

HILMAR COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 3, 2026

Members Present – Jim Jones, David Anderson, Tony Salvador Jr., and Jim Gerdes.

Members Absent – Frank Hilliard.

Public in Attendance – None.

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Action Items

A motion to approve the Consent Items was made by David Anderson and seconded by Tony Salvador Jr. Motion passed 4-0.

A motion to approve Bills Payable: March 2026 was made by Jim Gerdes and seconded by David Anderson . Motion passed 4-0.

A motion to approve the continuation of the emergency order the Board approved at the July 31, 2023, Board meeting, based on the conditions continue as per Resolution 565, was made by Tony Salvador Jr. and seconded by Jim Gerdes. Motion passed 4-0.

A motion to approve the agreement with CivicPlus, LLC in the amount of \$3,000.00 annually and 5% annual uplift for the DocAccess Accessible Document Service for the HCWD website was made by Jim Gerdes and seconded by Tony Salvador Jr. Motion passed 4-0.

A motion to accept the HCWD 2025 Annual Investment Report was made by Jim Gerdes and seconded by David Anderson. Motion passed 4-0.

A motion to accept the rate recommendations presented on the preliminary rate study analysis was made by David Anderson and seconded by Jim Gerdes. Motion passed 4-0.

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Meeting – 03/03/26

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Jim Jones.

Consent Items – A motion was made and seconded to approve the consent items.

Public Forum – None.

District Manager’s Report –

Curtis Jorritsma reported that we pumped 15.609 MG of water in February and billed for 13.620 MG— indicating a water loss of 12.16%. He also provided the TSS and BOD levels, and nitrate levels, as stated below:

	Nitrates Well 6	Nitrates Well 7	Nitrates Well 8	Nitrates TID Yard	TSS WWTF	BOD WWTF
2/3	0.96	Offline	<.40	0.96	43.9	40.0
2/10	1.21	Offline	-	1.23	45.0	33.0
2/17	0.93	Offline	-	0.97	36.5	34.0
2/24	1.14	Offline	-	1.13	32.4	38.0
Average:	1.06			1.07	39.45	36.25

Curtis reported that Well #7 was put back together last week and was chlorinated on Friday. He also reported that last Friday the Department of Drinking Water (DDW) inspected the new Well #8. The inspection went well. We will need to update our chlorine plan, since Well 8 will be using liquid chlorine at the well (for safety purposes). Curtis is waiting for the official report from DDW. We are still waiting for the Title 22 sample lab results before we can turn on the well. The results received thus far are looking favorable.

Curtis informed the Board we are looking at conducting a camera sewer inspection on American Avenue. Merced County has funding to resurface part of American Avenue at the end of this calendar year. It may make sense to possibly replace service lines, especially if they are constructed out of lead.

Curtis provided update on the new corporation yard, we are still waiting on TID regarding the easement.

Curtis stated we have contracted Mid Valley IT to be our IT support company. They will replace two of our office staff computers and provide IT support. He also stated that he attended the Mid State Special District Association Chapter meeting.

Director Reports – Mr. Tony Salvador asked whether we should consider what to do with well #7 once well #8 comes online. Mr. Spencer Supinger, District Engineer, stated our max day demand must still be achievable when our largest water source is excluded. We will have to analyze our options once Well 8 is online.

Mr. Stuart Spencer, legal counsel, inquired as to what recollection the board may have in reference to the moratorium that went into effect in the 90's. In reference to possible future development, the County is asking if the moratorium is still active. After a brief discussion, the Board determined that the attorney would draw up a resolution to remove the moratorium.

Action Items –

- A) The bills that are due to be paid in March were presented. A motion was made and seconded to pay the bills presented.
- B) Curtis stated the Board approved Resolution 565 – Finding an Emergency and Authorizing Abbreviated Emergency Procedures for Construction of a New Well on July 31, 2023. As part of this process, the Board needs to analyze the situation and determine if the situation still constitutes an emergency. After a brief discussion, the Board determined the conditions warrant to continue with an emergency order. A motion was made and seconded to continue with the emergency order.

- C) Curtis presented the proposal from CivicPlus LLC., who is a preferred partner of CSDA, regarding DocAccess Accessible Document Service for our website. This tool will convert all our current and future documents to be accessible to someone with a disability. The annual cost is \$3,000.00 with a 5% annual adjustment. Staff recommended approving this proposal. A motion was made and seconded to approve the agreement with CivicPlus LLC.
- D) Curtis presented the HCWD 2025 Annual Investment Report. This report reflects account balances as of 12/31/25 and reports on the total interest earned for the year. On average we are receiving a return of 4%. A motion was made and seconded to accept the HCWD 2025 Annual Investment Report.
- E) Curtis stated an email was sent to the Board on Monday with the draft of the proposed rate study analysis from Clayton Tuckfield. Our last rate study was done 5 years ago. We are looking at a water rate annual increase of 8.5% in the first two years and 2% in the following 3 years. On the wastewater side it would be 3% annual increase for the 5 years. One of the reasons a rate study is conducted is to verify what we charge for our services funds operation and upkeep of our system. After an extensive discussion of all the options the Board approved the rate recommendations as stated in the preliminary rate study analysis.

Discussion Items –

- A) Curtis will be providing a full breakdown of the loan advances at a future meeting once we have all expenses paid for Well #8 and the electrical aspect is installed at the corporation yard.
- B) Curtis provided a memo from QK Engineering in reference to the Kapor Basin on the East side of town. The conversation started with the County in reference to the development project for Legends. Any new development must retain on site a storm drain pond or workout a plan to have it discharged. We had a conversation on how the discharge process worked for the Kapor Basin and what would be the best option for the District if Legends discharges into our storm drain basin. After a brief discussion, the board provided their input to rewrite the Memo and present it to the developer with their option.
- C) Curtis reminded the Board to finish completing their Annual Form 700.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dina Borges

Approved by:

Jim Jones

Board Member

04-07-26

Date