

DIRECTORS

Peter W. Hansen

Mike Brucker

Thomas P. Vujovich, Jr.

John S. Broome

John D. Menne

**PLEASANT VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**PIONEER IN FOX CANYON AQUIFER CONSERVATION
SERVING AGRICULTURE SINCE 1956

154 S. LAS POSAS ROAD, CAMARILLO, CA 93010-8570

Phone: 805-482-2119

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STAFFJared L. Bouchard
General Manager**General Counsel**
Arnold, Bleuel, LaRochelle,
Mathews & Zirbel, LLP**PLEASANT VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS****NOTICE OF MEETING****October 1, 2026, AT 10:00 AM**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Pleasant Valley County Water District Board of Directors will hold a SPECIAL MEETING Thursday, October 1, 2026, @ 10:00 a.m. at the District Office located at 154 S. Las Posas Road, Camarillo, CA 93010-8570.

The following provides information to the public and consultants on how to observe and/or participate in the meeting remotely. Meeting Zoom Link for Live Public and Consultant Participation and Real Time Public and Consultant Comments:

Join Zoom Meeting online:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81072195334?pwd=5kkPcxKwbraLLimalFJJJ0DiOEoQvm.1&from=addon>

Join Zoom Meeting by phone:**Meeting ID:** 810 7219 5334

+16699006833,,81072195334

+14086380968,,81072195334

Public comments may be submitted in person, virtually via Zoom, or written. In-person and virtual comments should be no longer than 3 minutes. In-Person: Complete a speaker request form located at the entrance of the Council Chamber and give it to the Agency Clerk. Your name will be called when it is your turn to speak. Virtually via Zoom: Access the meeting Zoom link to provide real-time (virtual) comments at appropriate public comment times throughout the meeting by using the raise hand feature. Written: All written public comments should be no more than 500 words and are subject to the Public Records Request Act. Written comments should be submitted to the Agency Clerk by 9:00 a.m. on the day of the Water Agency meeting by email or directly to the Agency Clerk's Office. Email yvette@pvcwater.com and enter "Public Comment" in the Subject line (and agenda item number if applicable). Mail or drop off written comments to the Agency Clerk's Office located at 154 S. Las Posas Rd. Please clearly mark envelope with "PVCWD Public Comment and meeting date."

AGENDA

The agenda is posted at least 72 hours preceding the Board meeting and contains all items on which Board action will be allowed pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2. Action will be taken on unanticipated items only when an emergency (as defined in Section 54956.5) exists or as otherwise allowed under Section 54954.2(b).

An opportunity for members of the public to briefly address the Board on items not on the agenda is provided at the beginning and end of each meeting. People wishing to comment on agenda items should complete a speaker card and submit it (preferably before the meeting) to the Clerk. The Chairman will then recognize them at the appropriate time. Once recognized, persons should step to the podium, clearly state their name, and address for the record, and address the item being considered in as brief, clear, and concise a manner as possible.

OPEN SESSION AND CALL TO ORDER:

- 1) Pledge of allegiance.**
- 2) Roll call.**
- 3) Determination of quorum.**
- 4) Approval of agenda.**
- 5) Open Forum.**

This is an opportunity for the public to address the Board on matters not appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken by the Board at this time, but items can be considered for placing on the agenda for a subsequent meeting.

6) Action Calendar:

- A. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 26-01 PLEASANT VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FEES RELATED TO THE PROVISION OF WATER SERVICE Recommendation:**
 - 1. Perform First Reading of Ordinance 26-01 in title only**
 - 2. Set Public Hearing Date for October 20th, 2026**

7) GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS.

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8) OTHER BUSINESS.

9) CLOSED SESSION

It is the intention of the Pleasant Valley County Water District Board of Directors to be in closed session to consider the following items:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Authority: California Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1)

Pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1), the Board of Directors will meet in closed session to discuss, confer with, and receive advice from legal counsel regarding existing litigation to which the District is a named party, specifically OPV Coalition, et. al. v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, et. al., Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI00555357

10) ADJOURNMENT.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all possible accommodations will be made for individuals with disabilities so they may attend and participate in meetings. If special assistance is needed, please call the Agency staff at (805) 482-2119 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting so proper arrangements may be assured. If requested, and as possible, agendas will be provided in alternative formats.

Agenda Posting Certification: This agenda was posted not less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date and time at 154 S. Las Posas Road Camarillo CA, 93010 in a location that is accessible 24 hours a day to the General Public and is posted on the Pleasant Valley County Water District website <https://www.pleasantvalleycountywaterdistrict.com/board-meetings>

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Bouchard', is written over a horizontal line.

**Jared Bouchard,
General Manager**

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Phone: 805-482-2119
Fax: 805 484-5835**STAFF**Jared L. Bouchard
General Manager**General Counsel**
Arnold, Bleuel, LaRochelle,
Mathews & Zirbel, LLP**October 1, 2026, SPECIAL MEETING****TO: Board of Directors****FROM: General Manager****SUBJECT: Ordinance 26-01 Establishing Water Rates and Fees for Fiscal Years 2026-27 and 2027-28****AGENDA ITEM: 6A****Background**

On August 30, 2022, the Board authorized the services of Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. to prepare a comprehensive Cost of Service and Rate Study for the District. The study evaluated operating costs, reserve requirements, water supply expenses, capital improvement needs, and anticipated legal and regulatory costs associated with ongoing groundwater management issues.

Throughout 2023, the Board reviewed draft and final rate study findings at a series of public meetings. Following completion of the Proposition 218 noticing process and public hearing, the Board adopted Ordinance 23-01 establishing water rates for Fiscal Years 2023-24 and 2024-25.

The adopted rates reflected the Board's desire to maintain financial stability while minimizing impact on agricultural customers. While the 2023 Rate Study included a multi-year financial plan extending through Fiscal Year 2027-28, the Board elected to implement only the first two years of the recommended rate schedule and revisit future increases at a later date.

In 2024, wholesale water cost increases imposed by United Water Conservation District exceeded those anticipated in the original rate study. To recover these costs, the Board adopted Ordinance 24-01 establishing a wholesale water pass-through charge. Subsequent increases in wholesale water costs resulted in additional pass-through adjustments. As a result, the District's current volumetric rate is approximately **\$440 per acre-foot**.

Updated Financial Analysis

In 2026, the Board authorized staff to retain Water Worth Consultants to update the District's financial model and evaluate future rate requirements. Water Worth reviewed the assumptions, cost allocation methodology, and financial projections contained within the 2023 Rate Study and concluded that the underlying cost of service analysis remains generally valid and representative of current District operations.

As part of the update process, forecasted financial information from the 2023 Rate Study was compared against actual operating results and current budget projections. The updated analysis indicated that the District's financial position is consistent with the findings in the 2023 Rate Study and thus the recommended rate increases for FY 26-27 and FY 27-28 remain advisable.

On August 18, 2026, the Board of Directors received a presentation from staff regarding the updated financial analysis and various rate adjustment alternatives. Following discussion, the Board determined that rates lower than those projected in the original 2023 Rate Study would not maintain adequate revenues, reserves, and operational flexibility.

The Board directed staff to initiate Proposition 218 noticing process utilizing:

- An **8.13% rate increase for Fiscal Year 2026-27**, and
- A **5.00% rate increase for Fiscal Year 2027-28**.

The proposed increases are intended to provide sufficient revenue to fund operating expenses, maintain reserve levels, address anticipated water supply cost increases, and preserve long-term financial stability while minimizing impacts to District customers.

Proposed Rate Adjustments

The District's current volumetric rate is approximately **\$440 per acre-foot**. Based on the updated financial analysis and Board direction provided on August 18, 2026, Ordinance 26-01 proposes the following rate adjustments:

- Fiscal Year 2026-27: **8.13% increase**
- Fiscal Year 2027-28: **5.00% increase**

These adjustments are consistent with those contemplated in the original 2023 Rate Study and reflect the District's current financial position while continuing to support long-term financial sustainability.

