San Antonio Basin Water District

Board of Directors Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at

Los Alamos Community Services District, 82 St. Joseph Street, Los Alamos, CA 93440

Note: Public invited to join in person, or by videoconference

Approved Meeting Minutes

1) **Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Merrill.

2) **Roll Call – Present: Directors** Kevin Merrill, Randy Sharer, Ken Hunter, Andrew Reade, and Victor Schaff.
Absent: None - Board quorum present.

Others in Attendance: Donna Glass-District Manager, Olivia Williams-Wallace Group, Tina Burr, and Michael.

3) **Public Comment:** No comments received.

4) **Minutes**
   a. **January 2026 Board Meeting Minutes – Board Approval Needed**
   A **motion** was made by Director Sharer to approve the January 20, 2026 Minutes as presented. **Motion seconded** by Director Schaff. **The motion carried.**
   AYES: Director Merrill, Sharer, Hunter, Reade and Schaff.
   NOES: None; **ABSTAIN:** None; **ABSENT:** None

5) **Discussion and Possible Action On Change Order Requests to the 2026-27 Assessment Roll**
Olivia Williams-Wallace Group joined the meeting remotely and reviewed the change order memorandum with the board for the 2026-27 Assessment Roll This included nine (9) Change Order Requests received by March 31, 2026 for the 2026-27 Assessment Roll and the Wallace Group's recommendations.

There will be a decrease of **40.5** irrigated acres which will increase the non-irrigated acreage by 40.5 acres. These changes brought the total irrigated acres to **13,797.0** acres, and the total non-irrigated acres to **46,548.8** acres.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Change Order Request Policy. Board members will review the policy and notify staff if they would like the item to be placed on a future meeting agenda for discussion.

A **motion** was made by Director Reade to approve the Change Order Requests for the 2026-27 Assessment Roll as recommended by the Wallace Group. **Motion seconded** by Director Sharer. **The motion carried.**
AYES: Director Merrill, Sharer, Hunter, Reade and Schaff.
NOES: None; **ABSTAIN:** None; **ABSENT:** None

6) Financial Reports

a. Review and Approve January – April Financial Statements

The January through April 2026 financial statements were included in the Board packet. As of April 30, 2026, approximately 83% of the fiscal year had elapsed. Assessment revenue received totaled $489,377, representing 97% of the 2025–26 assessments. Additional revenue included $70,422 in interest earnings and $37,101 in property tax allocations received from Santa Barbara County.

Year-to-date expenses totaled $324,402, representing 52% of the approved budget. Net income was $272,499, and $1,997,424 remained designated for reserves. Total assets as of April 30, 2026, were $2,269,923. The operating account balance was $37,228.

To manage operating cash flow, transfers were made between the Operating Account and the California CLASS account during the reporting period. Contributions of $75,000 were made to California CLASS in both January and February 2026. Withdrawals of $50,000 were made in both March and April 2026 to fund GSA expenditures and Water District invoices.

Following payment of May 2026 District invoices totaling $5,842.50 and the anticipated GSA fund request of $12,962.75, the operating account balance is projected to be $25,583.09.

Questions were raised regarding whether the Water District had established a target reserve balance and the intended use of reserve funds. Director Sharer explained that no specific reserve amount has been established. He noted that reserve funds are intended to support projects identified by the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Director Sharer further reported that later this year the GSA's consultant, GSI Solutions, will be starting work on the 5-Year GSP Periodic Evaluation, which may identify potential projects for the basin. The 5-Year GSP Periodic Evaluation is a broader and more comprehensive assessment of the overall effectiveness of the GSP over a five-year period. In addition to summarizing monitoring data and the status of projects and management actions, the evaluation assesses whether the GSP is making adequate progress toward achieving sustainability goals and avoiding undesirable results.

He also noted that the GSA may pursue grant funding for GSP implementation. Prop 4 – part of California's 2024 Climate Bond initiative approved by voters - is expected to provide funding through DWR programs such as the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program, Watershed Resilience Program, flood management, and water infrastructure grants. Eligible activities may include groundwater recharge, drought resilience, water supply reliability, monitoring, planning, and projects that help achieve SGMA sustainability goals. DWR is currently developing grant guidelines and funding solicitations are anticipated in FY 2026-27.

Because grant application timelines can move quickly, reserve funds could be needed to provide matching contributions beyond the amount annually budgeted by the Water District for GSA activities.

