SUN VALLEY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DISTRICT ADMINSTRATIVE OFFICES and via zoom conference call
Thursday, April 16, 2026 – 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT

Peter Hendricks, Chair
Charlie Mills, Director
Sherri Newland, Director
Joe Tavarez, Director

ALSO PRESENT

Betsy Roberts, Jacobs (z)
Fritz Doster, Merrick Engineering (z)
Jeff Vert, KSTP
Brad Bjerke, HDR
Wreide Whitehead
Kody Thomas, HDR (z)
Cece Albertson, WRLT (z)
Phil Stoker, WRLT (z)
Harry Griffith
Chris Benson, SVWSD
Marybeth Collins, SVWSD

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CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairman Hendricks called the Regular Meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. and quorum was established.

BOARD COMMENT

No comment.

CHAIRMAN COMMENT

Chairman Hendricks noted that Doug Brown has stepped down from the Board. Chairman Hendricks, on behalf of the District, thanked Mr Brown for his service.

OPERATIONS

Staff noted a few leaks in recent weeks, the continuing support efforts for the SCADA upgrades as they continue and that preventative efforts are underway in advance of the production season.

Staff noted that Anthony had been hired outside of the District. A new prospect to fill the current 4 person operations staff slate had been determined, and discussed with the Board Chair. Some Board inquiry as to how a good fit is determined. Reference to interview process, reference checks, and evaluation of raw materials to commit to a skillset as offered by District operations employment. Staff addressed a second budgeted operations person. **The Board was supportive of a second operations person, and staff will keep the Board Chair posted.**

Staff recommended the base concept design for the Administrative Garages expansion plan was acceptable and the next steps within the original concept proposal begin. **The Board agreed to proceed, per**

contract.

General discussion of volumes occurred, water pumped and collections meters totals sent to KSTP for treatment. Some discussion regarding the breaking down of costs for water and costs for sewer, ROI and conservation were noted. District Staff had participated in a hydrophone presentation related to efforts to seek out water leaks in more active format. The Board expressed interest, particularly in review of current volume relationships, and requested staff seek examples and experiences where the hydrophone equipment is deployed.

UPDATE – JACOBS

Besty provided update on a series of projects underway by Jacobs:

- The watermaster plan is drafted and has been submitted to staff for initial review. Board members requested that they be sent the draft for review also and Betsy will follow up.
- The St Lukes Lift station upsizing analysis continues
- The backup generator for Well 11 is moving
- Well 14 efforts have been a primary focus in March.

Betsy noted to the Board that the District has all of the water rights it will ever have, given water in the State of Idaho. And the water master plan suggests that conservation is a critical strategy, based on required reporting such as max day volumes. The option of purchasing water rights is not especially likely, and capture of any lost water becomes a critical efficiency in the next 5 years. The District has bundled its water rights, which is a very important tool in future use, but there are two of the Districts rights which are subject to shut off based on water flow minimums at the Murphy gage. Technically this impacts use of Well 12 and Well 13. Well 14 has been sited at a few locations generally in the Horsemans Center of the Sun Valley Resort. The Ownership has requested a brief design via its own architect (RLB) to gain visual impression of the proposed test site #1 (Red Barn). Betsy encouraged the Board to consider near term items such as well inspection & maintenance (screen checks & max flow), proceed with an aquifer assessment and consider leak location methods & pipeline replacement.

A Task Order change order of a note to exceed cost increase of $40,000 for the watermaster plan as submitted by Jacobs earlier in the year was discussed. Betsy clarified that approximately $30,000 of the total increase relates to reinforming of water rights licensed to the District, water rights options and current water conditions. The balance of approximately $10,000 is flagged for DEQ specific review and approval of the updated water master plan.

MOTION: Chairman Hendricks requested Board approval for the Water Masterplan Change order of not to exceed $40,000. In turn, Director Tavarez approved, Director Newland approved, Director Mills approved, and Chairman Hendricks approved.

KSTP

Jeff confirmed the plant is running well, noting the only significant issue was a pipe break in the 3+4 aeration basins which required repair.

Director Tavarez inquired about staffing at KSTP. Jeff confirmed that for the first time in a while, KSTP was fully staffed, with a recent hire who also supports the Meadows plant too. Jeff spoke about the proposed hauler truck, the planned timing of acquisition and the necessity of a hauling truck for solids transport. Some discussion regarding the capital item approval process, with Director Tavarez inquiring about Ketchum or SVWSD having a right of refusal. Jeff affirmed that if one party refused, the proposal was not pursued. Clarification of the recent Penske truck and the proposed hauler truck occurred. Wider discussion of the solids building, the logic and its purpose occurred for the new Board members.

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Brad Bjerke spoke with the Board about a change order which will be coming for the Solids project. He referenced the history of the KSTP improvements in the past, and the recent (2022) Facility Plan. The initial major project involved de-nitrification (Aeration Basins 3&4). The goal of an 80% reduction is being pursued via the chemical process via an increase in oxygen, and which will help in reducing power consumption. Brad moved to the solids project, currently underway. He re-iterated the Ownership decision to source the screw press directly, and the moderately foreseen impacts to the building design. The original design requires update, partially due to the manufacturer & design of the winning press proposal, ESI, the contractor on the solids building is new to the wastewater process but as they are also working on the Hailey project, there has been benefits in the economics of this contract. The Andritz screw press requires some building floor redesign. Brad referenced the change order process, the annual cash flow review & update for the Facility Plan. Brad also referenced the upcoming project for Aeration Basins 1 & 2, the core of treatment in place. He referred to the attendant issues of Ohio Gulch, hauling, Blaine County land where the drying beds are located, an unresolved effort toward composting and the hauling process (plant to beds and then beds to Milner). Brad spoke to a recent conversation with an Idaho Lands representative who stated that their goal is to make money for the State, an unanticipated opportunity.

