



# SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT SHANDON-SAN JUAN GSA

## MEETING AGENDA June 18, 2026

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of Directors of the Shandon-San Juan Water District/Shandon-San Juan Groundwater Sustainability Agency will hold a special meeting at **9:00 A.M.** on **Thursday, June 18, 2026**, at the Illy Lodge at Illy Sunnyslope Farms located at 3385 Truesdale Rd., Shandon, CA 93461. Virtual options are available for public participation.<sup>1</sup>

**Alternate Location:** Director Miller will participate in the meeting via video conference from 132 E. Carrillo Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101.

### Virtual Options for Public Participation:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84610006414?pwd=BhgDCwhHHe6HuK3K2EkRhv2GUWWUyR.1>

**Meeting ID:** 846 1000 6414 **Passcode:** 568090 **Dial:** (669) 900-6833

**To view supporting documents, go to:** <https://www.ssjwd.org/agendas-minutes>

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **Consent Agenda**
  - a. Meeting Minutes
    - i. April 22 2026
    - ii. May 13, 2026
  - b. Secretary/Treasurer's Report – June 15, 2026
5. **Director's Reports**
  - a. WRAC Meeting
6. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Paso Robles Area Groundwater Authority (PRAGA)**
  - a. Update from SSJWD Consultants – Randy Diffenbaugh and Confluence Engineering Solutions
  - b. Key Discussions and Decisions at PRAGA's May 27, 2026 Board Meeting
    - i. FY 2026-2027 Groundwater Sustainability Fee
    - ii. Direction on Gap Funding
    - iii. Update on Fallowed Land Registry
  - c. Review of June 24, 2026 PRAGA Board Meeting Agenda and Direction to SSJGSA Representative, as needed
  - d. Next PRAGA Board Meeting is June 24, 2026 at 4pm
  - e. Consider Appointing Ray Shady as SSJGSA's Alternate Director on the PRAGA Board to replace Marshall Miller

<sup>1</sup> SSJGSA/SSJWD will make reasonable efforts to make the meeting accessible virtually; however, if one of the virtual options are unavailable due to technological issues, you are invited to take advantage of the other options, including in-person attendance.

7. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve a Proposal from Confluence Engineering Solutions to Evaluate Potential Groundwater Level Monitoring Program Cost Reductions and Optimization Measures – Nate Page, Confluence Engineering Solutions**
  - a. Consider the proposal from Confluence Engineering Solutions for an hourly not to exceed amount of \$10,252 to evaluate potential groundwater level monitoring network cost reductions and optimization measures and return to the Board with findings and recommendations. The scope would include:
    - i. Analysis to identify monitoring wells and monitoring periods of greatest value and importance to Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation.
    - ii. Cost-benefit analysis of implementing continuous groundwater level monitoring devices and reducing the frequency of site visits and manual measurements.
    - iii. Development and presentation of monitoring network optimization options for Board consideration.
  
8. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the SSJGSA/SSJWD Priorities and Budget for FY 2026-27**
  - a. Review Proposed FY 2026–27 Priorities Including:
    - i. Investigation of groundwater recharge opportunities.
    - ii. Other projects and priorities identified by the Board.
    - iii. FEMA’s Flood Mitigation Assistance program - \$600 million available – information webinar June 24, 2026 with applications due August 6, 2026.
  - b. Review Proposed FY 2026–27 Budget
  
9. **Discussion and Possible Action Regarding SSJWD Assessments for FY 2026-27**
  - a. Discuss Assessment Levels for Irrigated and Non-Irrigated Acres – Levy in July 2026
    - i. FY 2025-26 Levels: \$35/irrigated acre, \$0.11/non-irrigated acre, \$7.50 per residence
  - b. Discuss Procedures for Updating Acreage Designations Including Fallowed Acreage
    - i. Discuss Application of Existing Irrigated and Non-Irrigated Assessment Classifications to Fallowed Acreage
    - ii. Discuss Schedule and Required Documentation to Support Acreage Designation Changes
    - iii. Consider Development of SSJWD Policy
  
10. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Plan for Services for the Proposed Annexation and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Amendment to Include Kylix Vineyards California LP and Dimello LP within the Shandon-San Juan Water District and Submit as Part of the Application (LAFCO No. 1-R-24) to LAFCO.**

The proposed project is a request by Kylix Vineyards California LP and Dimello LP to amend the Sphere of Influence (SOI) and annex approximately 3,956.63 acres of agricultural land into the Shandon-San Juan Water District (SSJWD).
  
11. **Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting – July 22, 2026 at 9am**
  
12. **Adjourn**

*NOTE: In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), if you need special assistance to access the meeting room or otherwise participate at this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact Bertoux & Co. 930 Nysted Dr. St. A Solvang, CA 93463 805-451-0841 [admin@ssjwd.org](mailto:admin@ssjwd.org). Notification of at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting will help enable reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting. Copies of Meeting Documents can be found on our District Website <https://www.ssjwd.org/> or requested by contacting Bertoux & Co. 930 Nysted Dr. St. A Solvang, CA 93463 805-451-0841 [admin@ssjwd.org](mailto:admin@ssjwd.org).*



# SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

## SHANDON-SAN JUAN GSA

### UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES April 22, 2026 Regular Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Shandon-San Juan Water District (SSJWD) and Shandon-San Juan Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SSJGSA) held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, April 22, 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, April 22, 2026.

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

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Directors Present:                    Marshall Miller (arrived at 9:20am)  
   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 February 4, 2026 Board meeting and the Secretary/Treasurer’s Report dated April 17, 2026, as presented.**

#### **V. Director’s Reports**

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A. No report.

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

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- A. PRAGA held Stakeholder Workshops on March 12, 2026 to provide Basin landowners with the opportunity to get information on the Proposition 26 funding mechanism and provide feedback on fee structure and the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget. Feedback from the workshop was shared at the March 25, 2026 PRAGA Board meeting.
- B. Key Discussions and Decisions at PRAGA’s March 25, 2026 Board meeting.
  - Approval of PRAGA Budget for FY 2026-27
  - Direction to PRAGA Staff on Proposition 26 components and fee collection method
    - PRAGA will post the Draft Rate and Fee Study Report and a parcel-level list of proposed charges on its website on May 7, 2026
    - A Public Hearing is set for May 27, 2026 to consider fee adoption
  - Approval of GSP Annual Report for WY 2025

- C. Discussion of PRAGA Gap Funding: The Board discussed the potential for a six-month revenue gap if PRAGA elects to utilize the County tax roll method to collect fees in response to Proposition 26 requirements. While PRAGA has not made a formal request for additional funding from the GSAs, the Board discussed the potential funding shortfall and expressed a willingness to assist, if needed, to ensure continuity of PRAGA's operations and programs.
- D. Fallowed Land Registry: An update on the Fallowed Land Registry will be presented at the April 22, 2026 PRAGA Board meeting.
- E. The next PRAGA Board meeting is April 22, 2026 at 4pm.

## **VII. Overview of SSJGSA Groundwater Level Monitoring Network**

Nate Page, Confluence Engineering Services, presented an overview of the SSJGSA Groundwater Level Monitoring Network. SSJGSA currently monitors 40 wells on a monthly basis, 14 of which are utilized by PRAGA to fill data gaps related to changes in groundwater in storage and the development of seasonal high and low groundwater contour maps (Spring and Fall).

Monthly groundwater level monitoring represents a significant line item in the SSJGSA budget. Mr. Page noted that wells within the monitoring network are currently measured four times during the month of August. Following discussion, the Board determined that measuring wells once during August is adequate.

The Board also expressed an interest in exploring potential opportunities to reduce groundwater level monitoring costs and optimize the monitoring network while continuing to address critical data gaps identified in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

## **VIII. SSJGSA/SSJWD Priorities and Draft Budget for FY 2026-27**

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed priorities and draft budget for Fiscal Year 2026–27. Total proposed expenditures are \$195,646, including a 10% contingency. During the discussion, the Board expressed an interest in identifying grant opportunities, evaluating additional studies, and exploring potential recharge projects within the SSJGSA boundary. The Board directed staff to continue evaluating these opportunities as part of planning and budget development. The final Fiscal Year 2026–27 budget will be presented for consideration and approval at the June Board meeting.

## **IX. SSJWD Assessments for FY 2026-27**

- A. SSJWD's assessment levels for Fiscal Year 2025–26 are \$35.00 per irrigated acre, \$0.11 per non-irrigated acre, and \$7.50 per residence. Based on the anticipated FY 2026–27 expense budget of approximately \$200,000 and the implementation of PRAGA's Proposition 26 fee, the Board expressed a desire to reduce assessment levels for Fiscal Year 2026–27.

Preliminary estimates indicate that an assessment rate of approximately \$18 to \$20 per irrigated acre could result in a balanced operating budget, with expenses funded entirely by current-year revenues, a modest surplus, and no draw on reserves. However, SSJWD does not currently have a projection of fallowed acreage within the District, which could impact assessment revenues. Agency-level accounts and reporting access to the Fallowed Land Registry are not yet available. The Assessment levels for FY 2026-27 will be discussed at the June Board meeting and levied at the July Board meeting.

- B. The Board discussed the potential procedures and assessment levels for fallowed acreage. While there was interest in establishing a separate assessment level for fallowed acreage, the Board acknowledged that, under SSJWD's existing Proposition 218 assessment structure, fallowed acreage would likely need to be classified as either irrigated or non-irrigated acreage for purposes of the Fiscal Year 2026–27 assessment levy. SSJWD will consult with legal counsel before making a final determination.

The Board also discussed documentation requirements for establishing fallowed status. SSJWD encourages

landowners to record fallowed acreage in the Fallowed Land Registry and would like to utilize the Registry as documentation and evidence of fallowing. If agency-level accounts and reporting access are not available, SSJWD may need to develop an acreage change request form and require supporting documentation to be submitted directly to the District. In that event, the Board discussed the potential need to develop a policy establishing the process, required documentation, and schedule for requesting acreage designation changes.

#### **X. SSJGSA/SSJWD Board Vacancy**

Director Cunha resigned from the SSJWD/SSJGSA Board effective March 25, 2026. The Board discussed the vacancy and expressed its intent to fill the position by appointment at a special meeting on May 13, 2026. Secretary Stephanie Bertoux will notify the County of SLO. A Notice of Vacancy will be posted in three locations throughout the District, on the District's website, and distributed via email to District landowners. District members interested in serving are encouraged to submit their name and resume to the District at [admin@ssjwd.org](mailto:admin@ssjwd.org) no later than May 8, 2026.

