not grants.
      iii. Well 11 Generator: A new 65 kW diesel generator is being installed at Well 11, funded entirely by a $500,000 state grant. The project is on track, with the main delay being the delivery of the generator from Bay City Electric. The contractor's work has been praised.
      iv. Well 9: This well is currently out of service. Recent quotes to fix it came in at approximately $26,000 and $35,000, with a total cost of around $60,000 including a VFD. However, the board is prioritizing the repair of Well 11, the larger producer, over Well 9, as Well 9's casing repair is not included, and it may not pass bacteriological sampling.
      v. Well 8: The district has incurred a $10,000 cost to shut down this well

vi. Well 7: This well had been running 15 hours a day while Well 10 was down. Its usage has now been reduced. There is a low-priority plan to replace its motor with a three-phase motor and a VFD.

vii. Well 3: This well is currently out of service due to bacteria readings, despite being fixed. The contamination is suspected to come from contaminated gravel. The next step is for Stehly to remove the gravel and attempt another disinfection

viii. Water System Grant: The district has secured a $778,000 grant for the planning and design of a new water treatment system. The agreement was signed on March 6, 2026. This grant includes funding for project management, which may be handled by Karen Harris or an external professional from RCAC to ensure compliance. The design phase, handled by Dudek, is expected to be completed by late 2026 or early 2027. The state may then fund the construction, estimated at $2 million to $4 million. The new system will also include a new 350,000-gallon tank, bringing total storage to over 400,000 gallons

ix. Rate Study & Water Rates: A rate study is underway to determine necessary rate increases, factoring in recent significant expenses. The consultants will present their analysis at the April 2026 meeting and aim to conclude the study by June 2026. The district will not consider implementing tiered water rates due to ongoing legal challenges in California. A new rate study will be conducted later to account for the operational costs of the new treatment system.

b) Report by Water Operator, Tim Guishard

i. **Well 3:** Is still offline, as it is testing present for coliform bacteria after several attempts at disinfection and pumping thousands of gallons of water to waste. In discussion with Stehly to have them come back and remove the contaminated gravel that they placed in the bottom of the well then put the pump back in and attempt another disinfection.

ii. **Well 7:** Effective earlier this week, this well is now slowly recovering from pumping 15 hours per day for the past several months. I have purposely reduced its allowable run time per day to speed up the recovery. At the worst point, this well was down to 8.5 GPM on average. This well has proven to be an excellent producer this winter and even late into last summer. This is surprising to me since I was told it did not make much water and Buddy and/or Albert only had it operating 30 minutes per day when I first arrived. When the pump is pulled next time, a 3-phase motor and VFD need to be added so the pump can be slowed down to more closely match the well production.

iii. **Something to consider:** There is a residential grade VFD that can work with the existing motor, that would at least provide a stop gap until the 3-phase motor can be installed. It will also operate the 3-phase motor, allowing more time to upgrade to a commercial grade VFD version in the future. Installing a VFD will reduce power consumption as we can better control the well pump

speed to more closely match the well's most efficient capacity. I have had a couple of these models, operating in commercial applications for quite a few years now and they seem to be holding up so far. The installed cost is about $4,000.00

iv. **Well 9:** In order to test the generator that EPX is upgrading, WWD needs to move forward with the work proposed by Stehly. I do not know if the well is going to pass bacteriological sampling, as the casing repair is not part of this work which will be a separate issue to deal with.

v. **Well 10: Effective earlier this week, this well is now back in service and has been testing absent of bacteria in several tests.** Having this well back in service, has relieved the pressure on well 7 and temporarily eliminated the need for well 11. The tanks are now full for the first time in months, and in just a few hours. The iron and manganese in this well are quite a bit better than well 11 but not as good as well 3 & 7. We now need to relocate the SDG&E electrical from well 8 to well 10, pour a new concrete slab and install new fencing to complete the work at this well. I'll be starting on the SDG&E process in the next few weeks.

vi. **Well 11:** I have reduced the pumping time to just 15 minutes per day, just to keep the pump functional. The pump is going to need to be pulled and at the pipe will need to be replaced sooner than later, as the discharge has now dropped to 33 GPM in the past few days. The pipe should be upsized to 2.5" based on the capacity of the pump and a sounding tube needs to be added. I would also have a downhole video done at the same time, to give us a heads up on any issues that might be observed. This work might factor into finances. We are shooting for March 25th to install the VFD at well 11, assuming SDG&E can finally get their act together. This work was mostly paid for many months ago.

vii. **General notes:** At every well, the existing sounders are not very accurate. I had hoped that by adding sounding tubes, the accuracy would increase. I have tried talking to the manufacturer and followed their directions to increase accuracy, without making much headway. Eventually these will need to be replaced with more accurate equipment. We should be able to include these costs in the grant for the treatment plant construction.

Now that well 10 is back online and we are pumping less from both wells 7 & 11, I'm sure this will affect the manganese and iron concentrations entering the distribution system. I will be monitoring this to see what effect this has on the overall concentrations entering the distribution system. Next month's lab report of the iron and manganese concentrations will be telling me what wells to pump from the most.

As usual, I have updated the spreadsheet with the latest available iron and manganese results, and attached the latest reports on well production and water levels. As mentioned above the water levels are not 100% correct.

9. New Business: None
10. Motion to adjourn at 9:37am

Next Meeting: Saturday, April 11, 2026, 9:00 am @ Santa Ysabel Nature Center.