

**And recent Minutes of the Special and Regular Meetings of the
Aromas Water District Board of Directors
January 27, 2026**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** The regular meeting of the Aromas Water District Board of Directors was called to order by President Capron on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Attendees were present in the Aromas Water District Board Room and on Zoom.
- II. **ROLL CALL.** President Capron, Directors Norton, Morris and Holman were present in the Aromas Water District Board Room along with General Manager Johnson; Counsel Quinn attended via Zoom. Vice-President Powers was absent.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Director Morris led the pledge of allegiance.
- IV. **ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.** There were no additions or deletions.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT.** There was no public comment.
- VI. **MINUTES.** The minutes of the December 23, 2025, Regular Board Meeting were presented for review and approval. Director Morris moved for approval of the minutes; Director Holman seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved by the Directors present.

VII. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

A. Director's Report. Director Norton and President Capron discussed their attendance at the San Benito Business Council meeting. Both thought the meeting was a worthwhile meeting that provided an excellent networking opportunity. Director Morris brought up concern about the proposed expansion of the Red Barn. Staff was directed to seek more information regarding the Red Barn's water situation.

B. Attorney's Report. Counsel Quinn reported on AB 810 concerns and recent changes about Special Districts having to migrate to the '.gov' domain.

C. Manager's Report:

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Production & Well Levels

Total production in December 2025 was 5,363,310 gallons; roughly 5% higher than November's production, and 9% lower than December average production. The average daily production was 173,010 gallons.

The District has 979 total connected meters.

San Juan well was operated 25 days this month, while Carpentaria well was operated 27 days. Pleasant Acres well was not operated this month. All water testing reports were filed on time.

Operational well levels: Carpentaria well water level increased by one foot, while San Juan well saw an increase of two feet, in comparison to the previous month's reading. **Observational wells:** The Marshall well level showed an increase of three feet from last month, as did the Aimee Meadows well.

INCIDENTS

No incidents to report.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Staff & Board Recognition

GM Johnson reported on the following staff activities: 1) Management Analyst (MA) Girōn, and GM Johnson have reviewed the final DRAFT documents from the Auditors, 2) Chief Operator DeAlba and Operator Smith are working to manage routine duties, along with more San Juan well issues, as well as marking our infrastructure locations in relation to various external projects in the area, and 3) GM Johnson met with representatives of South Valley Internet to discuss usage of District property for their fiber optic cabinets.

Conservation & Rainfall

The beginning of the new rainfall year was on October 1, 2025. Since then, 12.00 inches of precipitation has been recorded by the rain gauge at Chittenden Pass, with 3.28 inches of precipitation falling (to date) this month.

PROJECTS

Training opportunities for the Board members and General Manager

Recent Board training information is being put to use in a couple of Board workshops; a Board Policy Manual workshop (completed January 6, 2026) and a Strategic Planning workshop (to be scheduled).

Status of Marshall Well Replacement Project

An update will be provided at tonight's meeting.

Status of the Operations Shop Construction Project

An update will be provided at tonight's meeting.

Annexation of Driscoll properties into the Aromas Water District boundary

As part of the agreement with Driscoll Berries, the District has agreed to apply to Monterey County LAFCo (MCLAFCo) for an annexation of three small properties into the District boundary. There has been no progress in the last month.

Development of Tabletop Training Exercise (TTX)

As per the General Manager's Performance Evaluation, a tabletop training exercise is to be developed for staff training in October. Additional edits have been performed. Once all the edits have been performed the TTX will be scheduled.

D. Correspondence

GM Johnson went through the monthly correspondence list and provided information on specific items.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Presentation of Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Years Ended 2025 and 2024

Staff introduced Jonathan Abadesco from C. J. Brown & Company CPAs, who presented the annual review (audit) of the District's financials for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025. Over the last few years, they have added information for the previous FY's audit for comparison. A motion was made by Director Norton and seconded by Director Morris, to accept the audit, and that was approved by the Board members present.

B. Receive an updates on the Marshall Well Replacement and Operations Shop Construction Projects, and provide direction to staff

Staff presented updates on the Marshall Well Replacement and Operations Shop Construction Projects. The updates indicated progress that has been made in late December and the month of January. The updates were received by the Board members present.

C. Receive an update on the South Valley Internet Aromas-San Juan Project collaboration with the Aromas Water District, and provide direction to staff

Staff presented an update on the South Valley Internet (SVI) Aromas-San Juan Project, and their requested collaboration with the District. The update presented SVI's requested agreement schedule and the need for deal points to help the project progress. It is expected that this item will be a Closed Session item at the February meeting. The update was received by the Board members present.

D. Consider District involvement with the Aromas Chipper Program, and provide direction to staff

Staff opened the Board discussion of continued involvement with the Aromas Chipper Program, since at one point, a Board member asked about why the District is a part of this effort. A number of concerns and options were discussed about easements, rights-of-way, indemnifications, and insurance. A possible agreement with the Rancho Aromitas Firewise Community was discussed also. It is expected that this item will also be a Closed Session item at the February meeting. Research into the easement for the Fire Department was requested. The item was received by the Board members present.

E. Receive Financial Reports for the Month of December 2025 and Approve Expenditures

Total Assets / Liabilities & Equity are \$16,129,030.50. In the P&L Report, Revenue for December was \$293,529.90. Total Expenditures were \$125,052.33 between December 18, 2025, and January 21, 2026.

Director Holman moved to adopt the Financial Reports which was seconded by Director Norton. The Financial reports were unanimously approved by the Directors present.

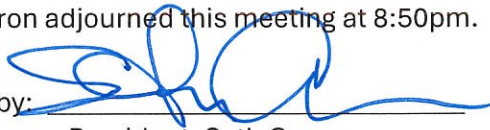
IX. FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS

The next regular Board meeting date will be February 24, 2026, at the Aromas Water District Board Room. For this meeting, a presentation by Luhdorff & Scalmanini about the well project is scheduled, along with a few topics for Closed Session.

X. ADJOURNMENT

President Capron adjourned this meeting at 8:50pm.

Read and approved by:



President, Seth Capron

Date: 2/24/2026

Attest:



Board Secretary, Robert Johnson

Date: 2/24/26