

MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING
CITY OF BIG BEAR LAKE,
DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER
BOARD OF WATER AND POWER COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 24, 2026

OPEN SESSION

A Regular Meeting of the City of Big Bear Lake, Department of Water and Power (DWP) Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:00am on February 24, 2026, by Chair Bob Tarras.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Bob Tarras, Chair
Craig Hjorth, Treasurer
Joe Cylwik, Commissioner
Matt Scriven, Commissioner

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Barbara Willey, Vice-Chair

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Tarras led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

At 9:02 a.m., Chair Tarras closed the Open Session and opened the Closed Session.

1. CLOSED SESSION

1.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- Existing Litigation - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of Case: Yvette Willis v. City of Big Bear Lake, *et al.*

Case No.: CIV SB 2438137

Date Filed: December 26, 2024

At 9:38 a.m., Chair Tarras closed the Closed Session and called for a five-minute break.

At 9:42 a.m., Chair Tarras opened the Open Session with no reportable action from the Closed Session.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

2.1 Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Dated January 27, 2026

Motion made by Treasurer Hjorth, seconded by Commissioner Cylwik, and carried 4-0 to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Cylwik, Tarras, Hjorth, Scriven

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

4. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Authenticate Check Register 01/01/2026 to 01/31/2026

Commissioner Cylwik asked about Check Number 30610 paid to Romans Construction for trench paving in the DWP yard. General Manager Reggie Lamson clarified that this was for a temporary water service connection to the warehouse. Commissioner Cylwik asked about Check Number 30630 paid to Ludecke's Electrical Service for power run to the Garstin Project construction trailer. In response, Reggie will review whether this cost is the responsibility of DWP or the contractor.

Treasurer Hjorth asked about Check Number 30641 paid to Motive Energy for solar inverter replacement. District Engineer Daniel Baguyo explained that two inverters on the DWP building failed and had to be replaced. Reggie clarified that while the total cost was \$30,000, Motive Energy covered the cost of the replacement inverters; DWP was only responsible for approximately \$10,000 in labor for installation. Treasurer Hjorth asked about the warranty for the failed inverters. Reggie

explained that the inverters were installed around 2014, so they are no longer under warranty. Treasurer Hjorth asked about the solar inverters for the new building. Reggie clarified that the new building will use optimizers that allow panels to operate independently. Commissioner Cylwik asked about the potential sale of the existing solar system. Reggie noted that resale is possible, however the value is minimal.

Motion made by Treasurer Hjorth, seconded by Commissioner Scriven, and carried 4-0 to authenticate the Check Register for January 2026.

AYES: Cylwik, Tarras, Hjorth, Scriven

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

4.2 Board Meeting Guidelines

Treasurer Hjorth asked for clarification regarding “Just Cause” and “Emergency” teleconferencing provisions. Board Secretary and Management Analyst Sam Armstrong will consult with legal counsel and provide an update.

4.3 Quarterly Financials

Chair Tarras recommended revisions to the summary table to include additional data to enhance visibility in trends and operational performance. CFO Nathan Statham confirmed that the data is available and he will update the table in the next quarterly financial report to include the requested changes.

4.4 Management Reports

Treasurer Hjorth inquired regarding the distribution of service pins for employees reaching the anniversaries noted in the Human Resources report. Human Resources Administrator Rachel Franklin clarified that DWP’s current recognition policy provides service pins at five-year milestones rather than on an annual basis

Chair Tarras inquired regarding slant well production following recent weather events. Reggie reported that the significant precipitation received in the valley is expected to yield favorable groundwater recharge and may result in promising results for slant well production this spring.

Treasurer Hjorth requested details about irrigation violations the Conservation Department issues. Water Conservation and Outreach Supervisor Bennett Rossell clarified that irrigation violation notices went out during irrigation season. Chair Tarras asked if DWP has ever had to fine a customer for a violation. Nathan clarified that DWP has issued notices of intent to fine customers but has not issued a fine for conservation related violations emphasizing that the Conservation department prioritizes educational outreach over punitive measures to achieve conservation objectives. Commissioner Scriven thanked staff for their leak detection efforts and notifying him of a leak at his own house.

Treasurer Hjorth asked about the rebate programs that DWP offers. Bennett outlined current programs, including turf buyback, high-efficiency toilets and the native plant program. Chair Tarras requested an update on the Customer Portal. Nathan confirmed that progress is being made.

Water Superintendent Jason Hall thanked the Board and Reggie for allowing staff to participate in state and national water taste contests. Jason reported on enhanced performance efficiencies and resulting operational efficiencies from the new Ally meters being installed in DWP’s remote service areas.

Daniel gave an update on the Garstin Project, with expected mobilization scheduled for March 16th. Daniel explained that the Wolf Reservoir is expected to be operational in the coming weeks. Daniel is also working on the Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and expects the draft to be ready by April.

Chair Tarras asked for clarification on the unrestricted treasury balance shown in the 2nd Quarter Report. Nathan clarified that DWP recently received a \$1.3 million USDA reimbursement that was not included at the time the report was generated.

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Treasurer Hjorth asked about the SCADA server migration. Nathan reported that the server is still being migrated to DWPs primary network.

Commissioner Cylwik asked if the 2027 Community Project Funding through Congressman Obernolte's office will be designated for the Garstin Project. Reggie confirmed that it will. Commissioner Cylwik asked for an update on the recall status of the truck from the last Board meeting. Jason confirmed that there were no active recalls for the truck. Chair Tarras asked for an update on the Replenish Big Bear Project. Reggie and Commissioner Cylwik reported that based on the last Replenish Big Bear meeting, there is concern about the integrity of the pipeline to Lucerne Valley. The Project is currently being evaluated for the most effective direction to take however the preliminary design will be finished.

4.5 Board Member Reports

None.

5. BOARD FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None.

6. ADJOURNMENT

No additional business came before the Board. At 10:54 a.m., Chair Tarras adjourned the meeting.

Sam Armstrong

Sam Armstrong, Board Secretary, DWP Board of Commissioners

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