

**Lost Hills Utility District**  
Minutes  
March 5, 2026

- I. The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President Rosario Velazquez. Board Directors in attendance, Ana Martinez, Rigoberto Salto, and Pioquinto Garza. Also in attendance were Thomas Schroeter, Amando Garza, Alejandro Ruiz, Yuliana Velazquez, and Ana Chavez.
- II. Approval of Minutes **February 5, 2026**  
Motion: Ana Martinez made a Motion to Approve Minutes as Submitted. Rigoberto Salto seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, Motion carried.
- III. District's Financial Report- **January 2026**  
Sewer Month Profit: \$9,840.32      Year Profit: \$15,690.17  
Water Month Profit: \$46,433.57      Year Profit: \$175,876.52
- IV. Public Time for Non-Agenda Items  
None
- V. New Business
1. Reports from Cannon Engineers
- (a) Proposed Fee structure for water and sewer connections for ADU within the LHUD sewer service areas  
No action was taken, the Board appointed a committee to do further discussion of this matter. Committee Appointed: Rigoberto Salto and Daisy Garcia, alternative Rosario Velazquez.
- (b) Pay Request No. 3 for WTP Booster pump project by WM Lyles.  
Motion: Ana Martinez made a motion to Approve Pay Request No.3 for \$189,735.27. Rigoberto Salto seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor. Motion carried.  
Amando Garza- construction has been completed, the last payment pending is the retention for about \$27,442.00. We are now ready to file notice of completion for this project.  
Motion: Ana Martinez made a motion to Approve Filing of Notice of Completion. Rigoberto Salto seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, Motion carried.
- (c) Amendment request for Cannon Engineering/construction efforts on the WTP Pump project  
Motion: Rigoberto Salto made a motion to Approve Amendment to Agreement in the amount of \$17,800.00. Ana Martinez seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor. Motion carried.
2. Consideration of Purchasing Article 21 Water (Surplus SWP Water)  
Motion: Rigoberto Salto made a Motion to Approve the Purchase of 500 Acre Feet. Pioquinto Garza seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, Motion carried.
3. Update on Approval of Agreement with Westside Ag for Purchase of SWP Water  
Motion: Rosario Velazquez made a motion to Authorize President to sign Agreement. Ana Martinez seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor.
4. Consideration of study to determine need and amount of sewer rate increase  
No action taken.
5. Report on Transfer of Ownership of District Office Trailers  
Tom Schroeter – Wonderful has paid the bond amounts for both trailers for a total of \$28,187.00. The transfer of the titles should take about 6 weeks and once that's finalized the office titles will be under the District's name.
6. District Manager Agenda
- (a) Report on the District's Financial Audit 2024-2025 by Mark Albert & Associates  
Financial Report was presented by Ana Chavez.
- (b) Consideration to Vote for Kern County LafCo Commission Candidates  
Motion: Rosario Velazquez made a motion to Vote for Rigoberto Salto. Ana Martinez seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, motion carried.

(c) Consideration to Apply for Grant with the Water Research Foundation's Unsolicited Research Program

Motion: Rigoberto Salto made a motion to Authorize Staff to submit grant application for a water quality study if it's at no cost to the District. Pioquinto Garza seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, motion carried.

(d) Consideration to Waive \$15.00 to Account No.1225 for Recovery Cost of Money Order

Motion: Rosario Velazquez made a motion to Approve \$15.00 waiver. Rigoberto Salto seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, motion carried.

(e) Report on Budget Review July-December 2025

The committee will meet sometime this month and will report at the next meeting.

(f) Report on 2025 Berrenda Mesa Recovery Billing

Total recovery cost of \$62,259.66 for 2025, which means each meter will be billed for \$5,108.48. The only residential account will be allowed to pay in a 12 month installment period with no interest. Recovery charges have been added to the most recent billing of March 1<sup>st</sup>.

(g) Report on Upcoming Insurance Renewal Cost

Ana – I already contacted our insurance agent to request the renewal package, and I also contacted SDRMA to request a quote. Motion: Ana Martinez made a Motion to Approve Insurance Policy with the best price and coverage for the District. Rigoberto Salto seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, motion carried.

(h) Report on Water Mains Grant Reimbursements

Final pay reimbursement request for \$150,829.05 has been submitted the County

(i) Consideration to stop second trailer penalty charges to accounts number 1383 & 1233

Motion: Rosario Velazquez made a motion to Authorize staff to stop charges on both accounts and waive current fees subject to staff confirming both trailer are disconnected. Ana Martinez seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, motion carried.

7. Facilities Manager Agenda

(a) Consideration of the budget for constructing a shade structure at the Water Plant

Motion: Pioquinto Garza made a motion to Approve a budget of \$4,500.00 to purchase two plastic shade structures for the water plant. Rigoberto Salto seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, motion carried.

(b) Report on WTP filter#1 repair

Repairs have been complete, we have to start planning for the repair of the second filter since the condition should be about the same from the filter that was just repaired. Final invoice has been submitted.

(c) Report on filter valve maintenance and replacement

After the most recent upgrades to the booster pumps, we found several leaking valves in need of repairs. I have a cost from Core & Main to replace those valves for a total of \$6,821.00. Motion: Ana Martinez made a motion to replace valves. Rigoberto Salto seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, Motion carried.

(d) Report on Hydrant repairs at Warren St.

Replacement of both fire hydrants has been completed. The District has a resolution authorizing for the recovery cost by billing all customers in the I-5 area for this repairs. Staff will be adding this fire hydrant cost recovery on the next billing cycle.

8. Closed Session: Conference with legal counsel-Anticipated Litigation

Exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54956.9: One potential case

No Close Session.

9. Date and Location of April, 2026 Meeting

April 2, 2026.

10. Staff Reports

Account #1301 is requesting a one-time meter unlock fee waiver of \$50.00. Customer processed payment with his bank but the check took longer than normal and was received late, customer always pays on time. Motion: Rosario Velazquez made a motion to Approve \$50.00 waiver. Ana Martinez seconds the motion. All Directors present in favor, Motion carried.

11. Customer Request &/ Complaints

None

12. Delinquency Report

Accounts

No.1008,1014,1040,1061,1063,1091,1133,1137,1139,1152,1169,1187,1200,1210,1223,1228,1271,1275,1330, 1356, 1358,1395,1371,2033,2035,2036,2050,2066,2075,& 2078.

VI. Maintenance & Operations Report

Alejandro Ruiz-Wastewater

Report presented to the Board.

Alejandro Ruiz-Water

Report presented to the Board.

VII. Board Members Report

Rigoberto Salto suggested we put a Thank you letter together to Wonderful for the office trailers donation and the aerator grant once those projects are finalized.

VIII. Engineer Report - Amando Garza

Everything has been covered under the agenda items.

IX. Next Board Meeting- **April 2, 2026**

X. Approval of Accounts Payable – **February 2026**

Motion: Ana Martinez made a motion to Approve February 2026 Accounts Payables. Rosario Velazquez seconds the motion. All Board Directors present in favor, Motion carried.

XI. Meeting adjourned at 6:21PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Ana I. Chavez  
District Manager