

# **County of Monterey**

*Board of Supervisor's Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, Ca 93901*



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, August 18, 2025**

**12:00 PM**

**Join via Zoom at <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/99769079850> or BoS  
Chambers 168 W. Alisal 1st Fl., Salinas, Ca 93901**

### **Water Resources Agency Board of Directors**

*Mike LeBarre, Chair  
Matt Simis, Vice Chair  
Mark Gonzalez  
Deidre Sullivan  
Ken Ekelund  
Mike Scattini  
Jason Smith  
John Baillie  
Jon Conatser*

**Participation in meetings:**

**You may attend the Board of Directors meeting through the following methods:**

**1. You may attend in person**

**2. Attend via Zoom (info below) or observe the live stream of the Board of Directors meetings at [http://monterey.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=19](http://monterey.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=19) or <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>**

**3. For ZOOM participation please join by computer audio at:  
<https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/99769079850>**

**OR to participate by phone call any of these numbers below:**

**+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**

**+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)**

**+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**

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**+1 301 715 8592 US**

**Enter this Meeting ID number: 997 6907 9850 when prompted. Please note there is no Participant Code, you will just press # again after the recording prompts you.**

**You will be placed in the meeting as an attendee; when you are ready to make a public comment if joined by computer audio please Raise your Hand; and by phone please push \*9 on your keypad.**

**PLEASE NOTE: IF ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE PRESENT IN PERSON, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BY ZOOM IS FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND IS NOT REQUIRED BY LAW. IF THE ZOOM FEED IS LOST FOR ANY REASON, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MAY BE PAUSED WHILE A FIX IS ATTEMPTED BUT THE MEETING MAY CONTINUE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON.**

**4. If you choose not to attend the Board of Directors meeting but wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the meeting.. Please submit your comment to the Secretary of the Board at [WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov](mailto:WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov) In an effort to assist the Secretary in identifying the agenda item relating to your public comment please indicate in the Subject Line, the meeting body (i.e. Board of Directors Agenda) and item number (i.e. Item No. 10). Your comment will be placed into the record at the Board meeting.**

**Participacion en Reuniones:**

**Puede asistir a la reunion de la Junta Directiva a traves de los siguientes metodos:**

- 1. Podar asistir personalmente a la reunion; o,**
- 2. Asistir por Zoom (informacion a continuacion), que observe la transmisión de la reunión de la Junta Directiva en vivo por [http://monterey.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=19](http://monterey.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=19) o <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>**
- 3. Para participar for ZOOM, por favor únase for audio de computadora por:  
[https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/997 6907 9850](https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/99769079850)**

**O para participar for teléfono, llame a cualquiera de los números a continuación:**

**+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**  
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**+1 301 715 8592 US**

**Cuando se le solicite, ingrese este número de reunión: 997 6907 9850. Por favor tenga en cuenta que no hay código de participante, simplemente presione # nuevamente después de que la grabación se lo indique.**

**Se le colocará en la reunion como asistente; cuando desee hacer un comentario público si esta unido por la computadora utilice la opción de levantar la mano en el chat de la pantalla; o por teléfono presione \*9 en su teclado.**

**TENGA EN CUENTA: SI TODOS LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA ESTÁN PRESENTES EN PERSONA, LA PARTICIPACIÓN PÚBLICA DE ZOOM ES SOLO POR CONVENIENCIA Y NO ES REQUERIDA POR LA LEY. SI EL FEED DE ZOOM SE PIERDE POR CUALQUIER MOTIVO, LA REUNIÓN DE LA JUNTA DIRECTIVA PUEDE PAUSARSE MIENTRAS SE INTENTA UNA SOLUCIÓN, PERO LA REUNIÓN PUEDE CONTINUAR A DISCRECIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE.**

- 4. Si prefiere no asistir a la reunión de la Junta Directiva pero desea hacer un comentario sobre algún tema específico de la agenda, por favor envíe su comentario por correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. el Viernes antes de la reunion.. Envíe su comentario al Secretario de la junta al correo electronico [WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov](mailto:WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov) mailto:WRAPubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov Para ayudar al Secretario a idenficar el artículo de la agenda relacionado con su comentario, por favor indique en la linea de asunto del correo electronico el cuerpo de la reunion (es decir, la Agenda de la Junta Directiva) y el número de artículo (es decir, el Artículo No. 10). Su comentario se colocará en el registro de la reunion de esta Junta.**

**NOTE: All agenda titles related to numbered agenda items are live web links. Click on the title to be directed to corresponding Board Report.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public may address comments to the Board concerning each agenda item. The timing of public comment shall be at the discretion of the Chair.**

**Call to Order at 12:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m.

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Mike LeBarre, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, Mike Scattini (arrived at 12:08 p.m.), John Baillie, John Conatser.

**Absent:** Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Jason Smith

**Public Comments on Closed Session Items**

None

1.
  - a. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2) and (d)(4), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of significant exposure to litigation and the potential initiation of litigation.
  - b. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of significant exposure to litigation.
  - c. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding existing litigation:

Pajaro River Cases: *Mario Gonzalez, et al. v. State of California, et al.*, Monterey County Superior Court Case No. 23CV004194 (as lead coordinated case, including subordinate Monterey County cases: 24CV000215; 24CV000421; 24CV000428; 24CV000848; 24CV000904; 24CV001269; and Santa Cruz case: 23CV03022)

*Nacimiento Regional Water Management Advisory Committee v. Monterey County Water Resources Agency, et al.* (San Luis Obispo Superior Court Case No. 19CVP-0010)

**Recess to Closed Session**

The meeting reconvened at 1:04 p.m., County Counsel has no reportable items from Closed Session.

**Reconvene Meeting at 1:00 P.M.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS BY CLERK: The Clerk of the Board will announce agenda corrections and proposed additions, which may acted on by the Board as provided in Sections 54954.2 of the California Government Code.**

**Public Comment**

None

**Presentations**

Director Comments: John Baillie, Mike Scattini, Mark Gonzalez

Staff Comments: None

Public Comment: None

2. Update on the Salinas River Operations Habitat Conservation Plan. (Presenter: Jason Demers)

**Attachments:**     [Salinas River Operations HCP PPT](#)

Director Comments: John Baillie, Mike Scattini, Mark Gonzalez, Mike LeBarre

Staff Comments: None

Public Comments: None

3. Update on the Salinas River Lagoon Slidegate Project. (Presenter: Elise Harden)

**Attachments:**     [OSR Presentation PPT](#)

**Consent Calendar**

Upon Motion by Director Mike Scattini and Second by Director Mark Gonzalez the Board approved the Consent Calendar.

Upon Motion by Director John Baillie Consent Item# 5 was pulled for further Board of Directors discussion.

Ayes: Mike LeBarre, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, Mike Scattini, John Baillie, Jon Conatser

Noes: None.

Absent: Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Jason Smith.

Abstained: None

Recused: None.

Board of Director Comments: None.

Public Comments: None.

4. Approve the Action Minutes of the Board of Directors meetings held on May 19, 2025, June 16,

2025; Special Board of Directors meetings held on June 13, 2025, July 9, 2025.

**Attachments:**     [draft BOD Minutes May 19, 2025](#)  
                              [draft BOD Minutes June 16, 2025](#)  
                              [Draft SPECIAL BOD Minutes June 13, 2025](#)  
                              [draft SPECIAL BOD Minutes July 9, 2025](#)

Upon Motion by Director Mark Gonzalez and Second by Director John Baillie the Board recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency of Supervisors approve and authorize the Monterey County Resources Agency General Manager to execute a quitclaim deed and any other associated documents to remove a flow ditch easement on a portion of property to the Big Sur Land Trust for the Carr Lake Restoration Project in the City of Salinas.

**Ayes:** Mike LeBarre, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, Mike Scattini, John Baillie, Jon Conatser

**Noes:** None.

**Absent:** Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Jason Smith

**Abstained:** None

**Recused:** None.

**Board of Director Comments:** Mark Gonzalez, John Baillie, Mike LeBarre

**Staff Comments:** Jennifer Bodensteiner

**Public Comments:** Rachel Saunders

5. Recommend that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the Monterey County Water Resources Agency General Manager to execute a quitclaim deed and any other associated documents to remove a flow ditch easement on a portion of property to the Big Sur Land Trust for the Carr Lake Restoration Project in the City of Salinas. (Staff: Jennifer Bodensteiner)

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                              [Quitclaim Deed](#)  
                              [Public Draft, City of Salinas Carr Lake BSLT IS/MND](#)  
                              [Board Order](#)

6. Authorize Amendment No. 3 to the Professional Services Agreement with GEI Consultants, Inc., to increase the dollar amount by \$249,676 for a total contract amount not-to- exceed \$477,296; and extend the term of the Agreement to December 31, 2027, to provide engineering services for Nacimiento Dam including design of a penstock protection wall; and authorize the General Manager to execute the Amendment. (Staff: Mark Foxworthy)

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                              [Amendment No. 3](#)  
                              [Amendment No.1](#)  
                              [Amendment No. 2](#)  
                              [Original Agreement for Professional Services](#)  
                              [Board Order](#)

**Action Items**

Upon Motion by Director John Baillie and Second by Director Mark Gonzalez the Board disapproved Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Services with Fieldman, Rolapp and Associates, Inc. to extend the term of the contract from August 3, 2025, to December 31, 2028, to increase the dollar amount by \$75,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$165,000 for financial management services; and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment.

