



MINUTES

UNION PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Directors Present: Greg Rasmussen, President
Tom Quincy, Secretary
Ralph Chick, Treasurer
Eric Bottomley, Director
Bruce Tallakson, Vice-President

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Jessica Self, General Manager
Joe Darby, Operations Manager
Jenna Mayo, Executive Admin Coordinator

Others Present: Frank Splendorio, Best, Best & Krieger LLP
Public at Large

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER/THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. ROLL CALL

Director Rasmussen called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:05 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Director Tallakson
Second: Director Chick
Ayes: Directors Rasmussen, Tallakson, Quincy, Chick, and Bottomley
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Minutes:
 - o January 28, 2026 – Regular Board Meeting
- b. Expenditures – January 2026 (Tabled to the next Regular Board Meeting)
- c. Fund Balance Report – January 2026 (Tabled to the next Regular Board Meeting)
- d. Balance Sheet & Income Statement – January 2026 (Tabled to the next Regular Board Meeting)
- e. YTD Budget to Actuals – January 2026 (Tabled to the next Regular Board Meeting)
- f. Legal Fees Year-to-Date Review (Tabled to the next Regular Board Meeting)

Motion: Director Tallakson moved to approve the January 28, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes only and to table the remaining Consent Agenda items to the next Regular Board Meeting.

Second: Director Chick

Ayes: Directors Rasmussen, Tallakson, Quincy, Chick, and Bottomley

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstained: None

MINUTE ENTRY: Motion to approve the January 28, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes only and to table the remaining Consent Agenda items to the next Regular Board Meeting.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Adopt Resolution 2026-002 Setting the New Regular Meeting Day and/or time of the Union Public Utility District Board of Directors
(Jessica Self, General Manager)

Motion: Director Tallakson
Second: Director Quincy
Ayes: Directors Rasmussen, Tallakson, Quincy, Chick, and Bottomley
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None

RESO NO. 2026-002. SETTING THE REGULAR MEETING DAY AND TIME OF THE UNION PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO THE THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 2:00 P.M., WITH THE EXCEPTION OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY WHEN THE MEETING SHALL BE HELD ON THE THIRD TUESDAY AT 2:00 P.M., AS PRESENTED.

b. Discussion and Possible Direction: State and Federal Affairs Legislative Updates
(Jessica Self, General Manager)

General Manager Self provided a brief update on state and federal legislative matters, including SB 1001 regarding a statewide utility worker identification program and S. 3609 related to wildfire resilience funding. She also reported on ACWA's engagement in the California gubernatorial race and upcoming legislative days with partner associations.

The Board provided direction to the General Manager to prepare and submit a letter of support. Additional updates will be brought back to the Board later this spring.

c. Presentation of Union Public Utility District 2025 Year in Review
(Jessica Self, General Manager & Joe Darby, Operations Manager)

General Manager Self and Operations Manager Darby presented the District's 2025 Year in Review, highlighting major operational improvements, infrastructure upgrades, emergency response efforts, engineering and planning initiatives, regulatory compliance updates, and community outreach activities.

Key items included treatment plant and reservoir improvements, wildfire response coordination, implementation of the Cross-Connection Control Program, emergency planning updates, regional advocacy efforts, and expanded community engagement programs. The presentation also outlined priorities looking ahead, including ordinance adoption, connection and capacity fees, and completion of the electric panel installation.

6. UPDATES

Discussion and Potential Direction Regarding Utica Water & Power Authority

Director Tallakson reported that UWPA's FERC Safety Dam Audit has been completed. He also noted that UWPA processed mid-year budget adjustments. Additionally, UWPA recently experienced a break-in involving tools. Director Tallakson shared that UWPA has elected new officers and that he has been elected as the UWPA JPIA Director.

Director Rasmussen inquired whether the District has contacted Erik Holt at UWPA to attend a future Regular Board Meeting to provide periodic UWPA updates.

Director Bottomley reported that UWPA submitted two compliance letters to FERC, both of which were

accepted.

7. **REPORTS**

a. Operations Manager

The Operation's Manager's report was presented to the Board by Operations Manager, Joe Darby.

b. General Manager

General Manager Jessica Self read the following statement:

"At the District's January 28, 2026 Board meeting, Mr. Michael Hatfield, during public comment, requested a direct meeting with the District to explore resolution of his pending litigation against the District. The District wishes to provide a response to inform the public. After Mr. Hatfield's comment at the January 28 meeting, the District reached out to Mr. Hatfield, through his counsel, and explained that it would be glad to engage in any resolution efforts. Mr. Hatfield has not responded to the District's letter. The District is prepared to engage in resolution discussions with Mr. Hatfield if and when he responds. The District also wishes to be explicit and clear – the District has defenses to all claims asserted in Mr. Hatfield's lawsuit. However, the District is always willing to engage to find an efficient and inexpensive resolution that would avoid the expenditure of further legal fees and save the public money. The District is ready and willing to engage in those efforts and invites a response to its letter to Mr. Hatfield."

c. Board

Director Chick stated that it had been a challenging year but expressed appreciation to staff and noted hopes for a smoother year ahead.

Director Tallakson acknowledged the difficulties staff have faced and commended the team's strength and resilience.

Director Bottomley shared positive feedback regarding the District office renovation. He also commented that Erik Holt, General Manager of UWPA, is doing a great job.

8. **CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board recessed to Closed Session at

- a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code § 54956.9(d)(1)) Name of case: Michael Hatfield v. Union Public Utility District, Case No. 23CV46786
- b. Pursuant to Government Code § 54957(b)(1): Public Employee Annual Performance Evaluation
Title: General Manager
- c. Pursuant to Government Code § 54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiators
Agency designated representative: Board President Rasmussen
Unrepresented employee: General Manager

9. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:** The meeting returned to open session at 8:37 PM

- a. Report on Closed Session

- b. Adopt resolution No. 2026-003 approving amendment to General Manager Employment Agreement and revised salary schedules pertaining to the General Manager position

Motion: Director Chick
Second: Director Bottomley
Ayes: Directors Rasmussen, Tallakson, Quincy, Chick, and Bottomley
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None

RESO NO.2026-003. APPROVING AMENDMENT TO GENERAL MANAGER EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT AND REVISED SALARY SCHEDULES PERTAINING TO THE GENERAL MANAGER POSITION, AS PRESENTED.

10. **REPORTABLE ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION:** District Counsel, Frank Splendorio (BBK), reported that the Board reached consensus on the General Manager's evaluation. General Manager Jessica Self received an overall score of 3 out of 3, exceeding expectations.

11. **NEXT BOARD MEETINGS & EVENTS**

- March 16, 2026 at 2:00 pm
- April 20, 2026 at 2:00 pm
- May 18, 2026 at 2:00 pm

12. **ADJOURNMENT**


The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully Submitted:



Tom E. Quincy, Board Secretary

ATTEST:



Jenna Mayo, Clerk to the Board