

County of Monterey

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



Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 17, 2025

10:00 AM

SPECIAL MEETING - FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET WORKSHOP/ BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**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 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)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+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 or <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 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)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 253 215 8782 US
+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 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.

THE BOARD RECESSES FOR CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS: Closed Session may be held at the conclusion of the Board's Agenda, or at any other time during the course of the meeting, before or after the scheduled time, announced by the Chairperson of the Board. The public may comment on Closed Session items prior to the Board's recess to Closed Session.

Call to Order Special Board of Directors meeting - Budget Workshop at 10:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00a.m.

Roll Call

Mike LeBarre, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Mike Scattini (arrived at 10:01 a.m.), Jason Smith (arrived at 10:22 a.m.), John Baillie, Jon Conatser.

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.

Action Items

Director Comments: Ken Ekelund, Mark Gonzalez, John Baillie, Jason Smith, Mike Scattini, Matt Simis, Deidre Sullivan.

Staff Comments: Nan Kim, Am Woodrow, Pete Vannerus.

Public Comment: None

1. Hold a workshop to review the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Fiscal Year 2025 - 26 Requested Budget and provide direction to staff:
 - Introduction (Presenter: Ara Azhderian)
 - FY26 Budget Approach & Overview (Presenter: Shaunna Murray)
 - FY26 Budget Review (Presenter: Nan Kim)
 - Groundwater Monitoring Program (Presenter: Amy Woodrow)
 - Recycling Water Program Budget Needs (Presenter: Pete Vannerus)

- Fund 116 Dam Operations Budget Needs
 - o Funding Gap and Plans (Presenter: Ara Azhderian)
 - o Grant Funded Projects (Presenter: Elise Harden, Mark Foxworthy, Jason Demers)
- Recapitulation and Next Steps. (Presenter: Ara Azhderian)

Attachments: [FY26 WRA Budget Book](#)

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Call to Order Board of Director meeting at 12:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Public Comments on Closed Session Items

None.

2. Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:
 - a. Pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b)(1), the Board will provide a performance evaluation for the General Manager.
 - b. 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.
 - 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; 24CVOOO428; 24CV000848; 24CV000904; 24CV001269; and Santa Cruz case: 23CV03022).

Note: Continuance of Closed Session to be held at the conclusion of the Board's Regular Agenda, or at any other time during the course of the meeting announced by the Chairperson of the Board. The public may comment on Closed Session items prior to the Board's recess to

Closed Session.

Recess to Closed Session

Reconvene Meeting at 1:00 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 1:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

None

Consent Calendar

Upon Motion by Director Mark Gonzalez and Second by Matt Simis the Board approved the Consent Calendar.

Ayes: Mike LeBarre, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, Ken Ekelund, Mike Scattini, Jason Smith, Jon Conatser

Noes: None.

Absent: John Baillie; Deidre Sullivan

Abstained:

Recused: None.

Board of Director Comments: None.

Public Comments: None.

3. Approve the Action Minutes of February 18, 2025 and Special Board of Directors Meeting Action Minutes of February 18, 2025.

Attachments: [draft BOD Minutes February 18, 2025](#)
 [draft Special BOD Minutes February 18, 2025](#)

4. Approve Amendment No. 3 to the Agreement for Services with Industrial Machine Shop to increase the dollar amount by \$250,000 for a new contract total not to exceed \$790,000 to accommodate emergency equipment repairs and as-needed fabrication and repair services related to Agency facilities and equipment; and authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 3.

(Staff: Jason Demers)

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

5. Ratify Amendment No.4 of the agreement for Professional Services with GEI Consultants, Inc., to

extend the term length to June 30, 2027, for engineering design & project management services for storm damage repair design and implementation of the Nacimiento Dam Hydro-Plant's South Access Road; and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment.

(Staff: Guillermo Alvarez)

Attachments: [Board Report](#)
 [Amendment No. 4](#)
 [Agreement for Professional Services](#)
 [Amendment No's. 1, 2 and 3](#)
 [Board Order](#)

Action Items

6. Consider approving Amendment No. 8 to the Agreement for Professional Services with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. to increase the dollar amount by \$1,254,464 for a new contract total not to exceed \$2,900,153 to complete the Plunge Pool Erosion Protection Design at the Nacimiento Dam Spillway; and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment.
(Staff Presenting: Mark Foxworthy)

Attachments: [Board Report](#)
 [Amendment No. 8](#)
 [Agreement for Professional Services](#)
 [Amendment Nos. 1 thru 7](#)
 [Board Order](#)

Upon Motion by Director Ken Ekelund and Second by Mark Gonzalez the Board approved Amendment No. 8 to the Agreement for Professional Services with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. to increase the dollar amount by \$1,254,464 for a new contract total not to exceed \$2,900,153 to complete the Plunge Pool Erosion Protection Design at the Nacimiento Dam Spillway; and authorize the General Manager to execute the amendment.

