

County of Monterey

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



Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 20, 2025

12:30 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 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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+1 253 215 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 <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/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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+1 253 215 8782 US

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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 línea de asunto del correo electrónico el cuerpo de la reunión (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 reunión de esta Junta.

Call to Order at 12:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 pm.

Roll Call

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

Absent: None

Public Comments on Closed Session Items

1. Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:
 - 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)(1), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding existing litigation: *Ed Borchard & Sons, LLC v. Monterey County Water Resources Agency*, Monterey County Superior Court Case No. 25CV00461.

Recess to Closed Session

Reconvene Meeting at 1:00 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 1:07 p.m., County Counsel has no reportable items from Closed Session.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

None

Presentations

2. Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program Effectiveness Assessment. (Presenter: Paul Robins)

Attachments: [RCDMC Presentation SMP Effectiveness MCWRA Board 10-20-2025](#)

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

Public Comments: Christopher Bunn

Consent Calendar

3. Approve the Action Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on September 15, 2025.

Attachments: [draft BOD Minutes September 15, 2025](#)

Upon Motion by Director Ken Ekelund and Second by Director Mark Gonzalez the Board approved the Consent Calendar.

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: Mike Lebarre

Public Comments: None.

Action Items

4. Consider receiving an update on implementation of the Interim Operations Plan for San Antonio and Nacimiento Reservoirs and adopt a revised passage flow target for steelhead migration in the Salinas River. (Staff: Peter Kwiek)

Attachments: [Board Report](#)

Directors Comments: John Baillie, Deidre Sullivan, Ken Ekelund, Mike Scattini

Public Comments: Bille Lipe

5. Consider recommendations from the Planning Committee for proposed revisions to the Agency's Bylaws and provide direction. (Staff: Ara Azhderian)

Attachments: [Board Report](#)

[Proposed Amendments WRA Bylaws - October 2025 BOD](#)

[Planning Committee Memorandum Re: Considerations for modernizing Agency](#)

[BOD governance guidance](#)

[SVBGSA Brown Act Board Roles Responsibilities](#)

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

Public Comments: Nancy Isakson, Thomas Virsik

Key Information and Calendar of Events

6. October, November and December 2025 Calendars.

Attachments: [October 2025](#)
 [November 2025](#)
 [December 2025](#)

Directors Comments: None
Public Comments: None

General Manager's Report

7. 1. Personnel
 2. Dam Safety & Operations Future Funding Strategy
 3. Mussel Prevention Program

Directors Comments: Jason Smith, John Baillie
Public Comments: Chris Bunn, Nancy Isakson, Bill Lipe

Committee Reports

8. Committee Agenda's and Cancellation Notices for September and October 2025:
- Water Resources Agency Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee
 - Water Resources Agency Finance Committee Cancellation Notice
 - Water Resources Personnel and Administration Committee Cancellation Notice
 - Water Resources Agency Basin Management Advisory Committee Cancellation Notice
 - Water Resources Agency Planning Committee
 - Joint Water Resources/Board of Supervisors Leadership Committee Cancellation Notice
 - Budget Committee
 - County of Monterey Legislative Committee

Attachments: [Final ResOps Agenda September 25, 2025](#)
 [Finance Cancellation Notice October 3, 2025](#)
 [P&A Cancellation Notice October 3, 2025](#)
 [BMAC Cancellation Notice October 1, 2025](#)
 [Final Planning Agenda October 1, 2025](#)
 [JBL Cancellation Notice September 18, 2025](#)
 [Budget Committee Agenda Sept 24, 2025](#)
 [Legislative Committee Agenda October 13, 2025](#)

Information Items

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

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

Directors Comments: None

Public Comments: None

Correspondence

10. 1. Email Correspondence dated September 11, 2025 to Ara Azhderian, General Manager, Board of Supervisors, Board of Directors, Monterey County Water Resources Agency from Bill Lipe, re: Submission of Somavia Road Managed Aquifer Recharge Project Policy Paper.
2. Email Correspondence dated September 15, 2025 to Ara Azhderian, General Manager, Board of Directors, Monterey County Water Resources Agency from Thomas Virsik, Attorney at Law re: WRA BOD public comment violation.
3. Email Correspondence dated September 16, 2025 to Ara Azhderian, General Manager, Board of Directors, Monterey County Water Resources Agency from Thomas Virsik, Attorney at Law re: September 15, 2025 MCWRA BOD Meeting. WRA BOD public comment violation.
4. Correspondence dated September 16, 2025 to Ara Azhderian, General Manager, Monterey County Water Resources Agency from Frank L. Blackett P.E., Regional Engineer Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Office of Energy Projects Division of Dam Safety and Inspections -San Francisco Regional Office re: 8th Independent Consultant's Safety Inspection Report for Nacimiento Dam.
5. Correspondence dated September 23, 2025 to Ara Azhderian, General Manager, Monterey County Water Resources Agency from Frank L. Blackett P.E., Regional Engineer Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Office of Energy Projects Division of Dam Safety and Inspections - San Francisco Regional Office re: 2025 Dam Safety Inspection Follow-Up.

Attachments: [Submission of the Somavia Road Managed Aquifer Recharge Project Policy Paper](#)
[WRA BOD public comment violation](#)
[September 15, 2025 -- MCWRA BOD Meeting](#)
[Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Sept.16,2025](#)
[Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Sept. 23,2025](#)

Directors Comments: None

Public Comments: None

Board of Directors Comments

Directors Comments: Jason Smith, Jon Conaster, Mike Scattini, Mark Gonzalez, John Baillie, Matt

Simis.

Adjournment

Director Simis proceeded to allow public time for Comments due to September meeting public time was cut short.

Public Comments: Bill Lipe

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm.