County of Monterey

Saffron Room
1441 Schilling Place
Salinas Ca. 93901

Meeting Minutes - Final

Saffron Room
1441 Schilling Place, Salinas, Ca. 93901

Monday, June 15, 2026

12:00 PM

Water Resources Agency Board of Directors

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

For information on The Ralph M. Brown Act: Open Meetings please click on the link below:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtmldivision=2.&chapter=9.&part=1.&lawCode=GOV&title=5

Participation in meetings:
You may attend the Board of Directors meeting through the following methods:
You may attend in person

For ZOOM participation please join by computer audio at:
https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/93366103733
Password: 885643

OR to participate by phone call any of these numbers below:
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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
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+1 253 215 8782 US
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PLEASE NOTE: IF ALL 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 MEETING MAY BE PAUSED WHILE A FIX IS ATTEMPTED BUT THE MEETING MAY CONTINUE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON.

Enter this Meeting ID number: 933 6610 3733, PASSWORD: 885643. 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.

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. 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 date (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.

ALTERNATE AGENDA FORMATS: If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals with a disability requiring a modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting may make these requests to the Water Resources Agency Office the Friday prior to the Board of Directors meeting.

Participacion en Reuniones:
Puede asistir a la reunion de la Junta Directiva a traves de los siguientes metodos:
Podar asistir personalmente a la reunion; o,

Para participar por ZOOM, por favor únase for audio de computadora por:
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POR FAVOR TENGA EN CUENTA: SI TODOS LOS MIEMBROS DEL COMITÉ ESTÁN PRESENTES EN PERSONA, EL ACCESO POR ZOOM ES SOLO POR CONVENIENCIA Y NO ES LEGALMENTE REQUERIDO. SI SE PIERDE LA SEÑAL DE ZOOM, LA REUNIÓN PUEDE PAUSARSE BREVE PERO PUEDE CONTINUAR A DISCRECIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE.

Cuando se le solicite, ingrese este número de reunión: 933 6610 3733, Codigo: 885643. Por favor tenga en cuenta 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 deseé hacer un comentario público si esta unido por la computadora utilize la opción de levantar la mano en el chat de la pantalla; o
por teléfono presione *9 en su teclado de telefono.

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 envie su comentario por correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. el Viernes antes de la reunion. Envie su comentario a la Secretaria de la Junta al correo electronico WRApubliccomment@countyofmonterey.gov. Para ayudar a la Secretaria a idenficar el artículo de la agenda relacionado con su comentario, por favor indique en la linea de asunto del correo electronico la fecha de la reunion (ejemplo, la Agenda de la Junta Directiva) y el número de artículo (ejemplo, el Artículo No. 10). Su comentario se colocará en el registro de la reunion de esta Junta.

Formatos Alternativos de Agenda: si se solicita, la agenda estar disponsible en formatos alternativos apropiados para personas con discapacidad, segun lo requerido por la Seccion 202 de la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades de 1990 (42 USC Sec. 12132) y las normas y regulaciones federales adoptadas para su implementacion. Las personas con discapacidad que reuieran una modificacion o adaptacion, includios ayudas o servicios auxiliares, para poder participar en la reunion publica pueden hacer estas solicitiudes a la Agencia de Recursos Hidricos el Viernes antes de la reunion.

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

Call to Order at 12:00 P.M.

The Meeting was called to order at 12:01pm.

Roll Call

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

Absent: Mike Scattini

Public Comments on Closed Session Items

None

Recess to Closed Session

The Board recessed to Closed Sessions.

Closed Session

1. Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:

a. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding existing litigation:

i. *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; 24CV000904; 24CV001269; 25CV004183; and Santa Cruz case: 23CV03022)

b. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4), the Board of Directors will confer with legal counsel regarding potential initiation of litigation.

Reconvene Meeting at 1:00 P.M.

The Board Reconvened at 1:03pm.
Roll Call -Present: Matt Simis, Jason Smith, Mike Scattini, Mark Gonzalez, Deidre Sullivan, Jon Conatser, Ken Ekelund, John Baillie, Mike LeBarre
Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions and Corrections by Clerk: The Clerk of the Board will announce agenda corrections and proposed additions, which may be acted on by the Board as provided in Sections 54954.2 of the California Government Code.

