



MEMORANDUM
FC 14 (02-08-19)

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Shiloh Ballard

SUBJECT: 12/09/25 Board Meeting (Agenda Item 13.1)

DATE: December 8, 2025

As we reach the last meeting of the year, I wanted to send a brief note of thanks to those of you who have been making sure I get up to speed as quickly as possible. It is a privilege to serve as a democratically elected representative for the Water District. I look forward to continuing working with you all to make sure our water supply and quality is plentiful, safe, and secure.

I also wanted to share my thoughts on the upcoming meeting.

Board Leadership (Agenda Item 13.1)

At the next board meeting, we are slated to elect the chair and vice chair. This can be contentious. For that reason, I've detailed what I look for in a chair so that there is little mystery as to why I may vote a certain way. In board leadership, I look for someone(s) who:

- Runs efficient meetings and is a good facilitator of board conversation
- Reads their briefing materials, is prepared, pays attention, and is able to follow the discussion
- Has a solid understanding of the District
- Is not preoccupied with their own agenda and has the District as a whole at heart
- Stays on topic, doesn't ramble, and communicates concisely
- Understands that Valley Water staff is one of the most important assets this Agency has and communicates in a way that reflects that
- Keeps the Board focused and as a result, staff focused
- Has the time and attention to devote to the role and can project manage where appropriate
- Is self-aware, sensitive to the space they take up, and can work well with others
- Can represent the district well to the media and in public settings, meaning they communicate concisely and as a representative of the Board's perspective

This is not an exhaustive list but includes some of the things that are top of mind for me when selecting board leadership.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK