

**HIGHLAND PINES DOMESTIC WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
APRIL 13, 2026
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Director McClintock called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. The meeting was conducted in person with a telephone conference option.

2. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:**

Sandra McClintock, Board Chair – Present
Kent Eaton, Board Member – Present
Carlos Padilla, Board Member – Present
Patti Ferguson, Board Member – Present
William Kiel, Board Member – Present

All of whom were present, thus constituting a quorum.

Also attending the meeting was Elizabeth Riopel of Municipal Accounts & Consulting, LP (“MAC”). The conference call line was open for the entire board meeting.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Director Kiel motioned to approve the Regular Session Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2026 contingent on corrections given by the Board and the Executive Session Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2026. Director Ferguson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **BUSINESS**

A. Bookkeeper’s Report: Ms. Riopel presented the bookkeeping report and the District’s financial position to the Board. Director McClintock motioned to approve them as presented. Director Ferguson seconded. Director Kiel abstained. The motion passed unanimously less one abstention.

B. Update and possible action regarding Lower Water Tank: Director McClintock requested to table this discussion for the next regular session meeting.

C. Discussion and possible action regarding Proposed Budget and Fees: Director McClintock communicated her preference to the Board of reducing property taxes in addition to a few proposed changes to the draft budget. Director McClintock highlighted the need to raise propane gas expense. She explained that this proposed change was based on the current activity so far with locating and exercising valves. She confirmed that Robb from Fann Environmental has been spearheading this process. She noted that several valves were buried underground and that there would need to be work done to facilitate access to those valves. She said Robb was also painting all valve covers blue for added visibility. There was further discussion from the Board about Director McClintock’s proposed changes and about some line items on the draft budget. Director McClintock suggested lowering the property tax rate to 2.25, an incremental decrease that would mitigate the risk of a sudden increase in future years due to unforeseen expenses. She advised dropping the tax rate incrementally again in the next few years if the District’s finances remain unchanging. Director Padilla agreed that incremental changes to the tax rate are best practice for Water Districts. Director McClintock also suggested raising all water user fees by \$1. The Board agreed with her analysis. There was further discussion about proposed changes to rates and fees. Director McClintock noted the increase in lien fees based on the new procedure established by the Board in prior sessions.

Director Kiel motioned to approve the draft budget with the changes discussed by the Board as well as a tax rate change from 2.50 to 2.25. Director Ferguson seconded. The motion pass unanimously.

5. **FUTURE MEETING DATES:** The Board will hold an Open Public Hearing and Special Meeting for the proposed budget on June 5th at 4:00 p.m. at the end of Rock Haven cul-de-sac (closest property address is 960 N. Rock Haven).

The Board canceled their June 8th regular session meeting.

6. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

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