Ayes: Mike LeBarre, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Mike Scattini, Jason Smith, John Baillie, Jon Conatser

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstained: None.

Recused: None.

Board of Director Comments: None.

Public Comments: Norm Groot

Key Information and Calendar of Events

7. March, April, and May 2025 Calendars.

Attachments: [March 2025](#)
 [April 2025](#)
 [May 2025](#)

Director Comments: Ken Ekelund

General Manager's Report

- 8.
- Personnel
 - Dam Safety Funding
 - Monterey One Water Reconciliation Process
 - Monterey Peninsula Water Management District PWMx Proposed Water Allocation
 - Association of California Water Agencies
 - Regulatory/Legislative Activities
 - Other

Presentations

Director Comments: Mark Gonzalez, Deidre Sullivan

9. Board of Director training concerning the Brown Act and conflict of interest regulations.
(Presenter: Kelly Donlon, Chief Assistant County Counsel)

Committee Reports

Board of Director Chair Mike LeBarre appointed Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee members as follows:

Board of Director Chair: Ken Ekelund
Board of Director: Matt Simis
Board of Director: Mark Gonzalez
Board of Director: John Baillie
Monterey County Parks Department: John Anthony
Lakes Resort Concessionaire: Layla Decker
SLO Co Public Works Department: Anna McKenna
NRWMAC: Steve Blois
Salinas Valley Clty: Vacant
Pressure groundwater subarea: Doug Scattini
East Side groundwater subarea: Denis Lebow
Forebay groundwater subarea: Vacant
Upper Valley groundwater subarea: Bill Lipe
Public at Large: Marc Kelley, Patrick Breen, Richard Ortiz

10. Committee Agenda's and Cancellation Notices for February and March 2025:
- Water Resources Agency Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee
 - Water Resources Agency Basin Management
 - Water Resources Agency Planning Committee Cancellation Notice
 - Water Resources Agency Finance Committee
 - Water Resources Personnel and Administration Advisory Committee

Cancellation Notice

Attachments: [Final ResOps Agenda February 27, 2025](#)
 [Final BMAC Agenda March 5, 2025](#)
 [Planning Cancellation Notice March 2025](#)
 [Final Finance Agenda March 7, 2025](#)
 [P&A March Cancellation Notice](#)

Information Items

11. Reservoir Storage Release Update Report. (Staff: Peter Kwick)

Attachments: [Reservoir Storage Release Update](#)

Correspondence

12. 1. Letter dated February 18, 2025, to Honorable Jimmy Panetta, and Honorable Zoe Lofgren, from Chris Lopez, Chair Monterey County Board of Supervisors RE: H.R. 338, the Every Drop Counts Act. - SUPPORT
2. Letter dated February 18, 2025, to Honorable Alex Padilla and Honorable Adam Schiff, from Chris Lopez, Chair Monterey County Board of Supervisors RE: H.R. 471, Fix our Forest Act. - SUPPORT
3. Letter dated February 18, 2025, to Honorable Jimmy Panetta, and Honorable Zoe Lofgren, from Chris Lopez, Chair Monterey County Board of Supervisors RE: H.R. 471, Fix our Forest Act. - SUPPORT
4. Letter dated February 15, 2025, to Honorable Alex Padilla, Honorable Adam Schiff, Honorable Jimmy Panetta and Honorable Zoe Lofgren, from Chris Lopez, Chair Monterey County Board of Supervisors RE: Impacts of Office Management and Budget Federal Funding Pause

Attachments: [Every Drop Counts Act \(HR 338\) Panetta - Lofgren Support 2.18.25](#)
 [Fix Our Forests Act \(HR 471\) Padilla-Schiff – Support 2.18.25](#)
 [Fix Our Forests Act \(HR 471\) Panetta-Lofgren – Support 2.18.25](#)
 [LTR RE: Impacts of Office Managements Protect Federal Funding](#)

Board of Directors Comments

Jason Smith, Mike LeBarre.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:55p.m.