#### **XI. Appointment of SSJWD Officers**

The Board discussed the officer positions of President and Vice President. Following the recent resignation of President Willy Cunha, Ray Shady was nominated to serve as President. Steve Sinton will continue to serve as Vice President. The following motion was made by Matt Turrentine, seconded by Steve Sinton, and passed 4-0 with a roll call vote.

**MOTION – Appoint Ray Shady as President and Steve Sinton as Vice President.**

#### **XII. Community Outreach**

The Board discussed the importance of increasing SSJGSA's public outreach efforts and coordinating public relations and community engagement initiatives with PRAGA and other partner GSAs. Board members emphasized the value of consistent messaging, efficient use of resources, and a coordinated regional approach to stakeholder outreach and engagement.

No action was taken on this item.

#### **XII. LAFCO Run Off Election**

Two candidates are vying for the LAFCO Special District Alternate Seat – Owen Davis and John Joyce. Ballots are due May 29, 2026. No action was taken on this item.

#### **XIV. Next Meeting**

A special meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 9am.

#### **XV. Adjourn**

Vice President Sinton adjourned the meeting at 11:30am.

**Accepted:**

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Stephanie Bertoux, Secretary  
June 18, 2026



# SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT SHANDON-SAN JUAN GSA

## UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES May 13, 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, May 13, 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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President Shady called the meeting to order at 9:01am on Wednesday, May 13, 2026.

### **II. Roll Call**

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Directors Present:                    Marshall Miller  
   Ray Shady  
   Matt Turrentine

Directors Absent:                    Steve Sinton

### **III. Public Comment**

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No public comment.

### **IV. Resolution 26-001 Appointing a New Director to fill a Board Vacancy**

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Director Cunha resigned from the SSJWD Board effective March 25, 2026. At its April 22, 2026 meeting, the Board discussed the vacancy and expressed its intent to fill the position by appointment. A Notice of Vacancy was posted in three locations throughout the District, on the District's website, and distributed via email to District landowners.

Director Shady presented Resolution 26-001 appointing a director to fill the vacant position.

The following motion was made by Director Turrentine, seconded by Director Miller, and passed 3-0 with a roll call vote.

**MOTION – Appoint Samuel Kingston to the SSJWD/SSJGSA Board of Directors to replace Willy Cunha and approve Resolution 26-001, as presented.**

The Board directed Secretary Stephanie Bertoux to notify the County of Mr. Kingston’s appointment to the Board.

### **VIII. Next Meeting**

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The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2026 at 9am.

### **X. Adjourn**

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President Shady adjourned the meeting at 9:26am.

**Accepted:**

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Stephanie Bertoux, Secretary  
June 18, 2026



# SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

## SHANDON-SAN JUAN GSA

### Secretary/Treasurer's Report: April 16, 2026 – June 15, 2026

Date: June 15, 2026

To: Shandon-San Juan Water District Board of Directors

From: Stephanie Bertoux, District Secretary/Treasurer/Assessor

#### Assessment Income

Assessments levied for FY 2025-26 totaling \$401,140.26 were due February 13, 2026.

- \$296,259.41 (72%) has been collected to date with \$177,673.36 collected this period.
- \$104,880.85 (26%) is outstanding

#### Expenses

Expenses for the period totaled \$16,970.22

#### FY 2025-26 Budget v. Actual Summary

See attached YTD budget summary.

#### District Assets as of June 15, 2026

Total Cash Position: \$801,855.75

- Bank Balance: After paying expenses noted above (\$16,790.22), the District has a cash position of \$241,661.58.
- Investment Account Balance: \$560,194.17
  - \$400,000 – initial investment authorized by SSJWD Board on July 1, 2024.
  - \$120,000 – investment authorized by SSJWD Board on January 22, 2025.
  - \$40,194.17 – earned July 1, 2024 – May 31, 2026 (reinvested)

#### Audit for FY 2024-25

The audit is currently underway by Moss Levy Hartzheim and is due June 30, 2026.

#### Board Training & Certifications

- Form 700s (Conflict of Interest Statements) are due April 1 of each year. Directors must file with the County of SLO and the FPPC.
  - County of SLO – file electronically with Netfile. Each Director should have received an email from the County. <https://www.netfile.com/filer> Select Local Filer Log In from the white, pull down Log-In Button in top right corner.
  - With SB1156 now in effect (as of January 1, 2025), Board members are required to file Form 700s with the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) in addition to the County of SLO. The SSJWD account is set up. Each Director should have received an email from FPPC with log-in information. <https://form700.fppc.ca.gov/>
- Ethics Training is required every two years. <https://localethics.fppc.ca.gov/login.aspx>.
- Anti-Sexual Harassment Training is required every two years. <https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/shpt/>

