

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**of**  
**STONE CORRAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Stone Corral Irrigation District Board of Directors was convened on April 21, 2026, at 4:33 P.M. Directors David Roberts, Tom Runyon, and Joe Leal were present. Chairman Arturo Ramirez called and stated he would be late. Chairman Art Ramirez arrived at 4:38 P.M. Others present are: Manager Beto Rodriguez, Bookkeeper Michelle Parker, and, due to TEAMS not working, our Via Teams Consultant, Dale West, could not join the meeting.

**Item 1) Additions or Deletions to Agenda:**

Chairman Art Ramirez called the meeting to order at 4:25 pm. No additions or deletions to the agenda. Director Tom Runyon moved, seconded by Director David Roberts, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. All in favor.

**Item 2) Public Comment:**

Chairman Art Ramirez opened the floor for open comments. NONE.

**Item 3) Announcements:**

Chairman Art Ramirez opened the floor for announcements. NONE.

**Item 4a/4b) Consent Calendar:**

Items to approve & ratify March 2026 warrants, and approve March 2026 board minutes. Approved by Director David Roberts, seconded by Director Joe Leal. Motion carried.

**Item 5) Financial Reports.**

Bookkeeper Michelle Parker presented the financial report items A-E. Item 5E, the Financial Report of Stone Corral I.D. for the period 1/1/25 through 12/31/25, as prepared by Cuttone & Mastro, as reviewed in detail. Action taken by Director Joe Leal to accept Agenda Items 5A through 5E, seconded by Tom Runyon. All in favor. Motion carried.

## Item 6) **Managers' Report.**

### Item 6a) **Water operation/Maintenance activities.**

Maintenance on the pumping stations: Cleaned and greased all pumps and cleaned the screens. Also, add oil to the container to lube the pumps. Cleaned filters. Checked sub-pumps in the pit for proper operation. On SC4, we cleaned the screen and filters to allow the water pressure to wash out the sludge. Maintained each pumping station; debris and weeds around each station have been cleaned. At SC6 Main Station, there was a leak on Pump 2's mains shaft; the leak was repaired. Meter maintenance: No meters were replaced in March. Valve Repairs: Continued with repairs as needed. Replaced the gaskets on the valves that were leaking. The C-18 water valve was repaired. The A-6 valve turn-on/off tip was repaired as well. Flood Control: We are still disposing of the trash that is being dumped by outsiders. The spraying of weeds continued, Ave 392 ditch east to Rd 172, and the ditch on Rd 384 north to Ave 388. North is being sprayed. Air Vent Project: We have replaced air vents on all four main lines this March; we will continue fixing air vents that are damaged this April. The air vent project continues. Maintenance on the line: the watermasters drained C-Line. The 2026 water year has officially started. Miscellaneous: Continue with small repairs as needed. Projected Projects: Fencing still needs a small section of fence and a gate. The old office has moved, and repairs have started. Illegal water spray hookups are being worked on. 2-inch water meters are being installed to be able to report how much water each landowner uses when they spray. Landowners will be notified of the proper location of the hookups. We are continuing to make SCID a safer and more secure place. Still adding poles and cabling to lock off any trespassers or unwanted guests, continuing the project as time permits. SCID went to inspect the FWA canal, and due to roads needing maintenance, the side of the canal was washed down. SCID Meeting with FWA Maintenance Supervisor: Maintenance Supervisor John Robinson, beginning of year and end of year maintenance supervisor of Friant Water Authority.

Item 6b) **Dan Vink SIX-33:** Monthly Activity Detail report: Dan Vink went to a few different meetings during March. The first meeting he went to was the SJRRP Calls-Con with Beto re URF- Com with PM re property purchased. (Month total). Elizabeth J. Hochhalter also attended a few meetings. The first meeting was a Conference with the Lane Engineer regarding the SCID Storm Water System project. She coordinated with Stewart Title to initiate a Preliminary Title Report order. Contacted the local Yellow Book appraisers to identify quality vendors for property valuation. Her next meeting was a phone conference with Lane Engineering, reviewing the PTR process and what's going to come next. The last

meeting she went to coordinated with contractors on a schedule and expectations. During that meeting, she had a phone call with the Advanced Ag Realty re: appraisal. Internal mtg re: status. Communicated with Stewart Title on the Title Report timeline. Gabriel Gaeta attended a meeting in March, which was the EKGSA TAC attendance and drafting of the summary memo.

