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## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

5:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 28, 2026  
Utica Headquarters | 1168 Booster Way, Angels Camp, CA 95222

View the meeting agenda packet: [www.uticawater.com/board-meetings](http://www.uticawater.com/board-meetings)

### UTICA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Caroline Schirato – Chair  
Eric Bottomley – Vice Chair  
Bruce Tallakson – Secretary  
Alvin Broglio – Director  
Gary Conrado – Director

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### 1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

- The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

#### 2. Roll Call

- Directors Present
  - Director Broglio
  - Director Bottomley
  - Director Tallakson
  - Director Conrado
- Directors Absent
  - Director Schirato
- Utica Staff Present
  - Erik Holt, General Manager
  - Stacie Walker, Clerk of the Board
  - Frank Fields, O&M Superintendent
  - Kyle Rasmussen, Conveyance Supervisor
- Others Present
  - Luis Perez, CPA/consultant, Ryan Jolley CPAS (virtual)

### 3. Approval of the Agenda

**Motion:** Director Tallakson made a motion to approve the agenda

**Second:** Director Broglio

**Board Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Vote:** 4-0-1

**Ayes:** Director Bottomley, Director Tallakson, Director Broglio, Director Conrado

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Director Schirato

### 4. Public Comment

- None

### 5. Consent Calendar

A. Approve minutes from the March 2026 Special Board Meeting (Walker) – **Approved**

B. Accept Financial reports for March 2026 (Walker) – **Accepted**

C. Accept Generation report for March 2026 (Walker) – **Accepted**

D. Accept Operations Report (Fields) – **Accepted**

E. Accept Water Conveyance Report (Rasmussen) – **Accepted**

F. Accept FERC Exemption Billing Report (Sparks) – **Accepted**

G. Accept Quarterly Training Report (Sparks) – **Accepted**

H. Accept Quarterly Grants Report (Walker) – **Accepted**

**Motion:** Director Tallakson made a motion to approve all items on the consent calendar

**Second:** Director Broglio

**Board Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Vote:** 4-0-1

**Ayes:** Director Bottomley, Director Tallakson, Director Broglio, Director Conrado

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Director Schirato

### 6. Public Hearing

A. Information Report Regarding Status of Vacancies and Recruitment and Retention Efforts Pursuant to AB 2561  
(Stacie Walker, Administrative Specialist)

- Vice Chair Bottomley opened the public hearing at 5:32 p.m.

- Ms. Walker gave a PowerPoint presentation that reviewed the recruitment and retention efforts of UWPA during 2025.
- The Chair invited public comment; hearing none, the comment period was closed at 5:40 p.m.

## 7. Regular Agenda

### A. Discussion/Action regarding the FY 2024-2025 Financial Audit (Erik Holt, General Manager)(Luis Perez, CPA, Bryant Jolley CPAs)

- The auditor presented the Fiscal Year financial audit results and reported that the financial statements were free of material misstatement and could be relied upon by users of the financial information. The auditor reviewed the District's financial position, including assets, liabilities, operating revenues and expenses, and noted the overall financial results for the year.

The auditor explained that non-current liabilities, including pension-related obligations, are based on actuarial calculations and may fluctuate based on assumptions and investment performance.

The auditor reported there were no deficiencies, reportable conditions, or compliance issues identified during the audit.

Director Bottomley asked about the net pension liability and whether the amount represented funds contributed toward employee pensions. The auditor explained that the calculation is a complex actuarial estimate prepared using assumptions established by the state and is updated periodically.

**Motion:** Director Broglio made a motion to accept and file the financial audit for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

**Second:** Director Tallakson

**Board Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Vote:** 4-0-1

**Ayes:** Director Bottomley, Director Tallakson, Director Broglio, Director Conrado

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Director Schirato

### B. Discussion/Action regarding Ad Hoc Resources Committee recommendation for irrigation contractor's rates for the 2026-27 Irrigation Season. (Erik Holt, General Manager)

- Mr. Holt reported that he met with the Resource Committee and recommended maintaining the current irrigation contractor rates for the upcoming season. He noted that rates have increased steadily over approximately the past nine years and that holding rates would provide an opportunity to re-engage with customers

and assess the program. The Resource Committee supported the recommendation to maintain the existing rates.

**Motion:** Director Tallakson made a motion to approve the addendums to irrigation contractor agreements for the 2026-2027 irrigation season and authorize the General Manager to execute agreements.

**Second:** Director Conrado

**Board Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Vote:** 4-0-1

**Ayes:** Director Bottomley, Director Tallakson, Director Broglio, Director Conrado

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Director Schirato

C. Discussion regarding Ad Hoc Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Committee Update  
(Erik Holt, General Manager)

- Mr. Holt provided an update from the Ad Hoc CIP Committee and reported that the Committee will bring forward a more comprehensive CIP discussion following completion of the Strategic Plan and an additional Committee meeting. He noted that preliminary CIP priorities were identified for inclusion in the draft budget and emphasized the need for continued infrastructure investment.

Mr. Holt reviewed preliminary CIP projects, including Murphys Powerhouse Relays, Hunters Dam Concrete Comprehensive Study, Murphys Powerhouse Rewind Scoping, Angels Penstock Scoping, and the Darby Knob Tunnel Project, representing approximately \$450,000 in proposed FY 2026-27 investment.

The Board discussed project prioritization, costs, and the need for additional technical evaluations. Mr. Holt noted that several projects require further analysis to determine scope, timing, and funding needs.

D. Discussion regarding Budget Committee Update  
(Erik Holt, General Manager)

- Mr. Holt reported that the Budget Committee reviewed the proposed budget line items and recommended including a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). He noted that the CPI-U referenced in the General Manager's contract was 3.3%.

