

Agenda for
Special Meeting of Membership of Santa Cruz Irrigation Ditch
September 16, 2025, 11:00 AM MST

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum
3. Proposed changes to Bylaws - Presentation by Treasurer
4. Open Discussion
5. Mayordomo Report
6. Other business
7. Adjournment

Acequia De Santa Cruz Commission Meeting
Tuesday, September 16, 2025
at 11:00 AM

At The Santa Cruz Irrigation District office

Meeting Called to Order:

Mr. Ernie Velarde Chairman of the Acequia de Santa Cruz commission called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

Roll Call of Parciantes and determination of Quorum:

The sign in log of all present was reviewed and it was determined that there is a quorum present, members with 31.20 acres were in attendance.

Warren Finch made a motion to begin the meeting 2nd by Ricardo Barrera.

Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda was read for all present. Items IV and III were placed in reverse order by request from Ernie Velarde. A motion was made by Ernie Velarde to accept the agenda as amended. The Motion was second by Luis Trujillo.

Reading of the Minutes:

Lonnie Montoya read the minutes from the meeting held on January 4, 2025 The minutes were approved by a motion from Warren Finch 2nd by Ricardo Barrera

Lonnie Montoya read the minutes from the meeting held on March 30th the minutes were approved by a motion from Warren Finch 2nd by David Ingersol.

Lonnie Montoya read the minutes from the meeting held on August 16,2025 The minutes were approved by a motion by Warren Finch 2nd by Ricardo Barrera

Discussion:

Ernie Velarde Reported that Lonnie Montoya told him that he has no confidence in Ernie Velarde. Lonnie Montoya clarified that it was by text during an emergency shut down that Ernie Velarde was told by Lonnie that he has no confidence in Ernie Velarde. Lonnie also explained that he has no confidence in any one individual's ability to single handedly shut down the ditch in an emergency unless it is done preemptively. In response Lonnie Montoya Read the Mayordomo report to give the parciantes an example of what the Mayordomo job requires. Ernie Velarde described all the work he has done for the ditch. Ernie Velarde stated that he was working with El Llano ditch to agree on an MOU that involved the sharing of water with the Cinco acequias. Ron Gallegos stated that if Lonnie Montoya and Luis Trujillo want Ernie Velarde out, Ernie would either have to resign / step down or Lonnie and Luis would have to remove Ernie Velarde by court of law. Xochitl Romero, Lisa Martinez, David Ingersol, and Ricardo Barrera expressed their support for Ernie Velarde. Ernie Velarde Brought up the need for an agreement (MOU) with the El Llano ditch on how to operate the ditch and also stated that he is trying to get El Llano to agree to have one Mayordomo for both ditches. Luis Trujillo expressed that he is frustrated by the manner in which the commission is getting along. Lonnie Montoya stated that the vote of no confidence text was misunderstood by Ernie Velarde and the message should not have been repeated to anyone by Ernie Velarde. Lonnie Montoya also stated it would be a bad idea to only have one Mayordomo for both ditches because the ditch splits and sometimes there is a lot involved in releasing the water. Plus, there needs to be a back up incase one mayordomo is not available. Lonnie also stated that the mayordomo should also have help to distribute the water especially after storms involving wind. Lonnie Montoya reminded the parciantes that Acequia de Santa Cruz has a written procedure on how to operate the ditch. The operating procedures were passed around for the parciantes to review. Lonnie Montoya stated that these procedures have to be the main topic of the discussion during an MOU meeting with El Llano. David Ingersol stated that he is willing to volunteer for service as a commissioner he just needs to be shown how to the job. There was much discussion about the procedures. Proposed changes to the by-law's

presentation were given by Luis Trujillo. The by-laws were presented by overhead projector. Luis Trujillo explained the suggested changes. David Ingersol asked why the commission needs to be compensated and how much. Luis Trujillo stated that the subject was brought up for discussion because of the need for some kind of incentive to try to get people to volunteer to serve as a commissioner. The Mayordomo compensation definitely needs to be decided because we are having trouble finding a mayordomo. The by-law changes were explained in detail by Luis Trujillo. There was a consensus among the parciantes to form a committee of parciantes to discuss the proposed changes to the by-laws. A motion was made by Luis Trujillo and second by Jennifer Tafoya to form a committee. Ernie Velarde formed a committee. Xochitl Romero spoke about the Flooding of Camino de Paz. Xochitl explained the process that the neighborhood has to go through to get the arroyo fixed every time it is washed out or flooded. Xochitl explained that the arroyo is used as a road and it is peoples only access to their homes. Xochitl requested that the acequia stop using the arroyo as a desague.

Adjournment: There was a motion by Jenifer Tafoya to adjourn the meeting the motion was second by Warren Finch. The Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm

Ernesto Velarde
Chairman

Lonnie Montoya
Secretary

Luis Trujillo
Treasurer

Vacant
Mayordomo