<b>Director</b>	<b>Form 700 – FPPC (Annually by April 1)</b>	<b>Form 700 – County of SLO (Annually by April 1)</b>	<b>Ethics Training (Every 2 Years)</b>	<b>Anti-Sexual Harassment Training (Every 2 Years)</b>
Sam Kingston	DONE	DONE	<b>NEED TO COMPLETE</b>	<b>NEED TO COMPLETE</b>
Marshall Miller	DONE	DONE	<b>NEED TO COMPLETE</b>	<b>NEED TO COMPLETE</b>
Ray Shady	DONE	DONE	<b>NEED TO COMPLETE</b>	Next Due Date 09/23/26
Steve Sinton	DONE	DONE	Next Due Date 06/24/27	Next Due Date 12/12/27
Matt Turrentine	DONE	DONE	Next Due Date 05/07/27	Next Due Date 05/07/27

# BUDGET V. ACTUAL YTD

June 15, 2026

**95% of the year has elapsed. Current Period is April 16, 2026 - June 15, 2026.**

INCOME	CURRENT PERIOD	2025-26 YTD ACTUAL	2025-26 BUDGET	% COLLECTED	BUDGET REMAINING
Assessments (Collected)	\$177,673.36	\$296,259.41	\$401,140.26	72%	\$104,880.85
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$117,673.36</b>	<b>\$296,259.41</b>	<b>\$401,140.26</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>\$104,880.85</b>

ANNUAL EXPENSES	CURRENT PERIOD	2025-26 YTD ACTUALS	2025-26 BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT	BUDGET REMAINING
Accounting / Annual Audit	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$6,200.00	16%	\$5,200.00
Administration / Contract Labor					
Stephanie Bertoux, SSJWD Staff	\$2,625.00	\$10,781.25	\$17,500.00	62%	\$6,718.75
Randy Diffenbaugh, PRAGA Staff	\$0.00	\$9,525.00	\$25,000.00	38%	\$15,475.00
Bank Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	0%	\$30.00
Board Training	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	\$0.00
Checks/Stamps/QBO	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$105.00	0%	\$105.00
District General Election	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	\$0.00
Insurance	\$0.00	\$2,478.84	\$2,600.00	95%	\$121.16
LAFCO Fees for Special Districts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$910.00	0%	\$910.00
Legal Fees	\$3,700.22	\$22,604.29	\$25,000.00	90%	\$2,395.71
P.O. Box Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	\$0.00
Public Notices	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$108.00	111%	(\$12.00)
Taxes Withheld (Bank Account)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10.00	0%	\$10.00
Website Fees/Email Accounts/Domain	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,067.70	0%	\$1,067.70
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>\$6,325.22</b>	<b>\$46,509.38</b>	<b>\$78,530.70</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>\$32,021.32</b>

GSP IMPLEMENTATION, STUDIES, AND PROJECTS	CURRENT PERIOD	2025-26 YTD ACTUALS	2025-26 BUDGET	% OF BUDGET SPENT	BUDGET REMAINING
Applications to SWRCB	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	\$0.00
Project Consulting	\$0.00	\$963.75	\$50,000.00	2%	\$49,036.25
Flood Water Capture/Recharge	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	\$0.00
GSP Economic Impact Study	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	\$0.00
Monitoring Network	\$7,527.50	\$63,947.50	\$55,000.00	116%	(\$8,947.50)
On-Call Hydrogeologic Services	\$3,117.50	\$15,487.50	\$30,000.00	52%	\$14,512.50
PRAGA Budget - SSJGSA Share	\$0.00	\$126,000.00	\$0.00		(\$126,000.00)
PRAGA - Rural Domestic/De Minimis L	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	0%	\$2,500.00
Public Outreach	\$0.00	\$2,682.50	\$12,882.50	21%	\$10,200.00
Public Funding Consultant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL PMAs AND STUDIES</b>	<b>\$10,645.00</b>	<b>\$209,081.25</b>	<b>\$150,382.50</b>	<b>139%</b>	<b>(\$58,698.75)</b>

TOTAL	CURRENT PERIOD	2025-26 YTD ACTUALS	2025-26 BUDGET	% OF BUDGET	BUDGET REMAINING
Expenses	\$16,970.22	\$255,590.63	\$228,913.20	112%	(\$26,677.43)
Contingency (10% of Expenses)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,891.32	0%	\$22,891.32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,970.22</b>	<b>\$255,590.63</b>	<b>\$251,804.52</b>	<b>102%</b>	<b>(\$3,786.11)</b>



June 15, 2026

To: Shandon San Juan Water District Board of Directors

**Subject: Proposal to Evaluate Potential Groundwater Level Monitoring Program Cost Reductions and Optimization Measures**

Confluence Engineering Solutions, Inc. (ConfluenceES) is pleased to provide the following proposal to evaluate potential groundwater level monitoring program cost reductions and optimization measures for the Shandon San Juan Water District (District). This proposed scope includes an evaluation of potential reductions in level of effort based on 1) an analysis to determine wells and monitoring periods of greatest value and importance to Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation and 2) a cost-benefit analysis for using continuous monitoring devices and less frequent site visits. Results from the evaluation will be synthesized into a presentation of monitoring network optimization options for Board consideration. The presentation to the Board will include an assessment of the pros and cons for each evaluated option and a recommendation for next steps.

## Scope of Work

The following scope of work outlines the tasks ConfluenceES proposes to provide the District.

