

Round Valley County Water District  
P.O. Box 535  
Covelo, CA 95428

water.roundvalley.org  
Telephone: 405-0023



Board of Directors  
Dane Downing, Chair  
John Marshall, Vice Chair  
Robert Wyre  
Sandra Mullen  
Bruce Hilbach-Barger  
General Manager  
Imil Ferrara  
Project Manager  
Lourance Hall

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026:**

#### Call to Order:

1. Chair called meeting to order at 6:33pm.
2. Directors Downing, Marshall, Wyre, Mullen and Hilbach-Barger, General Manager and Project Manager were present.

#### Approval of the Agenda:

1. Marshall made a motion to approve the agenda, Hilbach-Barger seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

#### Public Comment:

1. Comment was made that whether or not combination Round Valley special districts was desirable should be considered and discussed at a future board meeting.

#### Consent Agenda

1. A request was made to amend the minutes, adding "No action" after the "Discussion and Vote: Project Contracts" agenda item.
2. Hilbach-Barger made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, Mullen seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

#### Correspondence:

1. It was reported that the District had received a follow-up call from a representative of an attorney, offering representation to recover any District expenses associated with the discovery of PFAS in a District monitoring well.

#### 2024-2025 RVCWD Financial Review

1. It was reported that a draft review had been completed, and the final review was expected at any time.
2. It was reported that the draft review stated the reviewer was "not aware if any material modifications that should be made to accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

#### 2026 RVCWD Board of Directors Election

1. It was reported that directors Wyre and Marshall were up for reelection.
2. It was noted that candidates must obtain the required filing form from the county elections office on or after July 13 and file the form by August 7<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

#### Discussion and Vote: 2026 Updates to the Brown Act and Teleconferencing of District Meetings

1. It was reported that an update to the Brown Act would go into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. It was reported that most changes included in the update did not apply to the District, because the District was not an "eligible entity" due to its small size.
3. It was reported that, as an ineligible entity, the District was not required to provide public teleconferencing for board meetings.
4. It was reported that, per the updates, board members could attend board meetings via teleconference, so long as a quorum of board members meets in person, a teleconferencing option is made available to the public and included on the agenda, and

the remote board member's physical location is made open to the public and posted on the agenda (or the remote board member has "just cause"—such as a medical emergency or another eligible reason—for using teleconferencing without making their location public).

5. It was noted that in recent meetings the sole user of the District's teleconferencing option appeared to be an artificial intelligence pursuing monetary gain.
6. Marshall made a motion to suspend teleconferencing of board meetings until such time that a need for teleconferencing is identified, Mullen seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

#### Special District Risk Management Fund Grant

1. It was agreed that, prior to the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline, the District should purchase and seek reimbursement for safety vests, ergonomic chairs, and an eight foot step ladder.

#### DWR Community Water Tanks Project Grant

2. It was reported that a total of 25 tanks had been delivered and were stored at the sewer yard.
3. It was reported that the District had hired a contractor to clear blackberries and put down pond liner prior to placement of the tanks.
4. It was agreed that some of the tanks might be used for fire water prior to installation of a town fire hydrant system.

#### NCRP Technical Assistance Grant for Gravel Abatement

1. No action.

#### Illegal Dumping and Solid Waste Solutions

1. It was reported that the Covelo disposal site contractor, C&R, had been contacted and a discussion had been started regarding expansion of services offered.
2. Results from the District's illegal dumping site survey were reviewed and discussed.
3. It was noted that Project Manager and General Manager would be presenting the survey results to the RVIT Tribal Council the following Monday.

#### Discussion and Vote: Pursuit of Clean California Community Designation

1. It was agreed that the Tribal Council should be invited to join the District in signing the Clean California Community Designation pledge.
2. Hilbach-Barger made a motion to pursue cooperation with RVIT on Clean California Community Designation, and to authorize the District Board Chair to sign the Clean California Community Designation pledge either with or without the Tribe's participation; Marshall seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

#### Discussion and Vote: Memorandum of Understanding for Collaboration with Round Valley Indian Tribes:

1. A rough draft MOU developed by the Chair and Hilbach-Barger was presented and discussed.

#### CDFW Town Creek Bioengineering and Education Project:

1. It was reported that the District had tabled at the Big Time and Tribal Housing Block Party.
2. It was reported that, on the District's recommendation, Native Ecosystems Inc had hired a local resident as irrigation specialist for the bioengineering project.
3. It was reported that Native Ecosystems Inc, General Manager and Project Manager had conducted a stream assessment from highway 162 to Hill Road.
4. It was noted that the assessment had revealed miles of needed stream work, especially in the stretch downstream from Dobe Lane.
5. It was noted that Native Ecosystems Inc recommended generating high-definition LiDAR data of the stream for future project planning and design, and that a meeting had been held with a LiDAR specialist.

6. It was noted that survey points would be needed prior to flying LiDAR, and that potential surveyors should be engaged.
7. It was agreed that a workshop should be developed to educate residents on landowner solutions to erosion problems.
8. It was agreed that the District should combine efforts with the Tribes as soon as possible to accelerate restoration of local streams.

CFMC Youth Education: Protecting Our Waters Project:

1. It was estimated that around \$2,500 remained in the grant account.
2. It was reported that new tables and collapsible bins had been purchased for outreach.

Groundwater Monitoring Network and Water Quality Testing Capacity:

1. It was reported that well data would be collected once well vaults were emptied.

District Storage Room:

1. It was reported that a map organization rack had been constructed.

Eel River Water Diversions:

1. A recent attempt by the Elsinore Water District to buy the project and sell water was discussed.
2. The special value of the Eel River as a PFAS-free water source was noted.

Sites Dam and California Water Project:

General Manager's Commentary:

Project Manager's Commentary:

Directors' Commentary:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 pm. The next RVCWD meeting will be on Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.