The primary risk associated with adopting lower rate increases is the uncertainty associated with future water supply costs, groundwater management requirements, wholesale water pricing, regulatory obligations, and potential litigation expenses.

Proposed Volumetric Water Rates

Implementation of the proposed rate adjustments would result in the following volumetric rates:

Fiscal Year	Rate Increase	Volumetric Rate (\$/AF)
FY 2025-26 (Current)	—	\$440
FY 2026-27	8.13%	\$476
FY 2027-28	5.00%	\$500

Ordinance 26-01

Ordinance 26-01 establishes the rates and fees necessary to support District operations, maintain adequate reserves, recover water supply and administrative costs, and implement the Board-approved financial plan for Fiscal Years 2026-27 and 2027-28.

The proposed ordinance reflects the Board's direction following its review of the updated financial analysis and authorizes implementation of the rates identified through the Proposition 218 noticing process. Adoption of Ordinance 26-01 would establish volumetric rates of approximately **\$476 per acre-foot in Fiscal Year 2026-27** and **\$500 per acre-foot in Fiscal Year 2027-28**.

Fiscal Impact

The proposed rates are expected to generate sufficient revenue to:

- Meet annual operating and maintenance expenses
- Fund anticipated water supply and wholesale water costs
- Maintain prudent operating and emergency reserve balances
- Support ongoing infrastructure and capital improvement needs
- Reduce the likelihood of larger future rate adjustments

Failure to implement the proposed rates could increase the likelihood of future revenue shortfalls, particularly if wholesale water costs, groundwater pumping expenses, or regulatory obligations exceed current projections.

Conclusion

The District's 2023 Cost of Service and Rate Study established a long-term financial framework intended to ensure the District's continued fiscal health and operational reliability. The 2026 update performed by Water Worth Consultants confirmed that the underlying assumptions and methodology remain sound while demonstrating that lower rate increases than originally projected are not advisable.

Following receipt of the financial update on August 18, 2026, the Board directed staff to proceed with Proposition 218 noticing for an **8.13% increase in Fiscal Year 2026-27** and a **5.0% increase in Fiscal Year 2027-28**. These increases would result in a volumetric rate of approximately **\$476 per acre-foot in Fiscal Year 2026-27** and **\$500 per acre-foot in Fiscal Year 2027-28**.

Adoption of Ordinance 26-01 will provide the revenues necessary to maintain reliable water service, preserve financial stability, maintain prudent reserves, and position the District to address future water supply, regulatory, and operational challenges.

Staff Recommendation: Conduct First Reading of Ordinance 26-01 establishing water rates and fees for Fiscal Years 2026-27 and 2027-28.

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Ordinance 26-01

**PLEASANT VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING
WATER RATES and FEES RELATED TO THE PROVISION OF WATER SERVICE**

SECTION 1: Short Title

The Short Title of this Ordinance shall be: “**PVCWD Service Fee and Charges Ordinance**” and may be cited as such.

SECTION 2: Purpose

“The purposes of this Ordinance are:

- a. Establish sufficient rates and fees to fund Pleasant Valley County Water District Operations, including regulatory costs, legal expenses, wholesale water purchase cost and other costs necessary to the ongoing operation of the District, and
- b. In order to pass through increased wholesale water costs and increased regulatory pump charges, which increase the cost of water that Pleasant Valley County Water District charges to its customers, and
- c. Establish such other fees, including standby fees; reconnection fees; charges for water waste. Such fees are necessary for the ongoing operations and management of the District’s water service.”

Section 3: Definitions and Abbreviations.

- (a) “PVCWD” shall mean Pleasant Valley County Water District
- (b) “Recycled Water” shall mean in the broad sense, all water supplied by PVCWD
- (c) “Ac/ft” shall mean one acre foot of water
- (d) “Turnout” shall mean any connection to the PVCWD for the purpose of providing PVCWD supplied water
- (e) “Idle Turnout” shall mean an existing turnout that has been locked off or has not been immediately available for use by the customer.

