



County of Monterey

Item No.1

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRAG 26-109

April 07, 2026

Introduced: 4/2/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA General

- a. Approve a new employment agreement with Ara Azhderian as General Manager for the Water Resources Agency; and,
- b. Authorize the Chair to execute the agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approve a new employment agreement with Ara Azhderian as General Manager for the Water Resources Agency; and,
- b. Authorize the Chair to execute the agreement.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

Ara Azhderian has served as General Manager of the Water Resources Agency (Agency) since April 24, 2023. He brings more than 25 years of executive-level experience in water management, along with a strong record of leadership and collaboration, which have provided significant value to the Agency. His continued service will support the Agency's mission and ongoing initiatives, and he remains well-qualified to serve as General Manager.

The terms of the proposed employment agreement have been negotiated and are satisfactory to both the County and Mr. Azhderian. The agreement establishes a new term effective April 24, 2026, through December 31, 2031.

The Board is requested to approve the employment agreement, consistent with the terms outlined in the attached document, and to authorize the Chair to execute the agreement.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The County Administrative Office collaborated with the Office of the County Counsel and the Human Resources Department on the review of this report.

FINANCING:

Costs associated with this agreement are included within the department budget.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

Approval of the recommended administrative action demonstrates the County's commitment to retain talented workforce that supports the County's mission.

- Well-Being and Quality of Life
- Sustainable Infrastructure for the Present and Future
- Safe and Resilient Communities
- Diverse and Thriving Economy
- Dynamic Organization and Employer of Choice

X Administrative

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Susan K. Blich, County Counsel
Approved by: Sonia M. De La Rosa, County Administrative Officer

Attachment: Proposed Employment Agreement