### Task 0 Project Management

#### 0.1 Invoice and Progress Reports

- Prepare and provide monthly invoices and progress reports describing activities performed and professional services provided.

### Task 1 Identification of Key Wells and Critical Data Collection Periods in the Existing Groundwater Level Monitoring Program

- Perform analysis to identify monitoring wells and monitoring periods of greatest value and importance to GSP implementation.
  - *The assessment will be largely based on filling data gap areas identified in the GSP and consideration of the datasets critical to annual reporting.*

### Task 2 Cost-Benefit Analysis for Using Continuous Monitoring Devices

- Perform analysis to compare costs for continuous monitoring device implementation options with the currently implemented manual water level measurement program.

- *The analysis will include evaluation of continuous monitoring equipment costs and optional telemetry equipment and associated subscription costs from up to 3 industry-leading vendors.*
- *Equipment installation costs and ongoing operations & maintenance costs will be included in the analysis.*
- *The analysis will include determination of payback period and return on investment for each continuous monitoring device configuration compared to the currently implemented manual water level measurement program.*

### Task 3 Evaluation Results Summary and Recommendation for Next Steps

- Results from the evaluation will be synthesized into a presentation of monitoring network optimization options for Board consideration.
- The presentation to the Board will include an assessment of the pros and cons for each evaluated option and a recommendation for next steps.

## Fee Estimate

ConfluenceES proposes to provide the task services described above on a time and materials basis with a not-to-exceed fee of \$10,252 at the following rates.

Classification	Billing Rate (\$/hour)
Principal Engineer	\$265
Senior Engineer/Hydrogeologist	\$245
Project Engineer/Hydrogeologist	\$190
Associate Engineer	\$165
Bookkeeper	\$155
Assistant Engineer	\$155
Engineering Assistant	\$135

Direct expenses (e.g. travel, mileage (per IRS Rates), delivery/copy services, subconsultant services) will be invoiced with a 10% processing fee. Confluence Engineering Solutions, Inc. reserves the right to revise our standard billing rates on an annual basis and personnel classifications may be added or modified as necessary.

Sincerely,



Daniel Heimel, PE, MS

President/Principal Engineer

Confluence Engineering Solutions, Inc.

PO Box 7098

Los Osos, CA 93412



# SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

## SHANDON-SAN JUAN GSA

### FY 26-27 Budget Narrative

DRAFT June 10, 2026

#### Operating Expenses by Category

##### **01 – Accounting**

Preparation and submittal of required annual financial reporting.

- A. Annual Audit
- B. State Controller’s Special District Financial Transaction Report

##### **02 – Administrative Expense**

- A. SSJWD Secretary/Treasurer/Assessor – Stephanie Bertoux. Hourly contract.
- B. SSJGSA Rep. for PRAGA Staff Meetings – Randy Diffenbaugh. Hourly contract.
- C. PO Box
- D. Office Supplies – Postage, checks, envelopes, etc.
- E. Website/Email – Webhosting, domain name, email accounts, subscription
- F. Quickbooks Online – Monthly subscription

##### **03 – District General Election**

Board terms are staggered, with elections held every two years. If a candidate runs unopposed, the County Board of Supervisors appoints the candidate to the District’s Board in lieu of holding an election. If multiple candidates file for a single Board position, the County of San Luis Obispo would administer the election. No election is anticipated this year.

##### **04 – Insurance**

Public Officials Liability & Employment Practices Liability Insurance Policy – renewed annually.

##### **05 – LAFCO Fees**

LAFCO’s annual budget is funded through contributions from Special Districts, Cities, and the County. SSJWD’s share of the Special District allocation is calculated based on the revenues reported in the Annual Reports published by the State Controller’s Office.

##### **06 – Legal Counsel**

General, as needed.

##### **07 – Public Notices**

Publish public notices in local publications, as needed (e.g. assessments, elections, etc.)

## SGMA + GSP Implementation Expenses by Category

### **08 – GSP Projects + Management Actions**

- A. Applications to the SWRCB. The SSJWD submitted two water right Applications to the SWRCB for the purpose of capturing stormwater for groundwater recharge. The SSJWD has engaged a Project Consultant to assist with ongoing coordination with the SWRCB. The concepts that formed the basis for the proposed Project are listed in the GSP as one of the basin wide management actions (Section 9.3) and also as a project (Section 9.5).
- B. MILR Program Implementation – Fallowed Land Registry is now open. Agency-level accounts and reporting access is not yet available. Anticipate some staff time, but no hard costs associated with this line item.
- C. SSJWD Project Priorities – for Board discussion on June 16, 2026. Allocate funds for project exploration.

### **09 – Groundwater Level Monitoring Network**

- A. Monthly Monitoring: SSJWD conducts monthly groundwater level measurements in roughly 42 wells at no cost to participating landowners. The data collected is shared with PRAGA and incorporated into the Data Management System, GSP Annual Report, and various Basin modeling tools. This effort has helped fill critical data gaps and significantly reduce uncertainty in analyses of groundwater elevations and changes in groundwater storage. The cost to SSJWD is roughly \$4,000 per month.
- B. Proposal from Confluence Engineering Solutions for an hourly not to exceed amount of \$10,252 to evaluate potential groundwater level monitoring program cost reductions and optimization measures. The proposal is on the June 16, 2026 agenda for Board discussion.

