

Round Valley County Water District
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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 JULY 29th, 2026:

Call to Order

1. Chair called meeting to order at 6:31pm.
2. Directors Downing, Marshall, Wyre, Mullen and Hilbach-Barger, General Manager, Project Manager, Kay Richards from the RV Lions Club, and Candace Renolds from Hilux EPI were present.

Approval of the Agenda

1. Marshall made a motion to approve the agenda, Wyre seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Consent Agenda

1. Mullen made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Marshall seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Discussion and Possible Action: Invitation to Serve as Co-Applicant with RV Lions Club

for CA Governor's Office of Land Use Grant to Fund Development of Covelo Community Park

1. A proposal was presented by Hilux Environmental Planning for the District to join the Lions Club as co-applicant in pursuing Land Use Office Extreme Heat grant funding for the community park at the Covelo Recreation Center.
2. It was reported that all that was needed at this time was a government agency to agree to serve as co-applicant on the pre-application, and that a different co-applicant could be chosen for the full application.
3. Marshall made a motion to commit the District to serve as co-applicant and provide a letter of support for the Extreme Heat grant pre-application; Mullen seconded, Downing and Hilbach Barger supported and Wyre dissented, and the motion passed by majority.

2024-2025 RVCWD Financial Review

1. The final RVCWD Financial Review was reviewed and discussed.
2. It was noted that the reviewer had found no issues with the district's financials.

2026 RVCWD Board of Directors Election

1. It was reported that the Elections Office would not be providing election filing services in Covelo this year and had requested that all candidates complete their paperwork at their Ukiah office.
2. It was noted that the two District directors up for reelection were unable to make it to Ukiah within the required timeframe, and it was decided that the Chair would inform the Elections Office of this fact and request further accommodation or direction.

Discussion: District Management and Organizational Roles

1. Increased organizational activity and potential implications for management roles and structure were discussed.

Groundwater Monitoring Network and Water Quality Testing Capacity

1. It was reported that weather station data was not currently uploading to the website, and that the District's contractor Mendo TechPro was looking into the issue.
2. It was reported that monitoring well data was still not uploaded and viewable on the website, and that a request had been made to the District's contractor, GHD, to fix the problem.
3. It was reported that the District's monitoring well at the airport had been run over and the well cap broken off, and that county had been informed of and said they would address the issue.

Special District Risk Management Subsidy Fund Grant

1. It was reported that following the District's submittal of safety equipment invoices for reimbursement from SDRMA, SDRMA had informed the District that the District's annual contribution to SDRMA was inadequate for the District to qualify for the subsidy fund and therefore no reimbursement would be provided.

Discussion: Bridge Collapse and Stream Obstruction Risk on Mill Creek

1. It was reported that, at the June RVAMAC meeting, County Transportation Director Howard Dashiell indicated the County was prioritizing removal of the collapsed bridge and its replacement with a new bridge, with bridge removal expected prior to the coming rainy season and installation of the new bridge in the dry season of 2027.

DWR Community Water Tanks Project Grant

2. It was reported that the District still had not identified residents with demonstrated water insecurity.
3. It was agreed that fire water reserves would be an appropriate use for the tanks, and that the Fire District should be engaged in planning a network of fire water tanks.
4. It was agreed that the District should develop a list of criteria for tank distribution.

Gravel Abatement in Valley Streams

1. Complexities of gravel abatement and bank stabilization were discussed.

Illegal Dumping and Solid Waste Solutions

1. It was reported that the Covelo disposal site contractor, C&S, had invited RVAMAC representatives to the site to discuss solutions, but such an event had not yet been scheduled.
2. It was reported C&S had expressed their capacity and willingness to pursue grants to fund new waste management services and solutions in Round Valley.
3. It was reported that the District had approached the Tribes and obtained permission to place security cameras at known illegal dump sites on Tribal land in the Mill Creek area.
4. It was reported that the District had discussed a potential increase in CDFW law enforcement presence with the District's CDFW grant manager.
5. It was proposed that the District should develop an hoc committee to focus on solid waste abatement, and that the District should pursue grants to fund long-term solutions.

Clean California Community Designation

1. No action.

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

1. A draft memorandum was reviewed and discussed.
2. It was agreed that the item should be placed higher on the agenda for further discussion at the next board meeting.

CDFW Town Creek Bioengineering and Education Project

1. It was reported that a quarterly project report and invoice were currently being prepared.

CFMC Youth Education: Protecting Our Waters Project

1. It was reported that the District had hired a summer intern, and that CFMC funds would cover the cost of payroll taxes not covered by Round Valley School District's reimbursement of the intern's wages.

District Storage Room

1. It was reported that the CCSD had put the deposit down for their acquisition of the office building and property, including the storage room.

Eel River Water Diversions

1. It was reported that FERC had rejected an effort by the Lake Elsinore Water District to establish itself as a late intervener in the decommission process.

Sites Dam and California Water Project

1. No Action.

General Manager's Commentary

Project Manager's Commentary

Directors' Commentary

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 pm. The next RVCWD meeting will be on Wednesday, August 26th at 6:30pm.