



**Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District (EPCWD)**  
**Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EPCGSA)**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, May 13, 2026**

Windfall Farms Conference Room, 4710 Flying Paster Lane, Paso Robles

**ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00PM by Hilary Graves

Directors Roll Call:

Hilary Graves – present  
Lee Nesbitt - present  
Ryan Scott – present  
Zach Merkel – present  
Eric Pooler – remote attendance from 47 Hoff Rd, Kenwood, CA

Others present:

Alan Doud  
Blaine Reely, County of San Luis Obispo  
Will Carrara of Mythos, Inc.  
Guests (in person and by teleconference)

**ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comments were received from multiple attendees, with questions on the evapotranspiration data source and some of the mechanics of the Prop 26 process.

**ITEM 3: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 23, 2026 MEETING**

MOTION TO APPROVES THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 23, 2026 MEETING made by Ryan Scott, seconded by Lee Nesbitt, roll call vote:

Hilary Graves – yes  
Lee Nesbitt – yes  
Ryan Scott – yes  
Zach Merkel – yes  
Eric Pooler - yes

Motion carried 5-0-0.

**ITEMS 4: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 26-001 AUTHORIZING COLLECTION OF 2025 DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT BY COUNTY TAX COLLECTORS**

Staff described the annual adoption of this resolution in order to submit past due assessments to the County for collection on the tax rolls. MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 26-001 AUTHORIZING COLLECTION OF 2025 DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT BY COUNTY TAX COLLECTORS made by Ryan Scott, seconded by Lee Nesbitt, roll call vote:

Hilary Graves – yes  
Ryan Scott – yes

Lee Nesbitt – yes  
Zach Merkel – yes  
Eric Pooler – yes

Motion carried 5-0-0.

**ITEM 5: UPDATE FROM BLAINE REELY, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DIRECTOR OF GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AND DEMONSTRATION BY WILL CARRARA OF MYTHOS, INC. ON THE FALLOWED LAND REGISTRY.**

Blain Reely gave a brief overview of the development of the Fallowed Land Registry which required amendment of the Williamson Act and the County's Ag Offset Ordinance 5-year lookback. There are approximately 1,000 acres to date in the registry. Will Carrara of Mythos Inc. conducted a demonstration of the Registry platform and discussed its confidentiality and dynamic structure. It is anticipated that the Paso Robles Area Groundwater Authority (PRAGA) will at some point assume responsibility for the Registry, but for now it remains housed at the County. Enrollment of lands in the Registry protects against the constraints of the Ag Offset Ordinance's 5-year lookback period.

**ITEM 6: CONSIDER PRELIMINARY 2026-2027 BUDGET**

Staff presented the preliminary budget. The discussion included concerns about potential liability for any PRAGA shortfalls. Staff will return with a final budget and suggested assessment levels at the June 10, 2026 regular meeting.

**ITEM 7: CONSIDER SUBMISSION OF A BALLOT FOR THE LAFCO SPECIAL DISTRICT ALTERNATE SEAT RUNOFF**

The LAFCO ballot for the Special District Alternate seat runoff was presented. MOTION TO VOTE FOR OWEN DAVIS FOR THE LAFCO SPECIAL DISTRICT ALTERNATE SEAT made by Zach Merkel, seconded by Ryan Scott, roll call vote:

Hilary Graves – yes  
Ryan Scott – yes  
Lee Nesbitt – yes  
Zach Merkel – yes  
Eric Pooler – absent

Motion carried 5-0-0.

**ITEM 8: REVIEW PASO ROBLES GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY FEE CALCULATIONS FOR PROP 26 SCHEDULED FOR MAY 27, 2026**

A list of APNs in order is now available at the PRAGA website for review. The discussion included the appeals process and who conducts/oversees the appeals that are submitted, as well as whether the fees were retroactive or were based on prior year's data to formulate the fee schedule. There is concern that people don't understand the Prop 26 process.

**ITEM 9: UPDATE ON WRAC MEETING MAY 6, 2026**

Lee Nesbitt reported on the WRAC meeting on May 6, 2026 where desalination continues to be discussed and is in review at the County.

**ITEM 10: TREASURER’S REPORT MAY 2026**

The May Treasurer’s Report was presented by staff and no comments were received.

**ITEM 11: NEW BUSINESS**

Hilary Graves asked the Board if there is a perceived benefit to joining the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) where there might be assistance in formulating a path forward for the basin. The Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley is an example of a coalition.

**ITEM 12: SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – JUNE 10, 2026**

**ITEM 13: ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30PM

Respectfully submitted,

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Laurie Gage, Secretary/Treasurer

Accepted:

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Hilary Graves, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