### **10 – On-Call Hydrogeological Consulting**

SSJWD has an on-call hydrogeological consulting contract with Confluence Engineering Solutions. Tasks could include, but are not limited to:

- Ongoing coordination/consultation with PRAGA and SSJWD Staff
- Board meeting attendance, as needed, at the request of SSJWD
- Feasibility studies, projects and management actions related to GSP implementation
- Evaluate potential groundwater level monitoring network cost reductions and optimization measures
- Assistance with SSJWD budgeting and project planning
- MILR Program – assist SSJWD with reviewing fallowed acreage
- Grant writing assistance

### **11 – Public Outreach**

SSJWD would like to engage a public relations firm to assist with communications and community engagement efforts. In the past, this work has been conducted in partnership with EPCWD; SSJWD will coordinate with EPCWD to evaluate potential collaboration.

### **PRAGA Funding**

The SSJGSA does not anticipate any contributions to PRAGA in FY 2026-27 and is therefore not included in the draft budget.

SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

**DRAFT BUDGET FOR FY 2026-27**

June 10, 2026

**NOTE: The Assessment Levels shown for FY 2026-27 are the same as FY 2025-26 and will be discussed at the June 16, 2026 Board meeting.**

INCOME	2025-26 BUDGET \$35/Irr. Acre	2025-26 YTD	2026-27 BUDGET \$35/Irr. Acre
Assessments (Collected)	\$401,140.26	\$296,259.41	\$401,140.26
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$401,140.26</b>	<b>\$296,259.41</b>	<b>\$401,140.26</b>
OPERATING EXPENSES	2025-26 BUDGET	2025-26 YTD	2026-27 BUDGET
01 - Accounting / Annual Audit	\$6,200.00	\$1,000.00	\$6,500.00
02 - Administrative			
A. SSJWD Admin	\$17,500.00	\$10,781.25	\$17,500.00
B. SSJWD Rep for PRAGA Staff	\$25,000.00	\$9,525.00	\$20,000.00
C. PO Box	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
D. Office Supplies/Postage	\$105.00	\$0.00	\$105.00
E. Website/Email	\$1,067.70	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
F. Quickbooks	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$900.00
03 - District General Election	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
04 - Insurance	\$2,600.00	\$2,478.84	\$2,600.00
05 - LAFCO Fees for Special Districts	\$910.00	\$0.00	\$910.00
06 - Legal Counsel	\$25,000.00	\$22,604.29	\$25,000.00
07 - Public Notices	\$108.00	\$120.00	\$125.00
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>\$78,490.70</b>	<b>\$46,509.38</b>	<b>\$74,860.00</b>
<b>Percentage of Expenses</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>38%</b>
GSP IMP., STUDIES, AND PROJECTS	2025-26 BUDGET	2025-26 YTD	2026-27 BUDGET
08 - GSP Projects + Mgmt Actions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
A. SWRCB Apps	\$50,000.00	\$963.75	\$10,000.00
B. MILR Program	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
C. SSJWD Priorities/PMA's	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00
09 - Monitoring Network			
A. Monthly Monitoring (40 wells)	\$55,000.00	\$63,947.50	\$48,000.00
B. Cost Reduction Analysis	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,252.00
10 - On-Call Hydrogeologic Services	\$30,000.00	\$15,487.50	\$20,000.00
11 - Public Outreach	\$12,882.50	\$2,682.50	\$13,000.00
PRAGA - SSJGSA Contribution	\$0.00	\$126,000.00	\$0.00
PRAGA - Rural Domestic/De Minimis Users	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL PMA's AND STUDIES</b>	<b>\$150,382.50</b>	<b>\$209,081.25</b>	<b>\$121,252.00</b>
<b>Percentage of Expenses</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>62%</b>
TOTAL	2025-26 BUDGET	2025-26 YTD	2026-27 BUDGET
Total Income	\$401,140.26	\$296,259.41	\$401,140.26
Expenses	\$228,873.20	\$255,590.63	\$196,112.00
Contingency (10% of Expenses)	\$22,887.32	\$0.00	\$19,611.20
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$251,760.52</b>	<b>\$255,590.63</b>	<b>\$215,723.20</b>
YE Balance	\$149,379.74	\$40,668.78	\$185,417.06

# SSJWD Assessment Calculator - Scenario #1

## Scenario #1: Assumes fallowed acreage is designated as irrigated

11,163.45 irrigated acres

90,086.49 non-irrigated acres

68 residences

### \$30/Irrigated Acre

Irrigated Ag Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
11,163	\$30.00	\$ 334,904	97%
Non-irrigated Land Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
90,086	\$0.11	\$ 9,910	3%
Residences			
Res	Fees	Revenue	% of total
68	\$7.50	\$ 510	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 345,323</b>	

### \$25/Irrigated Acre

Irrigated Ag Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
11,163	\$25.00	\$ 279,086	96%
Non-irrigated Land Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
90,086	\$0.11	\$ 9,910	3%
Residences			
Res	Fees	Revenue	% of total
68	\$7.50	\$ 510	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 289,506</b>	

### \$20/Irrigated Acre

Irrigated Ag Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
11,163	\$20.00	\$ 223,269	96%
Non-irrigated Land Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
90,086	\$0.11	\$ 9,910	4%
Residences			
Res	Fees	Revenue	% of total
68	\$7.50	\$ 510	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 233,689</b>	

### \$18/Irrigated Acre

Irrigated Ag Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
11,163	\$18.00	\$ 200,942	95%
Non-irrigated Land Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
90,086	\$0.11	\$ 9,910	5%
Residences			
Res	Fees	Revenue	% of total
68	\$7.50	\$ 510	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 211,362</b>	

# SSJVD Assessment Calculator - Scenario #2

Scenario #2 - Assumes fallowed acreage is designated as non-irrigated. Estimate 1,000 acres.