Item 6c) **FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY:** Manager Beto Rodriguez received an email from Johnny Amaral stating that Ed Ring has agreed to attend and be a part of the program at this year's Annual FWA Meeting held on May 21, 2026. It also included the recap of the March FWA Board Meeting. This meeting went longer than usual, but we had a hefty agenda, and we managed to push our way through all of them. For some of the items, the work we put in this week signals the end of the beginning, with more work to do, but I hope you're as pleased as he is with the status on all the important issues and projects they worked through. Later in the afternoon, on Thursday, FWA staff met with managers and representatives from the Sausalito Irrigation District and Tea Pots Dome Water District to go over some of the final details on the projects, including sequencing, constraints, and other items, and the districts are ready to proceed. On Friday, Johnny connected with Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Andrea Travnicek, Acting BOR Commissioner Scott Cameron, and the BOR Regional Director Adam Nickle, and others in the Trump Administration and at BOR. Johnny was able to share with them the action taken in open session to proceed with their plan for the OBBB funding, starting with the Phase 1 pump stations. They were thrilled that we were moving quickly, and they asked that Johnny continue to work closely with them to coordinate any announcements or groundbreaking plans for early summer. This is something that's squarely on the Secretary's radar, as well as the White House. Staff is moving quickly, and they intend to begin the solicitation on Monday, March 30. Friday afternoon, Johnny helped lead a tour of what ended up being about 50 local elected officials from across the state. From as far south as the Imperial Valley to as far north as the Bay Area. They spent about two hours, starting with a California water issue briefing in the office at the base of the dam, followed by a walking tour of the river outlets, and from the top of the dam. They will share some photos from that tour on the FWA eWaterline. Johnny was accompanied by the staff from BOR, including Rain Emerson, Rufino Gonzales, and Christian Buonrosto, who all did an excellent job. Stone Corral sent photos to FWA along with concerns and a timeline. Panel damage (Nov.15 – Jan 31): Approximately 55 panels have been identified for replacement in the Dewatering set to begin November 15. Panels that collapse between the dewaterings are filled with rip rap and wait for the next upcoming dewatering. Panels

that begin replacement are slightly north of SC, seen in the photos, and additionally, there are panels about 1 mile south of SC4 that will be replaced as well.

**Road Damage (June-Oct. 2026):** The chip seal is a major maintenance project that takes place annually. This project has not been scheduled for a few years before 2026. The budget is already approved for approximately 10 miles of chip seal to be done in the fiscal year 2026. This process includes grading the entire section to be sealed, removing high spots and dips. The area is then treated with Tac oil, and chipped rock is spread over the oil. The rock is then compacted in place, adhering it to the oil. The 10 miles will begin at MP 60.95 (SC3) and continue approximately 10 miles upstream. This span will travel throughout the SC district into the OC district. The 10 miles is dependent on the pricing of materials. Due to fluctuating prices of petroleum, the oil pricing may limit the number of miles we actually achieve.

**Beach Belting (undefined):** Beach belting exists in approximately 20-22 miles of FKC. Multiple areas have been identified throughout the unlined section as needing repairs. (see attached) The size of the project places it in the “major maintenance” category. Until recently, the volume of material was undefined. The attached sheet demonstrates the amounts of rock needed for both sides of the canal to be addressed and the pricing associated with MP. This workbook was generated after an extensive field review was conducted in Feb. of 2026. Special budgeting will need to be approved by the BOD to begin this project. With a better idea of pricing, the conversation can now begin. With dewatering slated for FY 2027, it is doubtful this project would be considered. Possible consideration for FY 2028.

**Desilting and Sand Deflectors (Nov 15- Jan 31):** Desilting is always scheduled during dewatering. Among the districts identified for desilting are SC and OC. The unlined section has multiple areas that are challenging as it relates to sediment buildup. This problem is compounded by the fact that it can only be addressed effectively every 3 years. We have had luck in other areas by utilizing sand deflectors or “dog houses”. Many previous sand deflectors were removed when districts began adding traveling screens because the design would not accommodate the screen. We have decided to purchase materials in advance and design and build deflectors during this dewatering to help address some of the most troubled areas. We will desilt the turnout and inspect the gates. If needed, we will repair slide rails, adjust the closure, sandblast, and paint the gates as well. Please note: the removal of traveling screens is the responsibility of the district. Friant does not take responsibility for this process. Due to time restraints associated with drain down (roughly 8 weeks), I am requesting the districts provide a list ranking the order in which you would like turnouts addressed, starting with the most problematic.

**Bridges and Suspended Pipes:** The concrete bridges in the SC section belong to the county and are under

the custodial care of the county as well. Wooden farm bridges are under FWA. If repairs or work on concrete bridges are needed, the request must be made to the county. Pipes suspended from bridges are the responsibility of the district, including suspension mechanisms, thrust blocks, etc. Please note that Friant has engaged in bridge coating in areas where liner replacement was done, and the county mandated that we do so. Additional information regarding the process (materials and equipment) can be provided if requested.

