

LATON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

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FOLLOWING IS THE MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF THE LATON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT. THE MEETING WAS HELD JUNE 17, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE EVENING AT THE LATON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA, LOCATED AT 6065 EAST LATONIA STREET, LATON, CALIFORNIA. ALL DISTRICT MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA LAW.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Garcia called the Meeting to order at 6:01pm. Board Members in attendance were Tim Wolfe, Marina Mendiola, Paul Garcia, and Francisco Orbe. The following individuals were also present at the meeting: Ty Mizote, Jim Wegley, Battalion Chief Beavers, Daniel Chapa, the following individuals were absent from the meeting: JoAnne Rempp, Fire Chief Pentecost, and Carol Hall.
2. **UNSCHEDULED ORAL PRESENTATIONS:** In the context of persistent regional water scarcity and increasing regulatory oversight, the District prioritizes inter-agency synergy and water reclamation as core components of its long-term resource management strategy. The Board welcomed David Khan, representing a newly reconstituted water committee from the Kings Country Club, to discuss a potential partnership centered on reclaimed water usage. Mr. Khan presented a proposal for the utilization of "purple water" (reclaimed water) to meet the country club's irrigation needs. He highlighted that preliminary coordination with the Kings River Conservation District (KRCDD) suggests that a pipeline crossing beneath the river is a feasible engineering process. Driven by the urgency of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) restrictions, the committee is seeking a holistic water solution. The Board directed the formation of an ad-hoc committee—consisting of General Manager Dan Chapa and District Engineer Jim Wegley—to investigate the proposal. Mr. Khan was instructed to coordinate further through Joanne at the office.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MAY 20, 2026 MEETING MINUTES:** Ms. Mendiola made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes. Mr. Orbe seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 2026 MONTHLY BILLS:** Mr. Garcia made a motion to approve the Monthly Bills. Mr. Orbe seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
5. **THE LATON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT:**
 - A. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE MONTHLY REPORT:** Battalion Chief Beavers reported for the month of May 2026, there were 4- medical calls, 0-traffic accident calls, 0- vehicle fire calls, 4- vegetation fire calls, 0- structural fire calls, 0- commercial/residential alarm, 0-Hazmat, 1-Electrical Hazard, 0-Fire Investigation, 0-Water Rescue, 2-Citizen Assist, and 0-Other. Mr. Chapa informed Battalion Chief Beavers that we need the last 2 years of bank statements for the annual audits.
 - B. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE DISPATCHING SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026/2027:** Mr. Garcia made a motion to approve the Dispatching Service Agreement for Fiscal Year 2026/2027 with Fresno Fire Protection District. Ms. Mendiola seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
6. **THE WATER DISTRIBUTION AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT.**
 - A. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE MONTHLY REPORT:** Mr. Chapa reported the well depths and drawdowns for May 2026: well #4 Static water level is 111.07, and drawdown is 9.36; well #5 Static water level is at 110.87 and drawdown is at 8.35; well #6 Static water level is at 113.63, and drawdown is at 6.35. BOD removal:74.36% not TSS removal: 81.36%. Freeboard pond level: Pond #1-Out of service, Pond #2-Out of service, Pond #3-Out of service, Pond #4 – 8.0ft, Pond #5 – 9.0ft, and Pond #6 – 9.0ft.
7. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE PROPOSED INCREASE TO MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES FOR MID VALLEY DISPOSAL GARBAGE COLLECTION SERVICES:**

Under Prop 218 process, inflationary adjustments are necessary to maintain the solvency of waste management services. The Board evaluated a potential 2.18% CPI-based rate increase. This would adjust the brown/blue can rate from \$29.35 to \$29.99 (a 64-cent delta) and the District administrative fee from \$3.79 to \$3.88 (a 9-cent increase). No action was taken.
8. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR PRELIMINARY BUDGET RESOLUTION No. 2026-02:** Mr. Chapa presented the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Preliminary Budget, after much discussion Mr. Chapa will make the changes requested by the Board, and present at next month's Board Meeting.
9. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE LCSD AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) PROPOSED LCSD WATER METER PROJECT:** As the ARPA-funded water meter project concludes, the District is moving from the construction phase into full operational status. The Board reviewed the final contractor billing of \$72,000, with an additional \$6,000 for box cleaning and inspections fully covered by the grant. The "zero rereads" achievement this month confirms the drive-by system's operational success.

10. **MONTHLY REPORT FROM JIM WEGLEY:** Strategic engagement with state-level engineers is essential for infrastructure funding. District Engineer Jim Wegley reported on a facility tour with six state engineers. The District's strategy is to leverage current BOD/TSS violations to argue for a higher priority in the state funding queue. Furthermore, a CDBG application for the "show pond" is currently pending a determination from Jonathan regarding the Median Household Income (MHI) to establish eligibility.
11. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PFAS/PFOS SAMPLING RESULTS:** In response to a changing regulatory landscape regarding emerging contaminants, the District conducted sampling via **BSK Lab**. Results from Well Site 4 showed PFOA at 7.6 and PFOS at 8.1. While these figures exceed the notification threshold (4), they remain below the response level (10). The District is initiating notification protocols and seeking mitigation funding for filtration systems in advance of the 2031 deadline.
12. **MONTHLY SAFETY REPORT:** The Board confirmed that there were no accidents or incidents reported for the period, reinforcing the District's commitment to a zero-incident workplace which serves to lower insurance premiums and protect staff.
13. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY COMPENSATION:** To enhance employee retention, the Board formalized a benefit structure within the District handbook. The Board approved an amendment to page 81 of the Employee Handbook, authorizing a \$1,000 one-time, non-recurring bonus for full-time employees upon reaching 20 years of service. Mr. Garcia Made a motion to approve the Employee Longevity Compensation. Mr. Wolfe seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
14. **MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER:** Mr. Chapa is reviewing the application submitted for the WWTP Operator position. No action was taken.
15. **ADJOURN TO CLOSE SESSION:** Mr. Garcia Adjourned to close session.
- A) PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (GOV CODE 54957)
Employees: All
 - B) CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (GOV CODE 54957.6)
Agency Negotiators: Daniel Chapa and Ty Mizote
Unrepresented Employees: All
 - C) CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: 1 case
16. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:** No action was taken in close session.
17. **ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Garcia adjourned the Board Meeting at 7:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
By: JoAnne Rempp
District Secretary for Laton Community Services District