

January 5, 2026  
Special Meeting  
5:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in special session on Monday, January 5, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Mark Wright, Vice President Joe Tonascia and Directors Sonny Flores, John Freeman and Doug Williams. Also present were General Manager Dana Jacobson, Assistant General Manager Brett Miller, Office Specialist II Shannon Darnall and Executive Assistant/Board Clerk Barbara Mauro. District Counsel Jeremy T. Liem, Jeff Cattaneo, Theresa Jurotich (Raftelis) and Russell Frink (Kronick, Moscovitz, Tiedemann and Girard) participated via Zoom.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Wright called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**  
President Wright led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. **Roll Call**  
Mrs. Mauro called roll. Members present were: President Wright, Vice President Tonascia and Directors Flores, Freeman and Williams.
- c. **Approval of the Agenda**  
With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and a second by Director Flores, the Agenda was approved by 5 affirmative votes, Wright, Tonascia, Flores, Freeman and Williams.
- d. **Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board**

### **AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. **Publicly Review and Receive Comments Regarding the 2026 Zone 6 Water, Groundwater and Recycled Water Cost of Service Study and Proposed Rate Schedule**  
Mr. Miller introduced Theresa Jurotich from Raftelis, who presented the Cost-of-Service Study and proposed rate schedule to the Board via a PowerPoint.  
  
Vice President Tonascia asked if power charges were to go down, would this be reflected in the power charge rates by the District? Mr. Miller stated no, as the power has steadily gone up the last several years. If they were to go down, the power charges would be adjusted when the next rates are approved.
2. **Consider Resolution Approving Proposition 218 Procedures for Zone 6 Water and Recycled Water Rates Proposed to be Effective on March 1, 2026**  
Mr. Miller reviewed the approval process and the Proposition 218 procedures in the resolution. The rates being proposed are based on the 2026 Rate Study, presented by Raftelis earlier this evening. Prop 218's purpose is to enhance transparency and allow the public to voice their concerns. The notices for Zone 6 Water and the Recycled Water rates, if approved, will be mailed tomorrow to the applicable property owners. The

public hearing for these rates will be held at a public hearing at the February 25, 2026 Regular Board Meeting. Mr. Miller further added the notices state the District will allow written protests until February 20, 2026.

Vice President Tonascia asked if all protests had to be written; no emails are allowed? Mr. Frink replied, yes, that is correct. This is stated very clearly on the notice, no email or facsimile responses will be accepted. Mr. Frink further stated it protects the District and complying with these requirements.

There were no questions from the Board or the public.

A motion was made by Director Williams and seconded by Director Freeman, the Board of Directors approved Resolution #2026-01, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Approving Proposition 218 Procedures for Water Rates Proposed to be effective on March 1*, by 5 affirmative votes, Wright, Tonascia, Flores, Freeman and Williams.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

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Minutes were approved at the January 21, 2026 Board meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/Mark Wright  
Mark Wright, President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro  
Barbara L. Mauro, Executive Assistant/Board Clerk