

Lincoln County Water District Regular Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2026
Lincoln County Water District Office
1005 Main Street, Suite 103
Panaca, Nevada

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance
The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. Present: Janine Woodworth, Mike Reese, Wade Poulsen- General Manager, Amber Pike- Assistant Administrator, Wayne Klomp- Legal Counsel. Attended virtually: Lisa Poulsen and Keith Pearson
Invocation- Wade, Pledge- Janine
2. Public Comment and Discussion.
 - No public comment.
3. For Possible Action: Approve the Minutes from the LCWD July 13, 2026 Meeting
Janine made a motion to approve the minutes from the LCWD July 13, 2026 Meeting. Lisa seconded the motion. Keith abstained. All voted in favor.
4. For Possible Action: Approve LCWD and Pioche Public Utilities (PPU) Vouchers
Janine made a motion to approve LCWD and Pioche Public Utilities Vouchers. Lisa seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
5. Board and Staff Member Reports
 - Wade reported that it has been almost a year since hiring Grafton and Micah. We have sent them to training. Both will attend additional upcoming trainings. Then Micah will test for his wastewater certification, and Grafton will test for his water distribution certification.
 - Wade reported that we have replaced 180 meters with Badger radio-read meters. Before beginning this project, it would take 10-15 days to hand-read meters and complete the billing process. In this last cycle, we did it in 5 days. When the project is completed, it should be a 2-3 day process. There was some discussion.
 - Wade reported that we withdrew permit # 89830. We were leasing 50 acre-feet of water to McKlin Geoscience. There had to be proof of beneficial use filed with the Nevada State Engineer. He has never proved up on the water. He asked us to withdraw the application.
 - Wade reported that regarding agenda item 11, there were some issues with the three bids that were received. We will bring the agenda item back in a future meeting.

- Mike asked if we exercise fire hydrants in October. Wade reported yes.
- Mike asked if Prince Mine gets their water from a hydrant. Nathan reported that they have culinary water that they drink from their personal service account, and they fill fire trucks from hydrants.
- Mike reported that there were questions at the town board meeting about contamination of Floral Springs. Nathan reported that Floral Springs is three miles from Prince Mine and that it flows by gravity. Nathan is not aware of any work being done anywhere near that area.
- Wade clarified that Floral Springs is tested for water quality every month. There hasn't been any contamination there. The elevation of the spring is a lot higher. It would be pretty hard to contaminate that spring from the Prince Mine. We applied for Floral Springs to become vested. The state engineer's office has been working on that application.
- Mike asked how often we have to turn well pumps on over the summer. Nathan reported that one well will run pretty much 24 hours a day. Sometimes during the summer we turn on a supplemental pump. The Blanchard Well is the one that we pump most of the time.
- Wade reported that the town board will have a wake-up call when they start getting charged for water. They use a lot of water. The town is currently charged \$2,000 annually per our agreement. Janine expressed concern about the town board being able to adjust their budget for this expense. We are hoping to get all town buildings, parks, and the cemetery metered by next spring. There was some discussion.

6. Pioche Public Utilities Update

- This agenda item was covered in agenda item #5

7. Vidler Update

- Ryan reported that Arcadia is still working on the environmental assessment. We are still on track to be done by March of next year. We continue monitoring efforts in Tule Desert, Kane Springs, and Clover Valley.
- Mike reported that we lost half the staff at the Caliente BLM Office.
- Ryan reported that he is aware that Susan Grande stepped down as the field manager. Robby took over as acting field manager. He is keeping the project on track. Right now, we are not experiencing any problems with our environmental assessment.
- Mike asked that he be informed if our project does get delayed.

8. For Possible Action: Ratify filing of petition for judicial review of Order 1343 issued by Nevada State Engineer and authorizing legal actions related thereto.

