



Consisting of 240,000 acres on the Westside of the San Joaquin Valley

AGENDA SAN JOAQUIN RIVER EXCHANGE CONTRACTORS WATER AUTHORITY

Friday, March 6, 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on *Friday, March 6, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.*, the Board of Directors of the *San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority*, otherwise known as the *Exchange Contractors*, will meet in the **Board Room of the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority office** located at 541 H Street, Los Banos, California.

PHONE IN NUMBER: 1-888-297-9852

Passcode: 1906434#

Notice: All members of the public can attend the meeting in person or by conference call.

The agenda for the meeting will be:

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Review of Agenda:**

The Board will consider corrections or additions to the agenda of items requiring immediate action that have come to the attention of the Exchange Contractors following the posting of the agenda.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Regular Meeting of February 6, 2026
4. **Public Participation**

At this time, members of the public may address the representatives on matters which may affect the operations of the Exchange Contractors. The Chairman may limit the time allowed for comment.
5. **Board to approve February, 2026 Expenditures**
6. **Finance Committee Report**
 - A) **Review Financial Report Memo for February, 2026** – Board action will be requested.
 - i. February, 2026 General Budget Comparison
 - ii. February, 2026 Water Transfer Budget Comparison

CHRIS CARDELLA
Chair

MIKE STEARNS
Vice-Chair

CHRIS WHITE
Executive Director

MINASIAN LAW
Legal Counsel

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Eric Fontana
President

Jarrett Martin
General Manager

SAN LUIS CANAL COMPANY

Cannon Michael
President

John Wiersma
General Manager

FIREBAUGH CANAL WATER DISTRICT

Mike Stearns
President

Jeff Bryant
General Manager

COLUMBIA CANAL COMPANY

Chris Cardella
President

Mike Gardner
General Manager

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- iii. February, 2026 Water Resources Plan (General Membership) Budget Comparison
 - iv. February, 2026 Water Resources Plan (Participation Agreement) Budget Comparison
 - v. February, 2026 San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority Budget Comparison
 - vi. Cash Activity Report
- B) Finance Committee Minutes of February 2, 2026

7. Water Report

8. Executive Director’s Report

9. Director of Policy & Programs Report

10. Water Resources Plan

- A) General Update
- B) Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir Project (DPCR) Update

11. Water Transfer Program - Water Transfer Committee Report – Board action will be requested.

A) SLCC:

- i) **SLCC 2026-1:** Landfallowing Transfer to Semitropic Water Storage District - up to 8,622 AF
- ii) **SLCC 2026-2:** Landowner to Self in Westlands Water District – WB Timber, LLC - up to 162 AF
- iii) **SLCC 2026-3:** Groundwater Exchange Transfer from SLCC to San Luis Water District – up to 1,545 AF
- iv) **SLCC 2026-4:** Water Transfer from SLCC to Panoche Water District and Triangle T Water District under the Eastside Conveyance Project – up to 7,000 AF

B) FCWD:

- i) **FCWD 2026-01** Conserved Water Transfer Proposal to Westlands Water District – up to 4,500 AF. Groundwater Pumping/Water Transfer Project for 25 Consecutive Years EA/IS, November 30, 2007.
- ii) **FCWD 2026-02** Conserved Water Transfer Proposal to San Luis Water District – up to 1,500 AF. Groundwater Pumping/Water Transfer Project for 25 Consecutive Years EA/IS, November 30, 2007.
- iii) **FCWD 2026-03** Conserved Water Transfer Proposal to Panoche Water District – up to 1,500 AF. Groundwater Pumping/Water Transfer Project for 25 Consecutive Years EA/IS, November 30, 2007.
- iv) **FCWD 2026-04** Conserved Water Transfer Proposal to Pacheco Water District – up to 500 AF. Groundwater Pumping/Water Transfer Project for 25 Consecutive Years EA/IS, November 30, 2007.
- v) **FCWD 2026-05** Landowner to Self in Westlands Water District and Panoche Water District – Fallowing Transfer Proposal – Turlock Fruit Co. – up to 804 AF
- vi) **FCWD Groundwater Exchange Transfer** – Transfer from FCWD of up to 3,965 AF to Pacheco, Panoche, San Luis and Westlands Water Districts

- C) **Request for Recommendation of Annual Approval of Long-Term Water Acquisition Agreement** – Firebaugh Canal Water District/Central California Irrigation District and Panoche Water District – 3,000 AF
 - D) Water Transfer Committee Minutes of February 4, 2026
12. **Mendota Pool Group (MPG)** – Report on annual meeting with Exchange Contractors, Wonderful Orchards, MPG and consultants. Staff will provide a brief review of the 2025 program and recommendations for the 2026 program. Board action will be requested.
13. **Bay-Delta Water Quality and Regional Water Quality Control Board Report**
- A) Water Quality Issues Update - David Cory
14. **Legislative Report**
- A) State
 - B) Federal
15. **Public Outreach**
- A) Lighthouse Public Affairs
16. **Attorney’s Report**
17. **Four Entities’ Manager’s Reports**
18. **Informational**
19. **Closed Session:**
- A) Conference with Legal Counsel regarding existing litigation. Firebaugh vs. United States – U.S. District Court Eastern District of California. Government Code Section 54956.9
 - B) Conference with Legal Counsel regarding existing litigation and administrative proceedings. NRDC vs. Rodgers (Friant Litigation) - U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California. Government Code Section 54956.9
 - C) Conference with Legal Counsel regarding Friant Water Authority vs. Bureau of Reclamation, Re: 2014 Operations. Government Code Section 54956
 - D) Conference with Legal Counsel. SWRCB Administrative Proceedings Regarding Water Rights Exercise, San Joaquin River and Tributaries. Government Code Section 54956.9
 - E) Conference with Legal Counsel. Johnson vs. PGE Gas Company, et al. Government Code Section 54956.9
 - F) Conference with Legal Counsel regarding anticipated litigation. Two potential cases. Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)
 - G) Conference with Real Property Negotiators: Government Code Section 54956.8. Property. Water subject to the control of the Exchange Contractors available for transfer. Agency Negotiator. Chris White and Board Members. Negotiating Parties. Multiple public agencies located within and outside the CVP Service Area. Under Negotiation. Price, terms, conditions, and quantities of water available for transfer.

- H)** Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)). Stanislaus County Superior Court Case No. CV – 20-005193, *Sierra Club, et. al., v. Del Puerto Water District.*
- I)** Conference with Legal Counsel. Anticipated litigation (two cases). Government Code 54956.9(d)(2)