Item 6d) **East Kaweah GSA:** Gabe Gaeta, Water Resource Specialist, attended the East Kaweah GSA (EKGSA) Technical Advisory Committee meeting on April 10. The meeting centered on SGMA implementation updates within the Kaweah Subbasin and miscellaneous GSA administrative items. Status Report on Kaweah Subbasin Implementation: The public comment period for the revised GSP included one comment related to interconnected surface water metrics and a request for the Kaweah Subbasin to adhere to guidelines set by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). There is no update on coordination with DWR ( slow progress). The DWR will be meeting individually with the subbasins that have subsidence issues to review mitigation approaches. Staff indicated that the DWR is taking subsidence very seriously and is not afraid to recommend subbasins back to the State Board if subsidence measures are insufficient. The 2025 Subbasin annual report included the groundwater quality exceedance policy. No exceedance or undesirable results were observed in the Kaweah Subbasin in 2025. Results could change in the future as more data is collected. Well Mitigation Review and Recommendations: Consultants walked through a redacted well mitigation claim. The TAC recommended that the claim did not meet the criteria for the domestic well mitigation program and should be denied. The findings indicated that there was no correlation between well failure and groundwater management activities or SGMA- related drawdown. Flying Dragon Project: The staff provided a status update on the Flying Dragon project. Earthwork and basin grading are largely complete, with minor finish grading and drainage modifications remaining. The final two permits are anticipated by May 2026, with a target construction completion timeframe of July 2026. Project cash flow remains stable due to timely reimbursement from project partners. Prop 218 Update: The staff presented a draft Proposition 218 framework and outreach strategy to address increased costs associated with GSP implementation and the domestic well mitigation program. The current assessment of \$7.35 per acre would increase to cover the mitigation funding and operational needs. The proposal includes a short-term increase to recover prior costs over three approximately \$16 to \$21 per acre over the next five years. The proposal also includes a provision allowing the Board to increase assessments by up to 10% annually, for up to five increments, without requiring a new Proposition 218 process. This would result in a potential maximum

assessment of approximately \$38 per acre. Outreach efforts will emphasize maintaining local control and avoiding State Water Board intervention, which could impose higher fees and reduce flexibility. Public meetings are anticipated in mid-June 2026, along with targeted stakeholder engagement. Land IQ/ Evapotranspiration Report: The staff presented current ET data and LandIQ platform updates. ET trends are generally consistent with historical averages, with values tracking between 2022 and 2023 levels. The LandIQ platform adoption includes approximately 40 registered users, with about half actively engaging. The platform requires manual field identification, which has created some initial user challenges. However, feedback from active users has been generally positive, particularly regarding weather and field-level data tools. East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency: Memorandum to the TAC: Per Board recommendation, Michael Hafman, Executive Director, will provide a 30-day window for the credit manager and a 45-day window to collect payments. The delay in invoices were due to the Wutchuman Surface water deliveries report in January. The Ditch companies and districts then took a couple of weeks to digest the numbers and report for their landowners. The staff also worked with the developer to modify the Credit Manager tool to allow for Surface Water Credits to be set by purveyor in priority of use. The Creation of "Groups" – users can now set multiple priorities for users based on groups within a water account. MKGSA and GKDSA invoicing- work volume drastically increases for the dashboard developer, and timelines get stretched. The Staff waited until the bulk of GSA projects were done for the developer to focus on EKGSA. EKGSA staff recommended that, due to consistent delays in invoicing, they modify annual invoices to go out each year in March-May. This is beneficial to landowners as it sets specific timeline expectations. On March 13, 2026

Item 6e) **Water Report:** Manager Beto Rodriguez explained to the Directors how much water is still available and can be used as freeze water, and how it can still be carried over in 2000 A.F. Manager Beto Rodriguez then presented to the Board of Directors that the forecasts remained relatively stable, with slight increases due to our improving upcoming precipitation event. We still have about a 90% Class 1 allocation at the 90% exceedance and 97% Class 1 at the 75% exceedance, and our current 100% Class 1 allocation remains unchanged.

Item 6f) **Flood Control:** Manager Beto Rodriguez reviewed the notes from the Meeting held on January 21 at the Tulare County Supervisors' Office. Manager Beto Rodriguez advised the Board of Directors that the next meeting will be held on the third Wednesday of April 2026.

Item 6g) **New Shop:** Manager Beto Rodriguez advised the Board of Directors that the new shop is still under review with the fire department and will update

them when he has more information to share. Chairman Director Art Ramirez advised Manager Beto Rodriguez to get a compaction and souls report when that time comes.

Item 6h) **700 Forms:** Manager Beto Rodriguez requested an update from the Board of Directors regarding the completion of their Form 700s in order to collect them. As most directors have not yet finalized their forms, submission is anticipated by the next board meeting or at their earliest convenience.

Item 6i) **SCID-District Carry Over Water Policy:** Tom Runyon, David Roberts, all In favor of the Carry Over Water Policy.

Item 6j) **Willits Equipment Co. Invoice-** Directors advised manager Beto Rodriguez to pay the invoice. Directors are aware of the job being done. Rechecked in 2024 on the invoice not being paid.

**Closed Session-** opened at 5:10 pm. Closed at 5:15 pm  
No action taken

There being no further business, the Board Meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm. by Chairman Art Ramirez.

The next Board of Directors meeting was set for May 19, 2026

Respectfully submitted,

---

Heriberto Rodríguez,  
Secretary of the Board