None

Public Comment

None

Presentations

Director Comments: Mike Scattini, Mike LeBarre, Jason Smith
Public Comments: None

2. Review of the Water Year 2025 Groundwater Extraction Summary Report (Staff: Amy Woodrow)

Consent Calendar

3. Approve the Action Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on May 18, 2026.

Approve the Action Minutes of the Special Joint Board of Directors meeting held on May 18, 2026

Upon Motion by Director Ken Ekelund, and Seconded by Jason Smith the board approved the Consent Calendar Draft Meeting Minutes May 18, 2026, and Items #4 and #5.
Ayes: Ken Ekelund, Jason Smith, Matt Simis, Mike Scattini, Deidre Sullivan, Jon Conatser, Mark Gonzalez, John Baillie, Mike LeBarre
Noes: None
Absent: None

Item #3 Draft Special Meeting Minutes May 18, 2026 was pulled by Director Baillie.
Ayes: Matt Simis, Jason Smith, Mark Gonzalez, Ken Ekelund, Mike Scattini, Mike LeBarre
Noes; None
Absent: None
Abstained: John Baillie, Jon Conatser, Deidre Sullivan

4. Approve Amendment No. 3 to the Agreement for Services with ICF Jones & Stokes, Inc. to include their recent name change to ICF Environmental, extend the term of the agreement for three years to June 30, 2029; and Authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 3.

5. Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Services with The Don Chapin Company, Inc., for as-needed and emergency CSIP pipeline and equipment repairs, to extend the term length to July 1st 2028, to add a dollar increase of $250,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed $350,000; and authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 1.

Scheduled Items

6. Authorize the General Manager to execute a professional services agreement between Worthington Products Inc., and Monterey County Water Resources Agency for design, procurement, and installation of a Tuffboom Boat Barrier Buoy system for San Antonio Reservoir and additional Tuffboom parts for Nacimiento Reservoir in the amount of $1,180,147; and approve and authorize the General Manager to execute up to three future contract change orders that do not exceed 20% ($236,029) of the original agreement, for a total contract amount not to exceed amount of $1,416,176.

Upon Motion of Director Jason Smith and Seconded by Mark Gonzalez the Board approved a profession agreement between Worthington Products inc,. and Monterey County Water Resources Agency for design, procurement, and installation of a Tuffboom Boat Barrier Buoy system for San Antonio Reservoir and additional Tuffboom parts for Nacimiento Reservoir in in the amount of $1,180,147;and approve and authorize the General Manager to execute up to three future contract change orders that do not exceed 20%.

Ayes: Jason Smith, Matt Simis, Mark Gonzalez, Jon Conatser, Deidre Sullivan, Mike LeBarre, John Baillie, Mike Scattini, Ken Ekelund
Noes: None
Absent: None

Director Comments: Jason Smith, Mark Gonzalez, John Baillie
Public Comments: None

7. Consider approving Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Services with Phenix Environmental Planning., for environmental support services for the Nacimiento Plunge Pool Project, to add a dollar increase of $75,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed $150,000; and authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 1.

Upon Motion of Director Mike Scattini, and Seconded by Jon Conatser the Board approved Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for Services with Phenix Environmental Planning, for environmental support services for the Nacimiento Plunge Pool Project, to add a dollar increase of $75,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed $150,000;and authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 1.

Ayes: Mike Scattini, Jon Conatser, Matt Simis, Jason Smith, Deidre Sullivan, Mark Gonzalez, Ken Ekelund, Mike LeBarre, John Baillie
Noes: None
Absent: None

Director Comments: None
Public Comments: None

8. Recommend that the Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency approve grazing lease forms and a public bid notice for Agency grazing lands located around San Antonio and Nacimiento Reservoirs; and direct the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to advertise for bids.

Upon Motion by Director Mike LeBarre, and Seconded by Mark Gonzalez the board approved the recommendation that the Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency approve grazing lease forms and a public bid notice for Agency grazing lands located around San Antonio and Nacimiento Reservoirs; and direct the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to advertise for bids.