Ayes: None

Noes: Mike LeBarre, Mark Gonzalez, Mike Scattini, John Baillie, Jon Conatser

Absent: Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Jason Smith

Abstained: None

Against: Matt Simis

Recused: None.

Board of Director Comments: John Baillie, Mike LeBarre

Public Comments: Nancy Isakson, Thomas Virsik

7. Consider approving Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Services with Fieldman, Rolapp and Associates, Inc., to extend the term of the contract from August 3, 2028, to December 31, 2028, to increase the dollar amount by \$75,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$165,000 for financial management services; and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment. (Presenter: Ara Azhderian)

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                              [Original Agreement for Services](#)  
                              [Amendment No. 1](#)  
                              [Revised Scope of Services](#)  
                              [07.09.25 Dam Safety& Operations Financial Strategy PPT](#)  
                              [Board Order](#)

Upon Motion by Director John Baillie and Second by Director Mark Gonzalez the Board approved Amendment No. 4 to the Agreement for Services with Quinn Company to increase the dollar amount by \$150,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$550,000 for short term equipment rental and preventative maintenance and repair of Agency owned heavy equipment; and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment.

Ayes: Mike LeBarre, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, Mike Scattini, John Baillie, Jon Conatser

Noes: None

Absent: Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Jason Smith

Abstained: None

Against: None

Recused: None.

Board of Director Comments: John Baillie, Mark Gonzalez

Public Comments: None

8. Consider approving Amendment No. 4 to the Agreement for Services with Quinn Company to increase the dollar amount by \$150,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$550,000 for short term equipment rental and preventative maintenance and repair of Agency owned heavy

equipment; and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment.

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                              [Original Agreement for Services](#)  
                              [Amendment No. 1](#)  
                              [Amendment No. 2](#)  
                              [Amendment No. 3](#)  
                              [Amendment No. 4](#)  
                              [Board Order](#)

Upon Motion by Director John Baillie and Second by Director Mark Gonzalez the Board recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution authorizing the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to enter into an agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to receive \$77,727 in funding for the Invasive Mussel Prevention to Preserve Boating Access at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs project; and authorizing the General Manager, or designee, to execute the agreement and any amendments thereto, and to submit any required documents, invoices, and reports required to obtain the funds on behalf of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency.

Ayes: Mike LeBarre, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, Mike Scattini, John Baillie, Jon Conatser

Noes: None

Absent: Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Jason Smith

Abstained: None

Against: None

Recused: None.

Board of Director Comments: Mike Scattini, Mark Gonzalez

Public Comments: None

9. Consider recommending that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution authorizing the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to enter into an agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to receive \$77,727 in funding for the Invasive Mussel Prevention to Preserve Boating Access at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs project; and authorizing the General Manager, or designee, to execute the agreement and any amendments thereto, and to submit any required documents, invoices, and reports required to obtain the funds on behalf of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. (Presenter: Marinn Browne)

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                              [Board of Supervisors Resolution](#)  
                              [Board Order](#)

Upon Motion by Director John Baillie and Second by Director Mark Gonzalez the Board recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve and authorize the General Manager to execute a Master Agreement for Professional Services for the Groundwater Monitoring Program and Task Order No. 2025-01, with a retroactive term beginning on March 1, 2025, in the amount of \$802,536 between the MCWRA and the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGS), pending review and approval as to form by County Counsel; and



2. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (FY26) Adopted Budget for MCWRA Fund 111 (111-9300-WRA001- 8267), to increase its appropriations by \$400,000 and to increase revenue by \$199,070, funded by grant revenue and \$802,536, financed via a Master Agreement for Professional Services between MCWRA and SVBGSA (4/5ths vote required); and
3. Authorize the Auditor-Controller's Office to incorporate approved budget modifications to the FY26 Adopted Budget.

Ayes: Mike LeBarre, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, John Baillie, Jon Conatser

Noes: Mike Scattini,

Absent: Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Jason Smith

Abstained: None

Against: None

Recused: None.

