MINUTES

TEHACHAPI-CUMMINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
July 6, 2026, 10:00 A.M.
22901 Banducci Road, Tehachapi, CA 93561

Item 1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 10:03 a.m.
Directors Present: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz
Legal Counsel Present: Counsel joined via Zoom
Staff Present: Cat Adams, Jon Curry, Tom Neisler, Crystal Sampson

Item 2. **Announcement**
President Schultz announced this meeting is being audio recorded, including all Board, Staff, and Public comments.

Item 3. **Flag Salute**
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Schultz.

Item 4. **Approval of Agenda**
Director Hall moved to approve the agenda. Director Ables seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None. Motion passed.

Item 5. **Comments by any Party on Items of Interest and Within the Subject Matter Jurisdiction of the Legislative Body**
None

Item 6. **Appoint Director to Fill Division 1 Vacancy**
Neisler stated the Board held a Special Board Meeting on June 5th, 2026, in which Staff was directed to solicit candidates to fill the vacancy in the Division 1, Director's position. Staff took all appropriate steps to provide notice of the vacancy and advised the Kern County Clerk of the Board's intended actions. The notice was published in the Tehachapi News and in three conspicuous public places. It was noticed on District social media accounts as well. The deadline to submit letters of interest was July2, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. and one statement was received from David Worden. Mr. Worden served on the Board of Directors from 2014 to 2018 and his submittal is included as Attachment A.

The Board has several options on how to proceed. Mr. Worden can be appointed to fill the vacancy and he could be seated at the July 15th Regular Board Meeting as he is not in attendance today. Government Code requires the Board fill the vacant seat within 60 days of the resignation. In this case, that deadline is July 14, 2026, so unfortunately this decision cannot be delayed until the next Regular Board Meeting on July 15, 2026. Another option is to extend the application deadline to see if there are any additional interests in the position and schedule a Special Board Meeting prior to the close of business on July 14, 2026. The application deadline would need to be July 13, 2026, to allow Staff time to post an Agenda for a Special Board Meeting on the 14th as it requires a 24-hour notice. Lastly, the Board can report to the Board of Supervisors that they did not appoint a candidate and ask them to resolve the matter in accordance with the Government Code. This would give the Board of Supervisors the authority to appoint a candidate to fill the vacancy. Alternately, the Board of Supervisors could be asked if they would allow the District to leave the seat vacant until the General Election in November given the short period of time until then. Neisler noted that if a candidate is appointed, if they would like to remain on the Board, they would have until August 7, 2026, to file an application for the General Election.

President Schultz stated he asked Neisler if a temporary candidate can be selected from another division and he confirmed with Legal Counsel, that cannot be done. The Directors had a lengthy discussion on the options with differing opinions. Director Davis was not interested in having more meetings to resolve this and suggested they either leave the position open or appoint Mr. Worden. President Schultz was in favor of extending the deadline as he has heard there are still people not aware this position was open and there may be additional applicants. Some had questions on the division boundaries and Neisler explained people can use the Public Portal of the GIS through the District website or they are welcome to call the office and Staff can assist. Director Ables suggested leaving the position open until the General Election. Director Hall was in favor of appointing Mr. Worden as he was elected to the Board the first time and has previously served. President Schultz and Director Ables expressed interest in interviewing Mr. Worden since his submittal did not contain information about his background or qualifications. Neisler noted that Mr. Worden informed him that he had a medical appointment down in L.A. and could not be in attendance today and Neisler informed him his attendance was not mandatory. Discussions continued and it was noted that Director Hall cannot be in attendance for meetings next week.

President Schultz moved that the Board extend the deadline for interest to July 13, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. and a Special Board Meeting be scheduled for July 14, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. Director Davis seconded the motion, and it was carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: Hall; Absent: None. Motion passed.

Item 7. Board of Directors Comments

President Schultz thanked everyone and stated he feels it is appropriate to interview the candidate and have all Directors meet the candidate and understand them before they are put on the Board.

Item 8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m. on a motion made by President Schultz, seconded by Director Hall and carried on the following vote: Ayes: Ables, Davis, Hall, Schultz; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None. Motion passed.

Robert W. Schultz

Robert W. Schultz, Board President

Catherine Adams

Catherine Adams, Board Secretary