Director Sharer suggested contacting GSI Solutions to discuss having a representative attend a future Water District meeting to provide an overview of potential projects being considered as part of the GSP Evaluation, grant funding availability and other basin management efforts.

A **motion** was made by Director Merrill to approve the January through April 2026 Financial Statements as presented. **Motion seconded** by Director Hunter. **The motion carried**.
AYES: Director Merrill, Sharer, Hunter, Reade and Schaff.
NOES: None; **ABSTAIN:** None; **ABSENT:** None

b. Investment Report

The January through April 2026 California CLASS statements were included in the Board packet. Interest earnings totaled $27,531 calendar year-to-date and $70,422 fiscal year-to-date. As of April 30, 2026, the account balance was $2,232,695 with an average monthly yield of 3.69%, compared to 3.78% reported in November 2025.

Contributions of $75,000 were made to the California CLASS account in both January and February 2026. Withdrawals of $50,000 were made in both March and April 2026 to fund GSA-related expenditures and Water District invoices.

c. Assessments Status Report

As of May 5, 2026, the District had collected $496,371, representing approximately 98% of the 2025–26 assessments. The outstanding balance totaled $11,156. Unpaid assessments, including the applicable 5% penalty, will be presented at the June meeting for Board approval prior to submission to Santa Barbara County for placement on the 2026–27 Property Tax Roll as Direct Charges.

d. Review April GSA Financial Statements

The April 2026 GSA financial statement was included in the Board packet for review. As of April 30, 2026, approximately 83% of the fiscal year had elapsed. The GSA checking account balance was $25,000.

Year-to-date expenses totaled $250,876, representing 50% of the approved budget. Operating transfers received from the Water District totaled $252,923, representing 46% of the budgeted transfer revenue.

e. Consider GSA Fund Request

The Board reviewed a GSA fund transfer request in the amount of $12,962.75 to pay May 2026 invoices and maintain the GSA's minimum operating balance of $25,000. Following discussion, the Board approved the transfer as requested.

Previous GSA fund requests approved by the District Manager for monthly invoices were as follows:

- April - $42,514.10
- March - $66,799.22
- February - $7,340.42

A **motion** was made by Director Sharer to approve the accountant transfer funds from the SABWD Operating Account to the SABGSA Operating Account in the amount of $12,962,75. **Motion seconded** by Director Schaff. **The motion carried**.
AYES: Director Merrill, Sharer, Hunter, Reade and Schaff.
NOES: None; **ABSTAIN:** None; **ABSENT:** None

7) Review and Discuss Preliminary 2026-27 Budget and 2026-27 Assessment

The District Manager presented the preliminary 2026–27 budget and reviewed each budget line item with the Board. The preliminary budget proposed maintaining the 2026–27 Irrigated and Non-Irrigated Assessment rates at the same levels as the 2025–26 fiscal year, $30.00 and $0.30, respectively. Following discussion, the Board directed staff to prepare a final draft budget reflecting the current assessment rates and place it on the June 16, 2026 agenda for consideration and approval.

8) Informational Items

a. Management/Administration Report

Management and administrative matters were addressed during other agenda items; therefore, no separate report was presented.

b. Director Training Report

The Board packet included a training status report identifying Directors and staff required to complete Harassment Prevention and Ethics training courses, together with the applicable completion deadlines.

c. 2026 Conflict of Interest Biennial Review Notice

The completed 2026 Biennial Review Notice for the San Antonio Basin Water District was filed with the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors. District legal counsel reviewed the District's Conflict of Interest Code and determined that no amendments were necessary at this time.

d. Update on San Antonio Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Director Sharer provided an update and addressed questions regarding the items on the upcoming GSA Agenda for discussion and/or action that included:

- Update Regarding Landowner Compliance with SABGSA Ordinance 25-001
- Review of Q1 2026 Quarterly Groundwater Level Monitoring Report
- Consider a Proposal from GSI Water Solutions to Purchase and Install Transducers
- Review of SABGSA Priorities and Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27

9) New Business— requests for items to be placed on the next agenda.

Several items discussed during the meeting, including the Change Order Request Policy and a presentation by the GSA consultant, were suggested for consideration on future meeting agendas later this year.

10) Next Meeting Date – Next meeting date is June 16, 2026

11) Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned by President Merrill at 2:20 p.m.