

**POTTER VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES
BOARD MEETING**

December 17, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Potter Valley Irrigation District was called to order by President Janet Pauli @ 7:03 pm at the Potter Valley Irrigation District Office

Directors Present: Dir. Janet Pauli, Dir. Guinness McFadden, Dir. Mac Magruder , Dir. Dan Thornton

Staff Present: Superintendent Don Brown, Attorney Cliff Paulin, Webmaster Elaine Lindelef and Assessor/Collector Patti Boatwright, Secretary/Treasurer Michelle Ricetti

Absent: Dir. Steven Giuntini

Others Present:

Public Comment: Dir McFadden wanted to clarify to the board that he had previously asked Superintendent Brown for a Special Meeting to discuss FERC comment, not realizing that the comment had already been sent in so no special meeting is needed.

Minutes:

- **Dir. Magruder made a motion to approve the November Regular Meeting Minutes as amended and Dir. Thornton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Check Register: The November check register totaling \$28,814.51 and the unpaid bills totaling \$7,403.24 were reviewed;

- **Dir. McFadden made a motion that the unpaid bills be approved for payment, Dir. Magruder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Financial Report: Report was reviewed and discussed

Assessor/Collector's Report: Assessor/Collector Boatwright prepared a report with the following information.

Total Overdue A/R: \$ 10,593.97

Water.....	\$ 2,373.99
Standby.....	\$ 6,496.33
Penalty.....	\$ 1,723.65

Discussion was had regarding recently placed liens. Assessor continues to send out lien notifications as required. All delinquent accounts will receive letters regarding potential liens being placed.

Attorney’s Report: Will discuss updates during Agenda items.

Superintendent’s Report: Superintendent Brown has had difficulty coordinating a pipe lining consultation, he will continue to work on scheduling this. He recently reviewed the PG&E water bill and had PG&E remove the charges we incurred due to leakage in September and October. Crews are continuing to clean canals with the excavator, making minor repairs as needed and opening all gates for winter runoff. Excavator needed DEF sensor replaced, which was completed.

Superintendent Brown is currently working with Stephan Maples from Sonoma Water regarding well monitor data collection. There will be 9-10 monitors that need to be checked and data downloaded monthly. District will need to purchase laptop/ipad for external data to be collected and downloaded. PVID will make a schedule to perform and download data.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Website Report: Webmaster Lindelef is working on getting a copy of the November 24th MCIWPC Town Hall Presentation to post on our website.

2. Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission Report: Dir. Pauli reported:

- At the recent MCIWPC Town Hall on December 24, 2025 there were 165 attendees. Legal Counsel Shapiro, Consultants Johnson, Nagy and Sonoma Water representatives Manning and Seymour discussed several important water supply issues including the status of the Army Corp of Engineers Feasibility Study, a NERF project update, funding information and a CEQA update. The panel talked about the progress of ERPA, which recently had a meeting in Ukiah. The Army Corp of Engineers is still at a pause with the feasibility study as they are re-evaluating all project across the United States. MCIWPC is planning on holding regular Town Hall meetings as new information warrants.
- The newly formed Ukiah Valley Water Authority (which includes the City of Ukiah, Redwood Valley County Water District, Millview County Water District, Willow County Water District and Calpella County Water

District), is discussing joining MCIWPC. This new UVWA, a Joint Powers Authority, if approved by MCIWPC, would replace the position that Redwood Valley County Water District currently holds on MCIWPC.

3. Discussion: PVID share of future funding for legal and engineering expenses associated with the PG&E License Surrender process, the New Eel Russian Facility (NERF) and USACE Feasibility study for Coyote Dam:

- General funding for ongoing investigations of storage and infrastructure projects needs support from local, state and federal elected representatives to keep lobbying for funding. The Lytton Rancheria and the Jackson Family have offered to help us with their DC influence and lobbyists. Seth Wurzell came to last MCIWPC meeting to discuss potential revenue streams. MCIWPC will be creating an Ad Hoc committee to discuss funding. To be eligible for certain bonds, there must be a revenue stream. Decisions regarding the role of ERPA in the construction, operation, management and financing of NERF are underway. Ukiah Valley customers are now paying for ground water, which could be a revenue option. Potential revenue sources might include water sales, parcel fees, acre charges or Russian River underflow wells usage. MCIWPC will continue to work with Wurzell on possible ways to generate revenue.

4. Discuss East Branch Russian River check dams:

- Sonoma Water wants to plan a site by site inspection of all check dams to assess the condition of each dam. All properties with check dams on them have easements attached to their deeds to allow access. Our Webmaster will be asking the community for historical pictures of the river prior to the 1930's to make comparisons of the level of the East Branch Russian River compared to today's elevations.

5. Continued discussion of Temporary Variance flows and report on drought working group:

- The Drought Working Group is still discussing the current temporary variance. They estimate that the variance will expire by the end of December due to rainfall filling Lake Pillsbury.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. FERC notice of PG&E application for surrender of license and non-project use of project lands, accepted for filing, soliciting comments, motions to intervene and protests:

- PG&E surrender notice has been accepted; to date there have been over 1800 individual comment letters and over 40 formal motions to intervene by various entities. Several State and Federal representatives, including California Congressman Doug LaMalfa and US Secretary of Agriculture Rawlings, filed comments. PVID filed their Motion to Intervene and Comments on December 1, 2025.

2. FERC notice of PG&E application for permanent variance of the license accepted for filing, comments, motions to intervene and protests:

- PVID filed a motion to intervene and comments protesting the permanent variance request by PG&E on November 24, 2025.
- PVID shall continue to work with regional partners to secure water delivery through the PVP following decommissioning of the dams as there is no surety in any other plan. It is critical that water continue to be available despite any efforts to preserve the existing infrastructure, since that can not be ensured. It is critical that water rights, delivery mechanisms, and local storage all be secured so that all current and future users retain access to water, despite anticipated increases in cost of the water.
- There is a high likelihood that there will be suits filed against PG&E for both the Permanent Variance request by PGE and the Final License Amendment.
- PVID's water contract with PG&E will continue to be honored until the time that the license surrender and decommissioning process is completed.
- Director McFadden expressed that he feels the PVID board should have worded its FERC submissions differently. He also expressed displeasure that he was not more involved in writing and submitting the comments. He believes that the MOU was developed too quickly. He also believes that continuing to produce power at the existing Powerhouse should not be dismissed.
- Director Mcfadden asked what the most recent salmon counts were at the Van Arsdale Station. Director Pauli will forward that information to the PVID Board as each new report is released.

- Director Magruder discussed the current status of water storage sites investigations in Potter Valley by Mr. George Rau. Mr. Rau is also interested in learning more about the seismic risk and dam safety reports from PG&E. Mr. Rau was asked to sign an NDA to review the seismic reports (he has not signed at this time). Mr. Rau has also spoken with the California Division of Safety of Dams.

3. Acknowledgment of Appreciation to Employees for a job well done in 2025:

- PVID Board discussed their appreciation for the hard work and dedication of all district employees and staff during this year of transition.
- PVID Board would like to give each employee and staff member a \$125.00 gift card.
- **Dir. Magruder made a motion give each employee a \$125.00 gift card for each employee and to staff member in appreciation for all the work done in 2025! Dir. McFadden seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.


Janet Pauli, President


Michelle Ricetti, Secretary/ Treasurer