11,163.45 irrigated acres - 1,000 fallowed acres = 10,163.45

90,086.49 non-irrigated acres + 1,000 fallowed acres = 91,086.49

68 residences - current rate \$7.50

## \$30/Irrigated Acre

Irrigated Ag Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
10,163	\$30.00	\$ 304,890	97%
Non-irrigated Land Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
91,086	\$0.11	\$ 10,019	3%
Residences			
Res	Fees	Revenue	% of total
68	\$7.50	\$ 510	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 315,419</b>	

## \$25/Irrigated Acre

Irrigated Ag Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
10,163	\$25.00	\$ 254,075	96%
Non-irrigated Land Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
91,086	\$0.11	\$ 10,019	4%
Residences			
Res	Fees	Revenue	% of total
68	\$7.50	\$ 510	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 264,604</b>	

## \$20/Irrigated Acre

Irrigated Ag Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
10,163	\$20.00	\$ 203,260	95%
Non-irrigated Land Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
91,086	\$0.11	\$ 10,019	5%
Residences			
Res	Fees	Revenue	% of total
68	\$7.50	\$ 510	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 213,789</b>	

## \$18/Irrigated Acre

Irrigated Ag Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
10,163	\$18.00	\$ 182,934	95%
Non-irrigated Land Fees			
Acres	Fees	Revenue	% of total
91,086	\$0.11	\$ 10,019	5%
Residences			
Res	Fees	Revenue	% of total
68	\$7.50	\$ 510	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 193,463</b>	

# PLAN FOR SERVICES

For the Proposed Annexation and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Amendment

Kylix Vineyards California LP & Dimello LP

Shandon-San Juan Water District (SSJWD)

3425 Truesdale Road, Shandon, CA 93406

APNs 037-301-020, 037-301-025, 037-301-026, 037-301-007, 037-321-001, 037-321-016, & 037-331-014

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## Table of Contents:

1. Background
2. Description of Services
  - Description of Services to Be Provided by the District
  - Boundary of the Proposed Annexation Area
  - Level and Range of Services to Be Provided
  - Indication of When Services Can Be Extended to the Affected Area(s)
  - Indication of Any Improvements or Conditions Required within the Affected Territory
3. Identification of Existing Service Providers and Potential Fiscal Impact
4. Plan for Financing the Provision of Services
  - Total Estimated Cost to Provide Services
  - Estimated Cost of Services to Customers
  - Identification and Stability of Revenue Sources
  - Initial Budget Summary
5. Conclusion

## 1.0 Background

The proposed project is a request by Kylix Vineyards California LP and Dimello LP to amend the Sphere of Influence (SOI) and annex approximately 3,956.63 acres of agricultural land into the Shandon-San Juan Water District (SSJWD). The subject properties are located at 3425 Truesdale Road in rural Shandon, California, within the North County Planning Area, Shandon-Carrizo Sub Area North.

The SSJWD was established in 2016–2017 pursuant to LAFCO Resolution No. 2016-08 as a California Water District authorized to exercise powers under California Water District Law (Water Code § 34000 *et seq.*). The District was created primarily to function as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Water Code §10270 *et seq.*) (SGMA) and was formally recognized as a GSA by the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in 2017. SSJWD currently provides groundwater management, monitoring, and reporting services and does not provide sewer, municipal, or industrial water service.

The District manages groundwater sustainability activities within its jurisdiction as part of the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin and participates in the implementation of the adopted

Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). Through its administrative, financial, and technical resources, the SSJWD has the capacity to extend these services to additional properties within its jurisdictional boundaries.

The proposed annexation and SOI amendment will allow the applicant's properties to participate in the District's groundwater sustainability planning and management activities under SGMA, including access to technical and administrative resources and participation in the implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin.

## **2.0 Description of Services**

### **Description of Services to Be Provided by the District**

The services to be provided by the SSJWD upon annexation will be consistent with the District's established authority and powers under the California Water District Law and SGMA. These include:

- **Groundwater Management and Compliance with SGMA:**  
Participation in basin-wide groundwater monitoring, management, enforcement, and reporting pursuant to SGMA and the adopted GSP.
- **Data Collection and Reporting:**  
Regular collection and reporting of groundwater pumping, elevation, and quality data to the SSJWD Board of Directors and the DWR.
- **Sustainability Planning:**  
Contribution to the development and implementation of the Paso Basin GSP, including monitoring, best management practices (BMPs), and groundwater recharge initiatives.
- **Regulatory Coordination:**  
Collaboration with neighboring GSAs, including the County of San Luis Obispo, and state agencies to ensure basin-wide sustainable management.
- **Water Resource Stewardship:**  
Promotion of water conservation and recharge projects, as well as exploration of feasible supplemental water sources to support agricultural operations, groundwater augmentation, and sustainable groundwater management.

