

Minutes

The Pixley Public Utility district held a Board Meeting on the 2ND day of March 2026 at the Pixley Public Utility District

- It was determined that a quorum was present with the following Board Member present Ronnie Prine, Ramon Cisneros, and David Terrel. Present as well were Amanda Rodari; Office Manager, Robert Masters; Operations Supervisor, Chad Lew; District Counsel, Maija Madec; District Engineer, and Andy Patel & Lavinder Singh; American Motel

1. The meeting was called to order at: 6:30pm

2. Minutes

- The minutes of February 2, 2026, Board Meeting were submitted for review. On the motion of David Terrel and seconded by Ramon Cisneros and a unanimous vote the minutes were approved as submitted. Motion Carried.

3. Bills to be Paid

- On motion of Ramon Cisneros and seconded by David Terrel and a unanimous vote the following bills were ordered paid. See Exhibit "A". Motion Carried.

4. Public Comments

- N/A

5. Lavinder Singh – American Motel

- **Discuss potentiality of a bill reduction due to business not currently operating.**
- Lavinder Singh and Andy Patel with American Motel reported to the Board that the motel is currently not fully operational. They currently basically only rent out one unit out of the seven units they have. That the units are outdated and no one wants to rent them. They need and want to do remodels or additions to the property and in the meantime would like a discount on their bill. After some discussion amongst the Board advised they would be unable to provide a discount on their monthly bill. American Motel would need to continue to pay for their capacity rights for the units they currently have or they can think about voluntarily abandoning their capacity rights for water and sewer they currently maintain and would then have to reapply and pay the fees to reconnect for water and sewer services when they decided to rebuild/renovate if we have available capacity units at that time.

6. Kirk Masters – Pixley Irrigation/Lower Tule Irrigation

- **Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)**
- Operations Supervisor Rob Masters reported on behalf of Kirk Masters that there are no current updates on this item. District Counsel Chad Lew added the first reporting for this is coming up in May, the State Water Board is considering adopting a resolution to exclude those who extract those no more than 20-acre feet of groundwater per year from paying fees. But Michael Taylor (District Engineer) advised in the past we extract 558-acre feet in a year. Chad then went on to mention that there may be an exemption for disadvantage communities. He's pulled their guidance on it, they will have a form, but the form has not been generated yet. We must submit a waiver within 30 days of when the fees become due. We will continue to keep an eye out for the form to submit for a waiver of fees. This is

another avenue we can do if Lower Tule is unable to get us into probationary status. Roughly it will cost us \$12,000 a year in fees if we are unable to get this waived.

7. Provost & Pritchard

1) DEVELOPMENT UPDATE AND REPORT ON ACTIVE ITEMS

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| a) <u>Available Water Units</u> | 110 |
| • Will Service Letters | |
| • <i>Thandi/Singh – 174 Court (12/22, 1/24, 3/25)</i> | 24 |
| • Ayon – 565 Walnut Avenue (1/24, 3/25) | 1 |
| • <i>Jacobo – 156 Pine (3/24, 3/25)</i> | 1 |
| • <i>Valdovinos – 1086 Market (7/24)</i> | 1 |
| • Galvan – 105 Airport (12/24, 2/26) | 1 |
| • <i>Orellano – 782 S Main (2/25)</i> | 1 |
| • Martinez – 656 W Bradbury (5/25) | 1 |
| • Terrel – 426 W Terra Bella (5/25) | 2 |
| • Correa – Tract 7445 (7/25) | 18 |
| • Medical Draw Station (9/25) | 0 (existing service) |
| • Remaining Available Water Units | 60 |
| • Projects in <i>italics</i> have expired. Recommend sending notification letters indicating that extension requests are necessary. Projects in <i>bold italics</i> have applied for extensions. Projects in bold are new projects. Projects <i>struck out</i> have been constructed. | |
- b) Singh – 174 East Court Avenue – Will Serve Extension Request
- **Water and sewer service is requested for a 24-unit apartment development on the property located at 174 East Court Avenue and 210 North Main Street. A will serve letter extension was approved in March 2025, which is set to expire. An extension has been requested.**
 - **Recommended Action: Approve Conditional Will Serve Letter to 174 East Court Avenue**
 - District Engineer Maija Madec reported that a Will Serve extension request for this project was requested. This would be the third extension request granted. After some discussion amongst the board about the length of the project and how many extensions have already been granted, on motion of Ramon Cisneros and seconded by David Terrel and a unanimous vote it was approved to grant one more Will Serve Extension for a Conditional Will Serve Letter for 174 East Court Avenue. Motion Carried.
- c) Jacobo – 156 North Pine Street – Will Serve Extension Request
- **Water/Sewer service is requested for a residential unit on the property located at 156 North Pine Street. A will server letter extension was approved in March 2025, which is set to expire. An extension has been requested.**
 - **Recommended Action: Approve Conditional Will Serve Letter to 156 North Pine Street.**
 - District Engineer Maija Madec reported that a Will Serve extension request for this project was requested. This would be the second extension request granted. Office Manager Amanda Rodari added that the property owners have

