

# Amador Regional Sanitation Authority

## Amador Regional Sanitation Authority Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 2:30 PM

33 Church Street, Sutter Creek, CA 95685

The Agenda can be found on the City's Website: [www.cityofsuttercreek.org](http://www.cityofsuttercreek.org)

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### 1. Call to Order and Establish a Quorum for Regular Meeting

Chair Swift called the Regular Meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

**Present:** Chair Jim Swift, and Board Members Claire Gunselman, and Logan Carnell. Board Member Dan Epperson arrived and joined the dais at 2:34 PM.

**Absent:** Board Member Bruce Sherill

**Staff:** Tom DuBois - City Manager, Dan Lafontaine - Public Works Director, and Pam Caronongan - City Clerk

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chair Swift led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. Public Forum

Zero (0) public comment was received.

### 4. Consent Agenda

#### A. Minutes of September 18, 2025

*Approve as presented.*

#### B. Budget Update

#### C. Reservoir reports - July, Aug, Sept (1 week)

#### D. ARSA Budget v Actual - October 2025

#### E. ARSA Check Detail - October 2025

Without pulling Items D and E from the Consent Agenda, Board Member Gunselman requested staff to provide clarification regarding the budgeted versus actual figures as reflected on the budget report for engineering overtime costs. City Manager Dubois confirmed that these overtime costs were connected to the Henderson Dam repair project.

In response to Board Member Gunselman's request for clarification, City Manager Dubois confirmed that:

(a) These engineering costs which were being billed to the ARSA budget are associated with the Henderson Underdrain Project and would not be going towards the new wastewater treatment plant,

(b) In regards to the over-budget to the tertiary treatment fees, staff would return to the Board at a later date to clarify this matter,

(c) In regards to Stantec and the warrant list, Stantec is the original engineer who did the plans for the Henderson Dam project which would at times require their involvement.

**Motion made by Board Member Carnell, seconded by Board Member Gungelman to approve all items in the Consent Agenda.**

**AYES:** Chair Swift, and Board Members Carnell, Gungelman, and Epperson

**ABSENT:** Board Member Sherill

**NOES:** None

**MOTION CARRIED 4-0**

## 5. Administrative Agenda

### A. Henderson Dam Repair Update

*Information report for discussion and comment*

City Manager Dubois provided the following updates regarding the Henderson Dam Repair Project:

1. Campbell Construction (the contractor) was the low bidder working on the project. NorCal, the subcontractor who was supposed to provide camera work and clean-up of the pipe, encountered camera problems (the camera got stuck) which caused project delays. In efforts to keep the project moving, staff escalated the issue to the contractor.
2. Staff and the contractor preliminarily found out that there was a metal pipe encased in concrete, with some already coming off the concrete and trapping the subcontractor's camera. It was then discovered that the pipe in question was not gone but was in fact full of sludge.
3. After reassessing the situation, it was deemed best to implement a "cast in place" solution to the repair project. The subcontractor (NorCal) sought assurance that ARSA would take full liability for their equipment and the state of the dam before they do any work. Since staff deemed the subcontractor's conditions as unreasonable and had communicated this to the subcontractor, the latter walked away from the project.
4. Staff, consultants, and contractors on the project are working together for alternatives to carry out the repairs and complete the project.

Public Works Director Lafontaine provided the following updates regarding the Henderson Project:

1. Staff reached out to approximately four to five contractors to work with the current team on the project, but to no avail.
2. Staff encountered operational problems due to the recent rains and the 6-inch storm, which included Preston Reservoir. Staff continues the search for a contractor which would clean the pipes.
3. For now, staff would winterize the pipe and put it back into service, in hopes that in Summer 2026 the pipe lining could be done and that a contractor could be secured to complete the work.

City Manager Dubois and Public Works Director Lafontaine continued to respond to inquiries and requests for clarification from the Board Members.

**No motion was made on this agenda item.**

**6. General Manager's Report - Informational**

**A. Settlement Agreement between ARSA and City of Ione**

*Information regarding City of Ione's request to renegotiate terms of settlement agreement.*

City Manager Dubois shared, and the Board discussed on the following:

1. Amador Water Agency (AWA) announced that General Manager Larry McKenney resigned from his position effective December 31, 2025, which would most likely cause delays in the ARSA dissolution process.
2. Amador City expressed concerns regarding the cost of the future plant. City Manager Dubois provided an update to Amador City regarding the status of the new wastewater treatment plant project.
3. Ione City Manager George Lee requested to renegotiate the terms of the ARSA agreement. No terms have been specified as of now. City Manager Dubois stated that in his opinion, the agreement has been working well for all parties concerned.

**7. Closed Session**

None.

**8. Report from Closed Session**

None.

**9. Adjournment**

Chair Swift adjourned the meeting at 3:17 PM.