MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE TWENTYNINE PALMS WATER DISTRICT 72401 HATCH ROAD, TWENTYNINE PALMS, CA 92277

October 28, 2026 / 4:00 P.M.

Call to Order and Roll Call
President Bob Coghill called the Board meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Those responding to roll call were Directors Larry Bowden, Bob Coghill, Randy Leazer, and Amy Woods. Director Arthur was absent. Also present were General Manager Matt Shragge, Financial Consultant Scott Nelsen, District Secretary Cindy Fowlkes, and Service Worker II Austin Murphy. Director of Operations Mike Minatrea was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance
Austin Murphy led the pledge.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda
None

Public Comments
None

1. Morongo Basin Conservation Association Presentation
Pat Flanagan gave a presentation on the Desert-Wise Landscape Programs since its inception in 2011 to the present. The first five years saw a one (1) day event with10 sites. The popularity grew over the years to a two (2) day event with 22 different sites. This year's theme was "Transformation: Revitalizing Disfigured Landscapes." The event included a native plant walk, an additional demonstration garden, a pollinator lecture, and video instruction on greywater, desert-wise planting, and effective watering strategies. Total video views is at 440,494. Native plants are important to native pollinators and reducing carbon. It was announced the tour will take a hiatus during the 2027 year, but staff will continue working on promoting water conservation. The Board was thanked for their continued support of the organization.

2. Consider Resolution 26-12 Pertaining to the Retention of Records and Repealing all Policies Inconsistent Herewith
California Government Code section 60200-60204 provides a procedure for records retention and destruction. The policy will provide staff with guidelines regarding the retention of records and the destruction of obsolete and unnecessary records of the District.

Director Woods moved to approve Resolution 26-12 approving a Retention of Records policy and repealing all policies inconsistent herewith, seconded by Director Bowden, and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	Directors Bowden, Leazer, Woods, and Coghill
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Director Arthur

3. Discussion and Consideration of Resolution 26-13 Adopting Revised Publicly Available Pay Schedules in Accordance with CalPERS Guidelines

CalPERS informed the District that their pay schedules needed to be revised to clarify pay as an hourly wage. The District has provided the clarification, and in accordance to CalPERS guidelines (California Code of Regulations section 570.5 and 571.1) are re-adopting pay schedules from 2022-2027 with the required verbiage.

Director Bowden moved to approve Resolution 26-13 adopting revised publicly available pay schedules in accordance with CalPERS guidelines, seconded by Director Woods, and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	Directors Bowden, Leazer, Woods, and Coghill
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Director Arthur

4. Consent Calendar

- Minutes of a Regular Meeting held on September 23, 2026
- Audit List

Director Woods moved to approve the Minutes and Audit List, seconded by Director Leazer, and approved unanimously.

5. Items Removed from the Consent Calendar for Discussion or Separate Action

None

6. Management Reports

6.1 Maintenance

Austin reported that the District responded to 56 Underground Service Alerts, had 0 water main leaks, 0 water meter leaks, 0 service line leaks, 0 fire hydrant repairs/maintenance, installed 0 new services, replaced 3 customer gate valves, performed 5 leak audits, painted 0 fire hydrants, performed 1 customer pressure check, replaced 4 water meters, Tested and exercised emergency generators and sounded wells for September. 0 water waste inquiries were received. There was a total of 531 work orders processed during the month.

6.2 Water Quality

Austin reported water production was down 10.28% as compared to the same month in 2013. 40 routine and 16 special water samples were taken. All special samples tested negative for Colilert. All current wells meet the 2.0 mg/L standard fluoride variance set by the State Water Resource Control Board. All samples tested were below the variance.

6.3 Finance

Scott Nelsen reported on August financials. The budget is at 17% with revenue at 19% due to the hot summer months. Expenses are trending at 13%.

6.4 General Manager

Matt reported District staff is expecting the installation of pipe and electrical conduit at the redundant reservoir. Staff is working on two LAFCO annexations and is expecting to bring the indemnifications to the Board next month. Hours of operation

signs and a neon "Open" sign have been installed outside and in the front lobby. Matt thanked the Morongo Unified School District for allowing him to participate in being principle for day at the high school. The Annual Water Loss validation was submitted for the year. The District remains at a 70% benchmark. The District teamed up with nearby water districts in the support of new bills introduced by Greg Wallis and Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh concerning Western Joshua Tree conservation. The bills also included language making it feasible for development on property that has Joshua Trees on it. Matt wished President Coghill and Mike Minatrea a happy birthday.

7. Future Agenda Items and Staff Tasks/Directors' Comments and Reports

Director Woods commended Austin for his reporting on the Maintenance and Treatment reports.

Director Leazer wants staff to make sure the Morongo Basin Conservation link is on the website.

Director Coghill also commended Austin for his reporting.

8. Adjournment

On motion by Director Leazer, seconded by Director Woods, and approved by the Board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Bob Coghill, President
Board of Directors

Attest:

Matthew Shragge, Board Secretary
Twentynine Palms Water District