received confirmation from the County about splitting the properties and are ready to move forward and progress. On motion of David Terrel and seconded by Ramon Cisneros and a unanimous vote it was approved to grant the Will Serve Extension for a Conditional Will Serve Letter for 156 North Pine Street. Motion Carried.

2) INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

a) Drought Relief Grant from the Department of Water Resources – Well 4A

- The well pump and discharge piping have been installed. Electrical and control items have also been installed. Generator source testing and Air Board inspection have been completed.
- An inspection with DDW was conducted on February 12, 2026. DDW checked various components, and no issues with the new facilities were noted.
- System startup and generator testing were conducted on February 20, 2026. The well operated without issue, including the pre-lube system initiating and working for approximately 2 minutes prior to the well pump starting.
- Generator components initially worked correctly, but when the well pump was manually operated, the pump motor was not commanded to start after the pre-lube. The pressure switch was temporarily bypassed, and when the well pump started it immediately tripped the breaker on the generator. An RFI has been submitted by Dovali to resolve these issues.
- The amendment for the funding increase and extension to June 30, 2026, was approved.
- **Recommended Action: Board's Pleasure**
- District Engineer Maija Madec reported that the project is almost complete. DDW came out and did their inspection on February 12, 2026, and looked good from their standpoint. The Generator initial testing had a failure the first around February 20, 2026, but came back out last Friday February 27, 2026, and were able to get things working after adjusting some settings. Everything is line and we are just waiting on a few punch list items and documentation from the Contractor. They are coming tomorrow to put the cage around the generator. And we are waiting on DDW to issue the updated permit to operate and put it into the system which could take a few more weeks.

b) TCP Planning Grant from the State Water Resources Control Board – Well 5, 3A, 4, & 6

- The State has assigned a Project Manager for the Construction Grant Application. All documents have been submitted for the construction funding application. The State has indicated PPUD could potentially receive a Construction Grant as early as June 2026
- The State has started drafting a financial assistance agreement and preparing other required documents.
- **Recommended Action: Board's Pleasure**

- District Engineer Maija Madec reported that there are no updates. The State has sent a few documents over for our pre-review. Everything seems to be moving along smoothly. The hope is to receive the grant to proceed as early as June 2026.

c) Wastewater Treatment Plant Planning/Funding

d) Provost & Pritchard has initiated the USDA Predevelopment Planning Grant process, and grant application documents have been initiated. We plan to complete the application documents by the April Board Meeting and provide any required approval documents at that time.

e) Recommended Action: Board’s Pleasure

- District Engineer Maija Madec reported they have initiated the application and thinks that it should be done and ready to submit for board review and approval by the next Board Meeting.