Ayes: Mike LeBarre, Mark Gonzalez, Jon Conatser, Deidre Sullivan John Baillie, Matt Simis, Jason Smith,
Mike Scattini, Ken Ekelund
Noes: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

Director Comments: Ken Ekelund, Mike LeBarre, Mark Gonzalez, John Baillie
Public Comments: None

9. Recommend to the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors to Adopt Plans and Special Provisions for the South Access Road Repair at Nacimiento Dam, Project No. 26-005; and Authorize the General Manager of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to advertise the "Notice to

Bidders” in the Monterey County Weekly.

Upon Motion by Director Ken Ekelund, and Seconded by Jon Conatser the board approved recommendation to the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors to adopt plans and Special Provisions for the South Access Road Repair at Nacimiento Dam, Project No. 26-005; and authorize the General Manager of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to advertise the "Notice to Bidders" in the Monterey County Weekly.

Ayes: Ken Ekelund, Jon Conatser, Matt Simis, Jason Smith, Deidre Sullivan, John Baillie, Mike LeBarre, Mike Scattini, Mark Gonzalez
Noes: None
Abstained: None
Absent: None

Director Comments: Mike LeBarre, Mark Gonzalez
Public Comments: None

10. Consider receiving the Deep Aquifers Management Recommendations Memorandum.

Upon Motion by Director Ken Ekelund, and Seconded by Mark Gonalez the board received the Deep Aquifers Management Recommendations Memorandum.

Ayes: Ken Ekelund, Mark Gonzalez, Deidre Sullivan, Jon Conatser, Matt Simis, Jason Smith, Mike LeBarre
Noes: None
Abstained: Mike Scattini, John Baillie
Absent: None

Director Comments: Mike Scattini
Public Comments via Zoom: Dennis Lebow, Thomas Virsik

11. a. Review the findings and recommendations of the 2025-2026 Monterey County Civil Grand Jury (CGJ) report titled "Seawater Intrusion - A Shared Problem in Monterey County"; and,
b. Consider the draft response to the above-referenced 2025-2026 Civil Grand Jury report; and,
c. Authorize the Board's response to be filed with the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

Upon Motion by Director Mark Gonzalez and Seconded by Director Mike LeBarre the board reviewed the findings and recommendations of the 2025-2026 Monterey County Civil Grand Jury (CGJ) report titled "Seawater Intrusion - A Shared Problem in Monterey County"; and, considered the draft response to the above-referenced 2025-2026 Civil Grand Jury report; and authorize the Board's response to be filed with the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

Ayes: Mark Gonzalez. Mike LeBarre, Jon Conaster, Deidre Sullivan, John Baillie, Matt Simis, Jason Smith, Ken Ekelund
Noes: None
Abstained: None
Absent: Mike Scattini

Director Comments: John Baillie
Public Comments: None

Key Information and Calendar of Events

Director Comments: None
Public Comments: None

12. June 2026 Calendar
July 2026 Calendar

General Manager's Report

Director Comments: John Baillie, Matt Simis
Public Comments: None

13.
1. Personnel
2. General Liability and Pollution Insurance

Committee Reports

Director Comments: Ken Ekelund
Public Comments: None

14. Committee Agenda's for May and June 2026.

Information Items

Director Comments: None
Public Comments: None

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

16. Update on staff's participation in the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Advisory Committee.

Correspondence

Director Comments: None
Public Comments: None

17. Email Correspondence dated May 18, 2026, to Ara Azhderian, General Manager, Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Clerk of the Board, Clerks.
From Bill Lipe, Public Member

Re: Public Comment Joint MCWRA & SVBGSA Workshop

Email Correspondence dated May 22, 2026, to Ara Azhderian, General Manager, Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Clerk of the Board, Clerks.
From Bill Lipe, Public Member
Re: General Public Comment Re May 18, 2026, SVBGSA & MCWRA Joint Board Workshop for Distribution and Record Placement

Email Correspondence dated May 26, 2026, to Ara Azhderian, General Manager, Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Clerk of the Board, Clerks.
From Bill Lipe, Public Member
Re: General Public Comment for Entry into the Record-May 18, 2026 SVBSA & MCWRA Joint Board Workshop

Board of Directors Comments

None

Adjournment