Board of Director Comments: Mike Scattini, Mark Gonzalez

Public Comments: Nancy Isakson

10. Consider recommending that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) Board of Supervisors:
  1. Approve and authorize the General Manager to execute a Master Agreement for Professional Services for the Groundwater Monitoring Program and Task Order No. 2025-01, with a retroactive term beginning on March 1, 2025, in the amount of \$802,536 between the MCWRA and the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA), pending review and approval as to form by County Counsel; and
  2. Authorize the Auditor-Controller to amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (FY26) Adopted Budget for MCWRA Fund 111 (111-9300-WRA001-8267), to increase its appropriations by \$400,000 and to increase revenue by \$199,070, funded by grant revenue and \$802,536, financed via a Master Agreement for Professional Services between MCWRA and SVBGSA (4/5ths vote required); and
  3. Authorize the Auditor-Controller's Office to incorporate approved budget modifications to the FY26 Adopted Budget. (Presenter: Shaunna Murray)

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                              [Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 25-249](#)  
                              [Master Agreement and Task Order No. 2025-01](#)  
                              [Board Order](#)

### **Key Information and Calendar of Events**

11. August, September and October 2025 Calendars.

**Attachments:**     [August 2025](#)  
                              [September 2025](#)  
                              [October 2025](#)

### **General Manager's Report**

Board of Directors Comments: Mark Gonzalez, Jon Conaster

**Staff Comments: None**

**Public Comments: None**

- 12.
1. Personnel
  2. Groundwater Monitoring Program Regulatory Fees
  3. Dam Safety & Operations Future Funding Strategy
  4. Salinas River Habitat Conservation Plan
  5. Property Management
  6. Mussel Prevention Program
  7. Regulatory/Legislative Activities

**Attachments:**     [General Manager Report](#)

### **Committee Reports**

13. Committee Agenda's and Cancellation Notices for July and August 2025:

- Water Resources Agency Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee Cancellation Notice
- Water Resources Agency Finance Committee
- Water Resources Personnel and Administration Committee Cancellation Notice
- Water Resources Agency Basin Management Advisory Committee
- Water Resources Agency Planning Committee
- County of Monterey Legislative Committee Cancellation Notice
- County of Monterey Legislative Committee Special Meeting

**Attachments:**     [ResOps July Cancellation Notice](#)  
                              [Final Finance Agenda August 1, 2025](#)  
                              [P&A Aug Cancellation Notice](#)  
                              [Final BMAC Agenda Aug 6, 2025](#)  
                              [Final Planning Agenda August 6, 2025](#)  
                              [MoCo Legislative Committee Cancellation Notice](#)  
                              [MoCo Legislative Committee Special Meeting Agenda Aug 14, 2025](#)

### **Information Items**

14. 2024 Groundwater Extraction Summary Report. (Staff: Amy Woodrow, Ricardo Carmona, Guillermo Diaz-Moreno, Riley Clark)

**Attachments:**     [2024 Groundwater Extraction Summary Report](#)

15. Reservoir Storage and Release Update. (Staff: Joseph Klein)

**Attachments:**     [Reservoir Storage Release Update](#)

### Correspondence

16. 1. Email Correspondence dated June 20, 2025, to Chair and Directors, Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) from Thomas S. Virsik, Attorney at Law re: Code of Conduct Values
2. Email Correspondence dated July 3, 2025, to Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors from Christopher Bunn, President, Salinas Basin Water Alliance re: Concerns regarding Monterey County Water Resources Agency's April 2025 update to Historic Benefits Assessment of Water Infrastructure Projects for Salinas Valley.
3. Email Correspondence dated July 3, 2025, to Director Ekelund and Members of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board from Bill Lipe re: Revised Perspective on the San Antonio Spillway Replacement - A Data-Driven Commitment to Safety.
4. Email Correspondence dated July 16, 2025, to Clerk of the Boards from Bill Lipe re: Request for Electronic Distribution of Public Comment to Leadership Committee.
5. Letter dated July 23, 2025, to Cynthia Boe, Chief Executive Officer, Town Creek Association from Ara Azhderian, General Manager, Monterey County Water Resources Agency re: Mussel Prevention Program.

**Attachments:**

[Email Code of Conduct 20June2025 Virisk](#)

[Email Salinas Basin Water Alliance HBA Draft 070325](#)

[Email Revised Perspective on the SA Spillway Replacement](#)

[Email Request for Electronic Distribution of Public Comment 071625](#)

[LTR WRA to Town Creek Association 072425](#)

### Board of Directors Comments

**Directors Comments: John Baillie, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez.**

### Adjournment

**The meeting adjourned at 3:14 p.m.**