3) COUNTY ROAD PROJECTS

- **County Staff approached the PPUD concerning three roadway projects. The locations include:**

Location	Water Valves	Sewer Manholes	Projected Cost	Projected Date
Court St. Park St. to School St.	33	13	\$63,350	Spring 2024
Terra Bella Ave. Rd. 96 to Cedar St.	7	1	\$16,000	Summer 2024
Terra Bella Ave. SR 99 to School St.	23	8	TBD	Fall 2025

- **The new reimbursement agreement for the Court Ave. project is still pending.**
- **The County is processing the Utility Agreement (UA) for the second Terra Bella project with Caltrans for their review and approval. Once Caltrans approval is received, the County will provide the UA for PPUD consideration.**
- **Recommended Action: Board’s Pleasure**
- District Engineer Maija Madec reported that there are no updates to provide on this item.

4) Pixley Elementary Pedestrian Improvement Plans

- **The County of Tulare Resource Management Agency is advancing the Pixley Elementary Pedestrian Improvements Project located at the intersection of Court Avenue and School Street in Pixley. The proposed construction includes installation of ADA curb ramps, sidewalk, curb and gutter, driveways, storm drainpipe, drainage inlets, and manholes.**
- **The Tulare County Fire Department setback standard for fire hydrants from the edge of pavement or curb and gutter is 8 ft maximum. With the proposed construction, the County is requesting to relocate the fire hydrants to meet this**

setback standard. Based on the preliminary plans, the current location of the fire hydrants would end up about 22 ft behind the new curb and gutter.

- **The County has requested review of the claim of liability, utility conflict plan, and preliminary plans and provide verification of the location of PPUD facilities.**
- **Recommended Action: Authorize response to the claim of liability, utility conflict plan, and preliminary plans.**
- District Engineer Maija Madec reported the County is planning on doing sidewalk curb and gutter improvements near Pixley Elementary. They reached out regarding the Fire Hydrants, but it turns out that the Hydrants are not Pixley Utility District Hydrants. They belong to the school. There is nothing needed from the District at this time.

8. Tools & Maintenance

- Operations Supervisor Robert Masters reported Well 4a is about ready to come onto the system. DDW inspected all the Wells everything passed, there were a few items they requested to be fixed and those have since been completed and pictures sent showing the corrections. They put Well 4 in the state of Standby because we will be running 4a instead. The Standby mode means we can run up to 15 days a year without having to notify them. If we need to run it for more than 15 days, we just must let them know and let them know the scenario. It will need to be sampled every 5 years unless we run it for more than 15 days. It would also have to be flushed before we turn it on and into the system. It will just be used in a state of emergency. Because they are so close to one another only one can be operated at a time. Being that 4a is new and 4 has already started having issues 4a will be the main Well at that site. The Sewer Farm is back up to 50% capacity on aeration almost at 75%. The new chain works but is still tight. They have been working on it to loosen it to work smoothly. He has also gotten ahold of the company Walker who makes the clarifier to get the parts needed to get that back up and running. Parts are due to be shipped March 10, 2026.

9. Other Matters

1) Potential Property to begin Abandonment Process

- **Property listed below has gone 3+ months without payment and owner has advised they will pay but never does and does not want to voluntarily abandon the services on the property.**
 - **APN 299-132-023 – 1071 South Elm Street**
- **Recommended Action: Discuss and determine the District's intentions to move forward. Potentially acting on scheduling Abandonment Hearings or next steps to be taken regarding said properties and their water capacity services and sewer services.**
- Office Manager Amanda Rodari reported that an account was opened for this property in November 2025 by the new owner. No payment has been received for the monthly fees since it was opened. The service was locked off for nonpayment in February 2026. The owner advised when he was contacted regarding the past due balance that he would be in to pay and didn't understand why he has to pay when no

one is living on the property. And capacity rights were explained. However he never came in to pay. The current balance due as of March 2, 2026 is \$520.24. The board discussed and directed staff to move forward with noticing the owner of a Abandonment Hearing at the next Board Meeting.

2) Pixley Tipton Youth Baseball

- **Pixley Tipton Youth Baseball is inquiring if Pixley Public Utility District is interested in being a Team, Sign, or Partner Sponsorship for the 2026 Baseball Season.**
- **Recommended Action: Discuss options and potentially approve a sponsorship option.**
- Office Manager Amanda Rodari presented the request from Pixley-Tipton Youth baseball requesting either a Team Sponsorship, Sign Sponsorship, or Partner Sponsorship. On the motion of David Terrel and seconded by Ramon Cisneros and a unanimous vote it was approved to do a Sign Sponsorship like last year at \$250.00. Motion Carried.

3) Monthly Board Meeting Date and Time

- **Potentially change the day of which the monthly board meeting falls on and the time the meetings will be held.**
- **Recommended Action: Discussion, consideration, and potential action on approval of Resolution 2026-01, A Resolution of the Pixley Public Utility District Establishing the Date and Time for Regular Meetings.**
- Office Manager Amanda Rodari presented Resolution 2026-01 changing the Regular Board Meetings to the second Monday of each month at 5:30pm as discussed at the prior Board Meeting to go into effect as of April 1, 2026. On motion of Ramon Cisneros and seconded by David Terral and a unanimous vote, 3 ayes, 0 noes, 2 absent, and 0 abstains, Resolution 2026-01 was approved. Motion Carried.

4) Connecteam – Timecard Application and Policy

- **Enrollment and testing have been completed. Next steps are to implement the software to be utilized.**
- **A Time Tracking Policy for the Connecteam system is being presented for review and input within the PPUD Employee Handbook.**
- **Recommended Action: Discuss and potentially approve the Employee Handbook as presented with the addition of the Connecteam Time Tracking Policy and select an implementation date for the use of Connecteam for PUD Employees.**
- Office Manager Amanda Rodari reported the policy for time tracking was added to the employee handbook on pages 9-11 and was provided in the Board Packet for review. After discussion amongst the board and on motion of David Terrel and seconded by Ramon Cisneros and a unanimous vote, the employee handbook was approved as presented with the time tracking policy added. The handbook is to be distributed to district employees and the implementation of using Connecteam app effective as of March 16, 2026. Motion Carried.

5) AT&T Internet and Phone Lines Contract & Agreement

- **AT&T is decommissioning their copper services. All customers on the copper/U-Verse services need to migrate over AIA Wireless to avoid the possibility of disconnection.**
- **A contract has been provided for review and approval for APBA (AT&T Phone for Business Advanced) phone services along with a sample of the agreement we would sign for internet services.**
- **A quote for the services has also been provided for reference.**
- **Our location is on the decommission list for June – November 2026.**
- **Recommended Action: Discuss and approve to execute the Contract and Agreement to migrate our U-Verse Services with AT&T to AIA Wireless with APBA**
- Office Manager Amanda Rodari reported AT&T is decommissioning their copper service lines and U-Verse and going to AIA Wireless. They need for us to sign a 36-month contract for the APBA phone lines and an agreement for the internet. The pricing quotes for the services were included for review in the Board Packets. Once signed they will send out new Routers and then send out a technician to install the new phone lines. If we take the chance of staying on the services we currently have there is potential for us to lose service or the bills being doubled or tripled. After some discussion amongst the board and staff it was decided to confirm if the new service is voice over internet and what happens to our phone lines if the internet goes down along with our alarm systems that are connected to our phone lines and what are alternative options may be and bring that information back to the next board meeting. And check with our alarm company to see how migrating our systems will affect that system as well and what we need to do to maintain an effective alarm system.

6) Gemini Water Group

- **Company with a CCR Platform that knows the ins and outs of state and federal regulations; every year their team meets with each state and the EPA to ensure all reports are up to date, helping to alleviate any uncertainty and making sure you get a perfectly compliant report.**
- **They offer a 100% ADA compliance guarantee, as well as translations in over 20 languages, ensuring that all your customers have access to this important information.**
- **Example of their CCR Report is attached along with quotes from their website.**
- **Recommended Action: Discuss and determine whether the District Staff should engage and schedule a demo with the Company regarding PPUDs annual CCR.**
- Office Manager Amanda Rodari reported she was contacted by a representative of Gemini Water Group regarding annual CCRP reports that they can complete for the District and wanted to know if it would be something we would be interested in. However, they wanted me to do a demo before they would go over pricing or anything further. Amanda researched and found quotes on their website that range from \$3,000 to \$5,500.00. After some discussion amongst the Board it was decided that they were not interested in moving forward at this time and to continue completing the CCR within house.

