



Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2026

In-Person Meeting

Attendees: See Attachment 1 for copy of attendee list

Announcements and General Business:

James opened the meeting and provided the following announcements:

1. New PUG board member introductions:
 - a. Kingsley Kuang, EBMUD (Secretary)
 - b. Dorothy Bechler, CCCSD (Communications)
 - c. Dustin Rainey, Jacobs (At-Large Representative)
2. Announcements
 - a. 2026/2027 membership season is open. Membership is \$400 per organization, and you can send as many people as you want to monthly meetings. Membership also provides a link to your firm on our website and reduced fees for our annual training in the fall and our annual seminar in February.
 - b. Upcoming PUG presentations – Still looking for presenters for December and onwards.
 - c. Upcoming events:
 - i. AWWA Young Professional networking event tonight, 7/14 in Orinda
 - ii. ASCE/UESI Pipelines - Aug 1-5, Detroit
 - iii. Water Reuse Conference – August 24-26, San Francisco
 - iv. WEFTEC 2026 - September 26-30, New Orleans
 - v. PUG Fall Training – October, details to come
 - vi. AWWA Water Conference of the West – April 19-22, Sacramento, abstracts open
 - vii. WESTT - October 20-21, Albuquerque
 - viii. No-Dig Show - March 21-25, 2027, Raleigh
 - ix. AWWA ACE - June 13-16, 2027, San Diego
3. Attendee introductions
4. Secretary Report
 - a. James provided a recap of June monthly presentation (PaverOps – Using GIS to Improve Project Scheduling and Utility Coordination).
5. Financial Report
 - a. Financial summary report provided by Fidel.
 - i. Income: \$1,156.65

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Secretary, Nor Cal PUG

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- ii. Expenses: \$1,151.12
- iii. Total Balance, End of June: \$80,584.44

Attendee Announcements/Discussions:

- Harris & Associates has project with Ross Valley Sanitary District that includes pilot tube auger boring. Fidel can arrange for site visit if there's interest.
- CCCSD just opened bids for South Orinda Phase 9 Project
 - 11,000 ft of small diameter open cut, pipe bursting, and CIPP
 - Low bid was with CTI at \$4.293M. High bid with \$5.8M. Engineer's estimate was \$5.9M. 9 bidders.
- SAK is starting project with SASD, designed by Woodard & Curran. Largest CIPP project ever at 84-in to 120-in in diameter, 3,500 ft total. Each shot of CIPP uses 1.0 to 1.5M gallons of cure water.

Conference Recaps:

- Nancy McWilliams, NASTT No-Dig Show
 - Columbia, TN – 15 trenchless crossings in 25-mile project with pipe from 36" to 60" in diameter. 180 borings, 60 specifically for trenchless. Discussed Karst formations, which can carry groundwater and cause fluid migration and slurry loss. Can also create caves, which create challenges for trenchless construction (HDD, auger boring, microtunneling).
 - West Windsor Township, NJ – 250-ft microtunnel, with 48" casing and 24" DIP crossing under Amtrak. Originally designed and bid in 2018 as jack & bore. Limited Geotech info provided to contractor, and they immediately encountered groundwater which pulled fines. Took 6 years to redesign and re-permit project to make the shafts water-tight. Amtrak required more vibration monitoring points than anticipated.
- James Kohne, NASTT No-Dig Show
 - Attended various CIPP technical sessions.
 - NASTT has knowledge hub for members.
- Fidel Salamanca, NASTT No-Dig Show
 - Attended presentations on large diameter CIPP and HDD, pipe jacking presentation, trends in trenchless, and trenchless CMB rehab
 - Attended site visit on 45-in microtunneling job that was designed by Harris & Associates. Total project cost is \$75M, 1,900 LF in total. Casing paused after 1000 LF to the recovery shaft. Currently negotiating CO with contractor to finish remaining 900 LF of casing. Fidel will provide update at future meeting.

Presentation:

"Sustainable Larger Diameter Low Pressure Conveyance", Cameron Brown & Doug Moe (ISCO Industries)

Overview:

Presentation was focused on HDPE applications and performance topics, material strengths and weaknesses, and other considerations for best project outcomes.

Highlights from the presentation include:

1. Presenter introductions
2. Challenges in modern infrastructure include: sustainability, service capacity, corrosion/abrasion, health and environment, geohazards, economics, construction tolerance

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3. Polyethylene (PE) pipe, including HDPE, addresses many of these challenges for pressurized, gravity, and underground infrastructure.
4. Are there concerns about FOG build-up in HDPE? No, fouling is not an issue for HDPE.
5. Design:
 - a. HDPE large diameter is defined as 18"-138". 3-inch wall was once considered the limit, but now up to 6 inches. HDPE pipes are generally made to order for each project and can accommodate irregular shapes.
 - b. Spirolite HDPE can handle up to 25 psi of static head and follows ASTM F894 standard for HDPE pipe, up to 120" diameter.
 - c. Competitors follow ASSHTO M294 for their competitors, which only accounts for short-term storm events, only one pipe class, and up to 5 psi.
 - d. Large diameter pipe has core tubes that reduces material consumption. Core tubes are made of polypropylene and only serve as a form during the HDPE manufacturing process.
 - e. Typical design is bell and spigot, but can extrusion weld and electro-fuse.
 - f. Standard length is 19.5-20 ft, but can be as short as 5 ft to install around bends.
6. ISCO currently working on project for Union San – collaboration with owner to address concerns about use in yard piping.
7. Can be used for above-grade applications as well: flume lining, industrial piping, ventilation, chemical and water tanks, temporary bypass system.
8. ISCO can provide shop drawings for custom builds.
9. Can be used for sliplining – common for DOT storm drains. Just make sure existing CMP is not deteriorated to the point where annular space grout spews out.
10. HDPE can be sensitive to thermal expansion, but an experienced contractor/installer will be aware of it. Also not as big of a concern for bell & spigot installations.
11. Comparison to PVC:
 - a. PVC is more cost effective in smaller diameters

Next Meeting:

The next general meeting will be at the Brown & Caldwell office on Tuesday, August 11th, 2026. The presentation is titled, "Mitigating I&I in WW Collection Systems" and will be presented by Kwin Peterson (RH Borden).

Please email pugnorcal@gmail.com for additional information.

SIGN IN SHEET
MEETING DATE: July 14, 2026



Attendees:

No	Name	Agency/Company	Email Address	Present?
1	Adam Brown	BKF	abrown@bkt.com	
2	Ajmal Shams	HDR, Inc.	ajmalkhan.shams@hdrinc.com	✓
3	Alexandra Watson	HydroScience	awatson@hydrosience.com	✓
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7	Casey Smith	SAK Construction LLC	Csmith@sakcon.com	X
8	Celia Kitchell	EBMUD	celia.kitchell@ebmud.com	
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