No municipal water supply, sewer, or fire protection services will be provided. The SSJWD's focus remains exclusively on groundwater management and sustainability consistent with its enabling legislation and SGMA authority.

### **Boundary of the Proposed Annexation Area**

The proposed annexation area consists of approximately 3,956.63 acres encompassing seven (7) legal parcels identified as APNs 037-301-020, 037-301-025, 037-301-026, 037-301-007, 037-321-001, 037-321-016, and 037-331-014. The parcels are contiguous to the existing SSJWD boundary and are located along Truesdale Road and Shell Creek Road, approximately four miles south of

Highway 46 and two miles east of Highway 41. The properties are zoned Agriculture (AG) and are subject to Williamson Act Contracts (Resolution Nos. 76-93 and 76-622). Existing land uses include approximately 742.9 acres of irrigated vineyard, as well as pastureland and cattle grazing areas, with several agricultural structures and one residence on site.

#### **Level and Range of Services to Be Provided**

Following annexation, the SSJWD will extend its services, including groundwater management and monitoring services, to the subject territory. These services will be provided at the same level and range currently implemented within the District, including:

- Groundwater monitoring and reporting;
- Participation in regional GSP implementation activities;
- Assessment and evaluation of sustainable groundwater yields; and
- Enforcement of the GSP and District rules and regulations.

No new or additional infrastructure will be constructed as part of this annexation. The District's powers related to water export or sewer service remain inactive.

#### **Indication of Any Improvements or Conditions Required**

The annexation will not require physical improvements such as roads, sewer, or new water facilities. The SSJWD may, at its discretion, require groundwater monitoring equipment (such as flow meters or telemetry) to ensure compliance with the GSP. Any future improvement projects identified through the GSP (e.g., recharge basins or monitoring wells) would be subject to further evaluation, funding availability, and environmental review.

### **3.0 Identification of Existing Service Providers and Potential Fiscal Impact**

There are no existing agencies providing the services or a California Water District or groundwater sustainability management services to the subject parcels.

The proposed annexation will not adversely affect other service providers, as there are no overlapping California Water Districts or GSAs providing services within the area. The fiscal impact on landowners will consist solely of the standard District assessment used to fund groundwater monitoring, administration, SGMA compliance, and other activities. The annexation will generate additional assessment revenue for the SSJWD, strengthening the District's financial stability and operational capacity.

### **4.0 Plan for Financing the Provision of Services**

#### **Total Estimated Cost to Provide Services**

The SSJWD operates under an annual budget supported by assessments on irrigated, non-irrigated, and residential acreage. The annexation area's participation will contribute proportionately to District operating revenues and will not increase costs for existing members.

Based on the District's current assessment rates of \$35.00 per acre for irrigated land and \$0.11 per acre for non-irrigated land, the total annual assessment revenue generated by the annexation will be approximately \$26,436.73, as summarized below:

- Irrigated Vineyard (742.9 acres x \$35.00) = \$26,001.50
- Non-Irrigated Land (3,213.73 acres x \$.011) = \$353.51
- Total Annual Assessment: \$26,355.01

Additionally, each parcel eligible for residential development may be assessed at \$7.50 per single-family residence, resulting in a potential additional \$52.50 per year if all seven parcels are developed.

### **Estimated Cost of Services to Customers**

The assessments outlined above represent the sole cost of SSJWD membership and participation in the GSA. These funds support basin monitoring, reporting, administration, compliance with SGMA, and other activities SSJWD undertakes from time to time as a California Water District. No additional service charges or connection fees are anticipated.

### **Identification and Stability of Revenue Sources**

The SSJWD's principal revenue source is its annual per-acre benefit assessment approved through Proposition 218 procedures. This funding source has proven stable and predictable since the District's formation.

Additional potential revenue sources include:

- State and federal grants for groundwater monitoring and sustainability projects;
- Collaborative cost-sharing agreements with other GSAs or public agencies; and
- Interest income and permit fees for future projects, if applicable.

Together, these sources provide a reliable and diversified fiscal foundation for the District's continued operations and compliance with SGMA.

### **Initial Budget Summary**

The District's operational budget includes expenditures for administration, groundwater monitoring, legal and consulting services, and SGMA compliance activities. The additional annual assessments generated by the annexation area will contribute to the overall SSJWD budget and provide proportional benefits to member properties through enhanced data collection, representation, and sustainable groundwater management. No new or extraordinary costs are anticipated as a result of the annexation.

## **5.0 Conclusion**

The proposed annexation and Sphere of Influence amendment of 3,956.63 acres into the Shandon-San Juan Water District will allow the applicant to participate in groundwater

sustainability planning and management consistent with SGMA. The District is capable of providing the necessary SGMA and other services without adversely affecting existing members or requiring new infrastructure.

This Plan for Services demonstrates that the SSJWD has the financial, administrative, and technical capacity to extend its established groundwater management functions to the annexation area in a fair, efficient, and sustainable manner.