10. Board Member Communications

- Board Member David Terrel advised that he and his wife have been in talks with what he believes is a Non-Profit that is looking for potential externship candidates to place with business for experience. They pay them to come and learn jobs. They are interested in sparking their interest in water and sewer certifications and see if they can come and shadow our technicians. He has also spoken with the principal at his school, and they are discussing how they can start a program to get their students interest in these fields and prepare for test since there is a lack of current interest for these job positions. Amanda had previously provided him with the Cal Rural Apprenticeship program and Self-Help Enterprises who also has a program with this basis as well prior to this Board Meeting. District Counsel Chad Lew also provided David with the contact at Self Help Enterprises who is heading the program they have to assist individuals into getting into this field of work.

11. Adjournment

- There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30p.m. on the motion of David Terrel and seconded by Ramon Cisneros and a unanimous vote. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted
Amanda Rodari
Secretary/Clerk

Pixley Public Utility District

BILLS TO BE PAID FEBRUARY 2026

MARCH 2026 Board Meeting

Exhibit A

Vendors	Credits	Paid	Pending	Paid from RESERVE/SAV
ADVANCED FLOW MEASUREMENT	-	-	\$2,385.00	-
AMERICAN CRANE RENTAL	-	-	-	\$6,218.00
AT&T U-VERSE WWTF	-	\$196.64	-	-
AT&T MOBILITY	-	\$488.71	-	-
AT&T U-VERSE – WATER TANK	-	\$112.35	-	-
AT&T U-VERSE - DISTRICT	-	\$209.30	-	-
BSK	-	\$893.12	-	-
CA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	-	-	\$821.00	-
CLINES	-	-	\$30.00	-
ESRI	-	-	\$1,225.00	-
FGL	-	-	\$500.00	-
GANNETT CA LOCALIQ	-	-	\$77.64	-
GARTON TRACTOR	-	\$65.32	-	-
KMS	-	\$1,175.35	-	\$12,893.58
MCCORMICK, KABOT & LEW	-	-	\$2,262.96	-
MORRIS LEVIN & SONS	-	\$20,543.57	\$1,462.32	-
NATIVIDAD QUIROZ	-	\$15.00	-	-
PINE PEDRONCELLI & AGUILAR INC	-	-	\$775.00	-
PIXLEY AUTO PARTS	-	\$1,039.52	-	-
PIXLEY IRRIGATION	-	-	-	\$3,356.00
PROVOST & PRITCHARD	-	-	\$5,583.70	-
RACO	-	\$2,700.00	-	-

RCAC	-	\$1,934.86	-	-
SIERRA DAIRY	-	\$837.55	-	-
SJVAPCD	-	-	\$314.00	-
SO CAL GAS	-	\$173.13	-	-
SOUTHERN CA EDISON - PLANT	-	\$4,191.16	-	-
SOUTHERN CA EDISON	-	\$3,470.85	-	-
SOUTHERN CA EDISON – WELL 3A	-	\$421.00	-	-
SOUTHERN CA EDISON – WELL 6	-	\$5,015.12	-	-
STATE COMPENSATIN INSURANCE	-	-	\$616.33	-
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD	-	\$284.00	-	-
STREAMLINE	-	\$436.10	-	-
TIB – CARD SERVICE CENTER	-	\$4,923.92	-	-
TULE TRASH	-	\$393.79	-	-
US POSTMASTER	-	\$490.31	-	-
VSI	-	-	\$2,301.54	-
-	-	-	-	-
CREDITS:	-	-	-	-
PAID BILLS:	-	\$50,010.67	-	-
TOTAL TO BE PAID	-	-	\$18,354.49	-
TOTAL OF BILLS PAID FROM RESERVE	-	-	-	\$22,467.58
TOTAL OF ALL BILLS PAID	-	-	-	\$90,832.74
TOTAL TO TRANSFER TO SAVINGS FOR FUTURE BUDGETED PAYMENTS	-	-	-	\$33,626.81