



# SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

## SHANDON-SAN JUAN GSA

### UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES February 4, 2026 Special Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Shandon-San Juan Water District (SSJWD) and Shandon-San Juan Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SSJGSA) held a special meeting on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 9:00am at the Illy Lodge at Illy Sunnyslope Farms located at 3385 Truesdale Rd., Shandon, CA 93461. As a courtesy, virtual options were made available for public participation. The agenda and all supporting documents were posted at <https://www.ssjwd.org/agendas-minutes>.

#### **I. Call to Order**

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Vice President Sinton called the meeting to order at 9:03am on Wednesday, February 4, 2026.

#### **II. Roll Call**

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Directors Present: Marshall Miller (arrived at 9:32am)  
Ray Shady  
Steve Sinton  
Matt Turrentine

Directors Absent: Willy Cunha

#### **III. Public Comment**

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No public comment.

#### **IV. Consent Agenda**

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The following motion was made by Director Turrentine, seconded by Director Shady, and passed 3-0 with a roll call vote. Director Miller arrived late and did not vote on this item.

**MOTION – Approve the minutes from the December 8, 2025 Board meeting and the Secretary/Treasurer’s Report dated January 30, 2026, as presented.**

#### **V. Director’s Reports**

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A. The February 4, 2026 WRAC meeting was postponed.

#### **VI. Paso Robles Area Groundwater Authority (PRAGA) & SGMA Implementation Updates**

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PRAGA will hold Stakeholder Workshops on February 10, 2026 (in-person) and February 11, 2026 (virtual) to solicit feedback on the topics list below. Stakeholder Feedback Forms are due February 13, 2026. The next PRAGA Board Meeting is February 18, 2026. The SSJWD Board discussed the following items.

A. Draft PRAGA Budget for FY 2026-27

- Component #9 – ED & Support Staff: The SSJWD Board expressed concern that the PRAGA Executive Director and Staff line item appears high, particularly given that EPC, Shandon-San Juan, the City of Paso Robles and the County also contribute staff support. Members indicated that the cost seems disproportionate considering those additional contributions. If the PRAGA Board and staff determine that the amount is reasonable, the budget narrative should include a more detailed breakdown of the tasks, responsibilities, and associated costs included within this line item to provide greater transparency and clarity. In addition, PRAGA staff time (component #9) for

increased stakeholder representation (any of the 3 options) and public/outreach (component #19) should be detailed and included.

- Component #10 – Legal Counsel: Does this include time to address selected stakeholder representation option and develop framework/processes?
- Component #19 – Public Education & Outreach Program – The SSJWD Board appreciates the inclusion of this line item in the budget to support targeted outreach efforts. SSJWD encouraged PRAGA to implement public education and outreach activities on a regular basis, in addition to conducting outreach at key decision milestones.

B. PRAGA Funding Mechanism

- Option 1: Prop 26
- Option 2: Prop 218 with threshold

The SSJWD Board discussed the potential use of a Proposition 26 funding mechanism for FY 2026–27 and a Proposition 218 funding mechanism for FY 2027–28; however, no formal recommendation was made to PRAGA.

C. PRAGA Stakeholder Representation

- Option 1a: Formal Advisory Committee (subject to Brown Act)
- Option 1b: Stakeholder Working Group
- Option 2: Increase the Number of PRAGA Board Seats by four (2 per GSA; 8 total)
- Option 3: Increase the Number of PRAGA Board Seats by three to provide representation for specific stakeholder categories (i.e. large/small pumpers, grazers, de minimis users; 7 total)

The SSJWD Board expressed the view that Option 1 would be the most efficient and cost-effective approach while still allowing for diverse perspectives to be heard. Given that PRAGA utilizes a three-minute time limit for public comment, the Board suggested it would be appropriate to allow an Advisory Committee representative additional time at each meeting to present Committee findings and positions.

One Board member preferred Option 1a and another preferred Option 1b; however, both agreed that either option was preferable to the remaining two options.

A motion was made by Director Shady and seconded by Director Miller to recommend Option 1a or 1b to PRAGA. The motion failed due to lack of a majority, with the following vote:

Ayes: Shady, Miller

Noes: None

Abstain: Sinton, Turrentine

## **VII. SSJGSA/EPCGSA Community Outreach**

The Board discussed the potential engagement of Altum Aqua Logic, in partnership with EPCWD, to host a series of workshops aimed at gathering direct feedback from groundwater users. The estimated cost for Altum to participate in a series of small group discussions, to be held over the course of a single day in February 2026, is \$1,500, to be shared between SSJWD and EPCWD. A date has not yet been selected. The SSJWD Board expressed interest in partnering with EPCWD on this effort.

Concurrently, PRAGA is planning two stakeholder workshops in February. The Board discussed the importance of aligning public relations and community outreach efforts with PRAGA and other partner GSAs to ensure consistent messaging, efficient use of resources, and a coordinated regional approach to stakeholder engagement.

**VIII. Next Meeting**

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The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 9am.

**X. Adjourn**

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Vice President Sinton adjourned the meeting at 11:21am.

**Accepted:**

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Stephanie Bertoux, Secretary  
April 22, 2026