- (f) "Fixed Charge"- Shall mean a fee imposed for any turnout that is open and available for use by the customer.
- (g) "Pass Through Rate" – Shall mean a fee for wholesale water or regulatory fee increases not anticipated in the Pleasant Valley County Water District 2023 Cost of Service Study –

Section 4: Metered Use Rates, Billing, Late Fees, Disconnection and Reconnection

The following rates are effective beginning at 12:01am on December 1, 2026:

Section 4.1 Metered Use Rates - The metered use rate for turnout delivered water in accordance with Supplemental Water Availability Limits as established by Pleasant Valley County Water District Ordinance(s) shall be: \$

FY 26-27

- \$476 Acre Foot Effective December 1, 2026,

FY 27-28

- \$500/ Acre Foot - Effective July 1, 2027

Section 4.2 Billing- The District shall deliver a monthly bill to each customer by the 5th of each month; the bills are due and payable by the 1st day of the following month of the billing date.

- Late Fees-** Any account that fails to pay the bill in full will incur a 6% late fee on any unpaid balance for the billing period.
- Disconnection for Non-Payment-** Any account that is delinquent beyond 30 days after the due date shall be subject to termination in accordance with Resolution 17-01 or the then current Delinquent Account Policies adopted by the Pleasant Valley County Water District Board and be subject to \$150 dollar reconnection fee if service is terminated for non-payment.

Section 4.3 Fixed Charge– A fixed per month fee shall be imposed for each turnout that is available for use by a customer the fee shall be:

FY 26-27

- \$476 per meter/month Effective December 1, 2026 -

FY 27-28

- \$500/ per meter/ month - Effective July 1, 2027

Section 4.4 Charges for Relocation or Abandonment of Metered Service. Charges for all meter relocation services will be billed at the District's actual cost plus a 15% administration fee to cover handling and billing costs on all materials as well as other related costs incurred by the District in connection with the provision of these services. An estimate of costs for each relocation or abandonment shall be available upon request from the District's General Manager.

Section 4.5 Reconnection Fees for Idle Turnouts- The following fees shall be imposed on each turnout where a customer request that an Idle Turnout be Restored to service:

The reconnection fee shall be calculated using the then effective Fixed Charge Fees times the number of months the Turnout has been Idle.

Section 4.6 Prohibition of Water Waste- No Customer of PVCWD shall cause or allow the direct application or runoff from lands irrigated with PVCWD waters to reach or come in contact with roads or other prohibited drainage system consistent with applicable local, state, federal or other regulatory restrictions relating to the delivery of Recycled Water.

Violation of this section shall be subject to:

1. \$50 fine for a first offense
2. \$100 for second offense within a 12-month period and the termination of water service for 48hours.
3. \$300 for a third offense in a 12-month period and the termination of water service, for a period of up to 14 days a no less than 5 days from the date of notice. The length of termination of service shall be determined by the General Manager and in no case will water service be restored until all fines and outstanding charges to the District are satisfied on the subject account.

SECTION 5: Effective Date

This Ordinance shall become effective at **12:01 a.m. on December 1, 2026.**

SECTION 6: Publication

Upon adoption, this Ordinance shall be published in title and general description only in a newspaper of general circulation within the District's general area of service.

SECTION 7: Repeal of Ordinances

Ordinance 25-01 is repealed and replaced by Ordinance 26-01.

SECTION 8: Severability

In the event that any section, clause or portion of this Ordinance is found to be invalid, the validity of the remaining sections of the Ordinance shall not be affected.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Pleasant Valley County Water District Board of Directors on this ____ **day of October 2026**, by the following vote:

AYES: Directors:

NOES: Directors:

ABSENT: Directors:

Thomas Vujovich, BOARD PRESIDENT

Dennis McNulty, General Counsel

Jared Bouchard, GENERAL MANAGER

ATTEST:
APPROVED AS TO FORM: