



MANAGING RESOURCES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

DIRECTORS
NICK BRUNO, PRESIDENT
JEFFREY D. COULTHARD, VICE PRESIDENT
SHANNON SIMONIAN, TREASURER
ERIC BREAM
MIKE DELAGUERRA
MATTHEW CERNIGLIA
HENK GRIFFIN

JULIA D. BERRY, GENERAL MANAGER/SECRETARY
BRIAN EHLERS, DISTRICT ENGINEER
FRANK SPLENDORIO, LEGAL COUNSEL

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Root Creek Water District
held on
Monday, March 9, 2026**

1. Call to Order

The board meeting for the Root Creek Water District (RCWD) was called to order at 11:01 a.m. by President Nick Bruno. Board members present: Nick Bruno, Jeffrey Coulthard, Shannon Simonian, Mike De La Guerra, and Henk Griffin. Board member(s) absent: Eric Bream, Matt Cerniglia. Members of the public included Julia Berry, Frank Splendorio, Brian Ehlers, Steve Pickens, and Melissa Anna.

2. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Closed Session

Closed Session convened at 11:02 a.m. and closed at 11:18 a.m.

5. Report from Closed Session

There were no reportable items.

6. Potential Conflicts of interest

There were no potential conflicts of interest identified.

7. Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Director Coulthard, seconded by Director De La Guerra, to adopt the minutes from the meeting on February 9, 2026, and to accept the January 2026 financials. The motion carried.

8. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9. Board Action Items

- a. Meter Installation and Final Inspection Policy** –Director Griffin made a motion, seconded by Director De La Guerra, to adopt a District policy requiring meter installation prior to Madera County final inspection in the Riverstone Development. The motion carried.

10. District Engineer Report

District Engineer Brian Ehlers reported that the average daily wastewater flow for the month of February was 453,618 gallons and the peak flow was 562,796 gallons. There were 29,207,252 gallons in municipal water deliveries in February to support the following uses: municipal, landscape irrigation, commercial, system hydrant flushing, construction, Water Treatment Facility commissioning, and Wastewater Treatment Plant operations. In the month of February, the total residential and commercial water connections in the system were 3,219. The new Water Treatment Plant continues to run smoothly and construction on the widening of Avenue 12 continues. Village C & E activities are running smoothly, and Canyon Creek Elementary school is working with Lennar to have operations running ahead of the Fall 2026 session start. Paperwork for Easements are in the works with no issues. The Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report is due April 1, 2026, and is drafted. Groundwater Extraction Volumes by Water Use Sector and GSA are due January 1, 2027, and RCWD has requested changes to reflect the 11,800 agricultural AF in water year 2025 for Root Creek Water District in place of the SM model figure of 16,600 figure. Subsidence data collection for the San Joaquin River is due April 1, 2026.

11. Legal Counsel Report

General Counselor Splendorio discussed how California Proposition 218 amended the state constitution to restrict local governments' ability to impose taxes, assessments, and property-related fees without voter or property owner approval requires public notice, hearings, and a majority protest mechanism for new or increased fees (e.g., water, sewer), ensuring charges do not exceed the cost of service. He also reported on the SB 204 Training guidelines for existing, reelected, and new board members.

12. District Manager's Report

GM Berry reported there were 40 escrow closings in February, 13 building unit permits pulled, and the total residential connections, as of March 9, 2026, are trending below what was forecasted by an estimated 80 connections. GM Berry reported that staff and extended teams are continuing to work with Brian Ehlers and Frank Spendorio on a revised capacity fees study. She also reported there will be a Meter and Inspection Fees Public Hearing to reflect the increase in rates in 2026. GM Berry reported that the seats for Directors Griffen, Coulthard, Simonian, and De La Guerra are up for election this year. GM Berry suggested that the board consider joining the Special Districts Association and will check on the guidelines and costs to join. GM Berry reported that a meeting with Trumark to discuss field inspections and review process occurred.

Board of Directors gave direction to staff to draft a policy that reduces fines going forward.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.



Julia D. Berry, District Secretary