He summed up the KSTP Facility Plan, estimated at $45M, in phases, and its importance due to the age of the facility and changing regulatory requirements. A question posed by the Board – what if these improvements were not done, and Brad confirmed that this would put the District and the City of Ketchum in violation of its permit. The current effort is to get ahead of the curve, demonstrating proactive effort rather than reactive. Brad noted a few items that will be forthcoming including a third blower and upgrading concrete in Basin 1.

Approval of several items (variable speed drive #3, aeration cleaning plan, other plant items) occurred.

MOTION: To approve the purchase of a hauling truck was proposed by Director Tavarez, seconded by Director Mills and passed unanimously.

SVWSD ANNUAL AUDIT & FINANCIAL STATEMENT

There were no comments expressed in the meeting by the Directors.

MOTION: To accept and approve the Audit for Fiscal Year December 2024 – November 2025 was proposed by Director Tavarez, seconded by Director Newland and passed unanimously.

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SVWSD IRRIGATION SEASON & HOMEOWNER REQUESTS

Board discussed request for irrigation outside of District irrigation dates as received from a few entities. The Board was not inclined to change any dates or approve any request. May 1st is the date.

Discussion of flower barrels, proposals on ideas for water conservation and increasing rates occurred.

Staff was asked to inquire about a June 1 – Sept 30 timeframe with IDWR. Staff was tasked with coordination with the City of Sun Valley on some possible P&Z standards that may be out of alignment with District policy.

IDWR & IRRIGATION YEAR 2026

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Brief update regarding the concerning water availability for the upcoming irrigation season occurred. The season has been determined as "dry" in the current grid, and there are a series of resulting actions that will occur for this summer season. The District has policies in place, communicated with all account holders, many landscaping entities, provided wider reminder via City, SVEA and local paper reminders and has efforts via Well 14, aquaphone technology and several additional actions in process as part of its commitments to conservation partnership. As part of possible actions, Merrick Engineering proposed a public information concept to the Board. The Board appreciates the interest in support, but will not pursue that concept as yet.

BUDGET MEETING - PUBLIC

The County requires dates of annual budget planning discussion for purposes of public information. The Board will meet on Monday, July 6th for initial budget review and discussion.

MOTION: The Board will meet on Tuesday, July 7th for Annual Budget discussion and establishment for the District Fiscal year of December 2026 - November 2027. Each Director confirmed this date.

WRLT REQUEST

Cece Albertson requested that the Board consider a detailed information request related to a project where historical and existing data would be used to make recommendations for use reductions, etc. This software would incorporate land use ordinances, comp plans, advanced flood plain code, consider open space protections, etc. She noted other local municipalities who are in participation for a Valley wide study. Some discussion regarding how the District tracks it water (pumping, EC and metered irrigation) which is out of step with metered irrigation per lot, as occurs in other cities. Staff time related to the type and calculations for the data requested was noted. The Board will think about this proposal.

LEGAL

None.

The Request for Proposal posted in the local newspaper and online has a deadline for submittal of April 20, 2026.

CONSENT AGENDA/ FINANCIALS

Finance Committee met on Tuesday, earlier this week to review, and discuss all invoices received at that time. Director Mills stated that nothing was particularly concerning, that KSTP was the largest invoice and a few questions were readily
addressed for confidence.

(a) Approval of March 19, 2026 drafted Board minutes;
(b) Receive and File Financial Statements
    a. April 9, 2026 paid invoice report
    b. March 2026 financial statements
(c) Authorize advance payment of recurring invoices and payroll
(d) Authorize approval of payables on-hand as of April 16, 2026, including Jacobs and Ferguson
(e). Authorize approval of credit card payment
(f). The Board postponed any approvals of employee benefits until next month
(g) Late Fees. As part of good housekeeping, late fees which encourage timeliness are an indication of sound financial practices. In follow up to the March request for recommendation, documentation was included in the Finance Committee Discussion, but as the District currently operates without full time counsel – this recommendation is tabled until a later meeting, when this recommendation can be evaluated in several capacities.

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Discussion of capital project expenses occurred, and this monthly report will be expanded and re-included in the Finance Committee packet going forward.

MOTION: Director Mills motioned to authorize the financial packet, less benefits approval and late fee proposal. Director Newland seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board discussed going into executive session at approximately 1:18pm

MOTION: To commence Executive Session per Idaho Code 74-206(b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent or public-school student (and the emphasis is on evaluation) was proposed by Director Newland, seconded by Director Mills. Roll call occurred, with four (4) Board members affirming presence. The motion passed unanimously. Executive Session also included Harry Griffith, per Chairman request. Admin staff was asked to remain, briefly, to provide update.

MOTION: A motion to complete Executive Session at 1:47 was proposed by Director Mills, seconded by Director Tavarez, and passed unanimously.

MOTION: Director Newland motioned to appoint Harry Griffith to fill the remaining term of Doug Brown. Director Tavarez seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to conduct, Chairman Hendricks declared the meeting adjourned at 1:50.

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Chairman, Peter Hendricks

ATTEST:

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