**Motion:** Director Tallakson made a motion to approve a 3% COLA for the FY 2026-2027

**Second:** Director Broglio

**Board Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Vote:** 4-0-1

**Ayes:** Director Bottomley, Director Tallakson, Director Broglio, Director Conrado

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Director Schirato

The Board also discussed the Hunter's rental rate. It was noted that the current tenants are well-established, maintain the property, and work to support Utica operations.

**Motion:** Director Broglio made a motion leave the Hunter's rental rate unchanged

**Second:** Director Tallakson

**Board Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Vote:** 4-0-1

**Ayes:** Director Bottomley, Director Tallakson, Director Broglio, Director Conrado

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Director Schirato

E. Discussion/Direction regarding Strategic Plan Review  
(Erik Holt, General Manager)

- Item 7E was moved to be heard with the General Manager's report.

## **8. Correspondence, Board / General Manager Reports, Future Agenda Items**

A. Correspondence

- Outgoing – To FERC Requesting Extension of Time on Part 12D Comprehensive Inspection
  - One consultant would not bid on the Part 12D because of complications associated with the Exemption and suggested requesting a change to the Part 12D schedule. Mr. Holt will email the Board when he gets an answer from FERC.
- Outgoing – To FERC Transmittal of DSSMRs (public cover page)
  - Ms. Sparks, in her new role, did a great job. The Chief Dam Safety Engineer reviewed the reports, and they were submitted.
- Outgoing – To DSOD Transmittal of DSSMRs (public cover page)

B. General Manager Report

- ODSP – Updates to the Operations and Dam Safety Plan (ODSP) are nearing completion and are expected to be brought forward for Board adoption next month, along with the annual presentation and affirmation.

- Budget – Preliminary budget projections indicate the District is approximately \$40,000 under budget for FY 2025–26.
- Office Space – Facility improvements have been completed, including new carpeting, paint, and flooring.
- Security / ADT System – Board-approved security upgrades have been implemented, including mobile access controls, cameras, and motion detection systems.
- IT Assessment – A three-day IT assessment was completed at a cost of approximately \$3,200. The system was generally found to be secure, with minor policy updates recommended.
- FERC – A meeting is scheduled to discuss the FERC exemption application and Part 12D requirements.
- TSV Valve Project – Work on the TSV valve project is underway. The project remains generally on budget but behind schedule, resulting in revised timing and associated revenue impacts. Estimated combined repair and lost generation impacts are approximately \$350,000. Insurance coordination is ongoing.
- Ongoing Items:
  - Reserve Policy revisions will be brought forward in alignment with the preliminary budget for Board review and adoption.
  - Budget development remains in progress, including refinement of assumptions and policies.
  - Outage scheduling is being coordinated to align with operational and contractual requirements.

### C. Board reports

- COA
  - The City Administrator is doing a good job, and staff seems happy
  - Meter replacements project is underway – upgrading to wifi meters will save staff time
  - Sewer Project is almost complete
  - CalTrans has resumed the Highway 49 project
  - Public works – working hard to keep vegetation under control
- UPUD
  - Draft Connection and Capacity Fee presentation was given by the engineer. No decisions were made
  - Treatment Plant Upgrades to the filter media and electrical control board are set to go online in May.
  - Catematri Reservoir health has improved with the addition of aeration.

- At large
  - None

D. Future agenda items

## 9. Upcoming Board Meetings and Calendar Events

- Special Meeting set for 1 p.m. on May 8, 2026, to discuss the FY 2026-2027 Budget Development.

The Board discussed the upcoming meeting schedule and set the meetings:

- Special Board Meeting, Friday, May 8, 2026, at 5:30 p.m
- Special Board Meeting, Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 5:30 p.m..
- Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

## 10. Adjournment

**Motion:** Director Broglio made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

**Second:** Director Tallakson

**Board Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Vote:** 4-0-1

**Ayes:** Director Bottomley, Director Broglio, Director Tallakson, Director Conrado

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Director Schirato

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

### **Utica Mission Statement**

We are committed to preserving local control of our water resources through sound fiscal and operational management, rigorous dam safety practices, and regulatory compliance, ensuring a safe and reliable water supply for municipal and agricultural stakeholders now and for future generations.

### **Americans With Disabilities Act**

In compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 28 CFR Part 36, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Utica office at (209) 736-9419 or email your request to [admin@uticawater.com](mailto:admin@uticawater.com). Notification in advance of the meeting will enable Utica to make reasonable accommodations to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Any materials distributed to the Board that relate to an item on the agenda are available at the Utica office 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

### **Questions?**

Contact Utica at [admin@uticawater.com](mailto:admin@uticawater.com) or (209) 736-9419.

Approved at the June 23, 2026, Regular Board Meeting:



Caroline Schirato (Jun 25, 2026 12:12:47 PDT)

Caroline Schirato, Board Chair

Attest:



Stacie Walker, Clerk of the Board






# 04 - Regular Meeting April 2026 Minutes

Final Audit Report

2026-06-25

Created:	2026-06-25
By:	Utica Water and Power Authority (admin@uticawater.com)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAUwpJ_1ldVP3jb-qQSOP0itvYiLdw0DPI

## "04 - Regular Meeting April 2026 Minutes" History

-  Document created by Utica Water and Power Authority (admin@uticawater.com)  
2026-06-25 - 6:41:51 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Caroline Schirato (carolineschirato@angelscamp.gov) for signature  
2026-06-25 - 6:41:56 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Caroline Schirato (carolineschirato@angelscamp.gov)  
2026-06-25 - 6:42:51 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Caroline Schirato (carolineschirato@angelscamp.gov)  
Signature Date: 2026-06-25 - 7:12:47 PM GMT - Time Source: server - Signature Appearance Selected: MOBILE\_DRAW
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2026-06-25 - 7:12:47 PM GMT