



**Minutes of Special Meeting, Board of Directors
December 18, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District met this day in regular session, both in person and by teleconference, from the District office Board Room located at 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, California.

CALL TO ORDER

President Borba called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Borba, Witzel, McCowan, Gisler

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean P. Geivet, *District Manager*
Michael L. Knight, *Assistant General Manager*
Jeffrey S. Row, *District Secretary-Treasurer, Assessor/Collector*
Nick Keller, *District Engineer*
Aubrey Mauritsen, *District Legal Counsel*

List of signed-in attendees:

Blake Wallace
Jace Vanderham
Jason Guthrie
Seth Bowser
Douglass Jackson
Numerous guests via Zoom

AGENDA – There were no changes or additions made to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – President Borba asked if there were any public comments.

No comments

Southeast Service Area Lateral Project:

Nick presented a report on the **CEQA public review period**, which ran from November 14 to January 15. Only one comment was received, from the California Department of Conservation, regarding procedures for abandoned oil wells in the area.

Southeast Service Area Public Hearing:

Hearing: The public hearing for the Southeast Service Area was opened. No comments were received online or in person, and the hearing was subsequently closed.

A motion was made to adopt the mitigated negative declaration and file the notice of determination with the state clearinghouse.

M/S/U McCowan, Gisler, to approve the mitigated negative declaration and file the notice of determination with the state clearinghouse.

Southeast Pipeline Project Update:

Timeline: The project will go out to bid for 30 days, with groundbreaking expected by the end of February. The entire project is estimated to take two and a half to three years to complete.

• **Phase One Details:** This phase includes the cleaning pipeline for the south lateral and the pump station off the Friant-Kern. The electrical work for the pump station alone is expected to take one year. Initial construction will allow gravity-fed water delivery to approximately eight parcels.

• **Funding and Costs:** The district must quickly spend \$1.5 million in grant funding, likely on material orders. While the total project cost was initially estimated at 6 million, it is expected to be higher upon completion.

• **Landowner Participation:**

◦ The project is sized for all 1,800 acres in the district, even though not all landowners have currently agreed to participate.

◦ The estimated buy-in cost for landowners is approximately \$750 per acre.

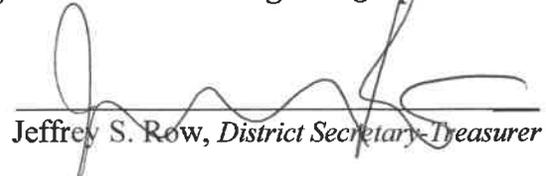
◦ Landowners who decline to participate now but join later will be required to pay their prorated share plus interest to remain equitable with those who paid upfront.

2025 Annual Audit and RFP for Public Accountants:

The board discussed the upcoming annual audit. While the firm Mastro has historically performed the audits, there was discussion regarding the benefit of seeking a "second opinion" to ensure competitive practices.

M/S/U McCowan, Gisler, to approve a Request for Approval for Auditing Services.

ADJOURNMENT – President Eric Borba adjourned the meeting at 2:38 p.m.



Jeffrey S. Row, District Secretary-Treasurer