- Wayne reported that Order 1343 designated the entirety of the Lower White River Flow System, including the Kane Springs in which we have appropriated water rights. We only have 30 days to file a petition for judicial review. We filed that petition. There is a motion to intervene from Maopa Valley Water District that we need to oppose. We need to ratify that filing and authorize us to take legal action

to prosecute. We recommend that we continue with that petition. We feel this is an opportunity to put our positions in front of the engineer.

Janine made a motion to ratify filing of petition for judicial review of Order 1343 issued by Nevada State Engineer and authorizing legal actions related thereto. Lisa seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

9. For Possible Action: Approve/Deny Job Description for Assistant Administrator/ Grant Coordinator for Lincoln County Water District

- Wade reported that the administrative assistant position used to be part-time. When LCWD started managing PPU, we needed a part-time person or administrative assistance to cover that office as needed. Amber has been trained at that office. When Taylor goes on maternity leave, Amber will cover there. This administrative assistant position has also taken on the responsibility of grant coordination, tracking finances, ensuring grant compliance, as well as covering the PPU office. We rewrote the job description and added the grant coordinator and the coverage of PPU. This is creating a new position.
- Janine asked about coverage for when Taylor is out and Amber is sick. The PPU office will have to be closed if that happens.
- Janine reported that in the past the fire department has done some exercising of hydrants. Nathan reported that the fire department has done some in the past, but not regularly. In the past, PPU was not regularly exercising hydrants, but we are now. Wade reported that prior to LCWD taking over PPU, the fire hydrants had not been exercised regularly for a few years. We are also now exercising main line valves regularly.
- Janine thinks that it is not right that all wages for Amber are coming from LCWD. Wade reported that if any of Amber's wages came from PPU, the PPU budget would be run into the red because the rates are not where they need to be to handle the costs of the water and the sewer. LCWD is subsidizing PPU until it can stand alone and function.
- Lisa agreed with Janine and wondered if hiring someone from Workforce could help with PPU. There was some discussion.

Janine made a motion to approve the job description for Assistant Administrator/ Grant Coordinator for Lincoln County Water District. Lisa seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

10. For Possible Action: Approve/Deny Moving Lincoln County Water District's Administrative Assistant Position to Lincoln County Water District's Assistant Administrator/ Grant Coordinator. The job position will start at Grade 32.

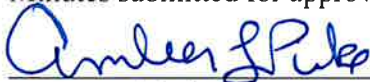
- Wade reported that currently, the position is at Grade 30. The workload of this position will be similar to that of the administrative assistant to the commissioners. This move is in the budget.
- Lisa expressed concerns about this decision. Wade reported that having personnel cross-trained in other positions is effective management.
- Wade reported that when LCWD does monitoring in Tule Desert, Kane Springs, and Clover Valley, we utilize PPU utility workers to help monitor wells.

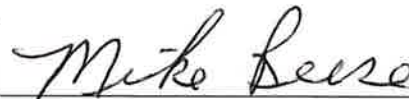
- Lincoln County Water District manages PPU. LCWD pays LCWD employees' salaries. Ratepayers pay the PPU employees' salaries.

Janine made a motion to approve moving Lincoln County Water District's Administrative Assistant Position to Lincoln County Water District's Assistant Administrator/ Grant Coordinator. The job position will start at Grade 32. Lisa seconded the motion. Keith abstained. All voted in favor.

11. For Possible Action: Approve/Deny Selection of Contractor for the Emergency Backup Generator Project.
 - This item was tabled.
12. Public Comment and Discussion
 - Mike stated that it was the best decision ever to have LCWD take over PPU. The fact that the town of Pioche has already burned down once and now we are exercising 300 hydrants regularly, and they are all functional. That is huge.
 - Nathan reported that we keep a log of any issues next to every hydrant. When we did our first round of exercising hydrants, the fire department had done 50% of them. Next round, PPU did most of the work.
13. Adjourn at 10:15 am.

Minutes submitted for approval on October 12, 2026.


Assistant Administrator

Approved by: 
Chairperson