

MINUTES OF THE FORMAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
February 26, 2026

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Abdullahi called the Administrative and Finance Committee meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. and welcomed Director Kerschbaum as the new Vice Chair for the A&F Committee. Committee members present were Chair Abdullahi, Vice Chairs Arant and Kerschbaum, and Directors Acosta*, Douglass, Hilliker, Norman, Serrano, Whitburn, and Williams. Committee members absent were Directors Morrison, Qualin, Robak, and Sanchez. Also present were Directors Ayala, Castaneda, Coates-Hedberg, Fong-Sakai, Frieauf, Katz, Madaffer, Macedo, Meyers, Miller, Molina, Paul, Rivera, Scalzitti, and Wahl. At that time, there was a quorum of the Board, and the meeting was conducted as a meeting of the Board; however, only committee members participated in the vote.

Staff present were General Manager Denham, General Counsel Edwards, Deputy General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Berge, Assistant General Manager Bradford, Director of Finance/Treasurer Harris, Director of Human Resources Love, Acting Director of Administrative Services Bartolome, and Financial Planning Manager Rossum. Also present were Tim Reimers and Kennedy Kline of Sheppard.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Abdullahi announced that Sabrina Brown, Acting Administrative Services Manager in the Finance Department, was elected as the Chair of the San Diego Chapter for the California Association of Public Procurement Officials (CAPPO) and congratulated her on the achievement.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

There were no Directors' comments.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Monthly Treasurer's Report on Investments and Cash Flow.
Staff recommendation: Note and file the monthly Treasurer's Report.
2. Resolution adopting the benefit summaries between the Water Authority and unrepresented Confidential, Senior Management and Executive employees covering calendar years 2022 through 2026 for California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) compliance.

Staff recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 2026-02, a resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Water Authority, adopting the amended benefit summaries covering calendar years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026 with unrepresented employees (Confidential, Senior Management and Executive groups).

Vice Chair Arant moved, Director Serrano seconded, and the motion to approve the Consent Calendar passed unanimously.

II. ACTION/DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

1. Securities Law Municipal Disclosure Training.

Ms. Harris provided an overview of the municipal securities laws and noted the training was offered once a year to new Board members and as a refresher to current Board members to provide an understanding of the Board's fiduciary responsibilities. She introduced Tim Reimers of Sheppard to present the Securities Laws training. Mr. Reimers reviewed background information, goals of the training, and introduced his colleague Kennedy Kline to provide a portion of the training.

*Director Acosta arrived at 9:13 a.m.

Ms. Kline reviewed the necessity of disclosure, Federal Securities Law, anti-fraud rules, consequences for violating anti-fraud rules, and SEC municipal enforcement. Mr. Reimers completed the training by presenting primary market disclosures, the purpose of the official statement, hot topics, annual continuing disclosure reports, event disclosures, and the role of the Board in complying with securities laws.

Directors made comments and asked questions, and staff responded.

III. INFORMATION

The following Information items were received and filed:

1. Quarterly Budget Monitoring Report.
2. Controller's Report on Monthly Financial Statements.
3. Board Calendar.

IV. CLOSED SESSION

There were no Closed Session items.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Administrative and Finance Committee, Chair Abdullahi adjourned the meeting at 9:43 a.m.

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Fong-Sakai called the Engineering and Operations Committee meeting to order at 9:50 a.m. Committee members present were Vice Chairs Fong-Sakai and Heidemann, and Directors Abdullahi, Arant, Ayala, Butkiewicz, Coates-Hedberg, Frieauf, Rivera, and Wahl. Committee members absent were Chair Reeh, Directors Flesse and Sanchez, and Supervisor Aguirre. Also present were Directors Acosta, Castaneda, Douglass, Hilliker, Katz, Kerschbaum, Lyndes, Macedo, Madaffer, Meyers, Miller, Molina, Norman, Paul, Robak, Scalzitti, Serrano, Whitburn, and Williams. At that time, there was a quorum of the Board, and the meeting was conducted as a meeting of the Board; however, only committee members participated in the vote.

Staff present were General Manager Denham, General Counsel Edwards, Deputy General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Berge, Assistant General Manager Bradford, Director of Engineering Kuzmich, and Director of Operations and Maintenance Plajzer.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

*A brief recess was taken to resolve technical issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following members of the public provided comments:

- 1) Robert Dudley
- 2) John Anshus
- 3) Eric Christen
- 4) Dave Everett

CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair's Report.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

There were no Directors' comments.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Project Labor Agreement determination for the Lake Hodges Hydroelectric Facility Isolation project.
Staff recommendation: In accordance with Administrative Code section 4.08.070 (Project Labor Agreements), make a determination that the Lake Hodges Hydroelectric Facility Isolation project does not include a requirement for a project labor agreement.

Director Heidemann moved, Director Arant seconded, and the motion to approve the Consent Calendar passed unanimously.

II. ACTION/DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

There were no Action, Discussion, or Presentation items.

III. INFORMATION

There were no Information items.

IV. CLOSED SESSION

There were no Closed Session items.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Engineering and Operations Committee, Vice Chair Fong-Sakai adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

WATER PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Miller called the Water Planning and Environmental Committee meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. Committee members present were Chair Miller, Vice Chairs Frieauf and Scalzitti, and Directors Castaneda, Coates-Hedberg, Douglass, Lyndes, Macedo, Meyers, Molina, Paul, Robak*, and Wahl. Supervisor Aguirre was absent. Also present were Directors Acosta, Arant, Ayala, Butkiewicz, Fong-Sakai, Heidemann, Hilliker, Katz, Kerschbaum, Madaffer, Norman, Rivera, Serrano, Whitburn, and Williams. At that time, there was a quorum of the Board, and the meeting was conducted as a meeting of the Board; however, only committee members participated in the vote.

Staff present were General Manager Denham, General Counsel Edwards, Deputy General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Berge, Assistant General Manager Bradford, Director of Water Resources Stephenson, Water Resources Manager Adleberg, and Senior Water Resources Specialist Lopez.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Miller reported the draft Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan would be released for a 45-day public comment period and reviewed the timeline for approving the plans.

*Director Robak arrived at 11:05 a.m.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

There were no Directors' comments.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

II. ACTION/DICUSSION/PRESENTATIONS

1. Comprehensive Environmental Mitigation Program Update.

Ms. Adleberg provided background on the Mitigation Program and reviewed the Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan, post-construction restoration activities, and the San Luis Rey and San Miguel Habitat Management Areas.

Directors asked questions and made comments and staff responded.

2. Water Supply Conditions Update.

Mr. Lopez provided an update on the second snow survey of Water Year 2026, Northern Sierra snowpack, Northern Sierra Precipitation 8-Station Index, California reservoir storage levels, Lake Oroville storage volume, Colorado River Basin conditions, local precipitation, NOAA outlook, and precipitation and temperature outlooks.

Director Paul asked a question and staff responded.

III. INFORMATION

The were no Information items.

IV. CLOSED SESSION

There were no Closed Session items.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Water Planning and Environmental Committee, Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

IMPORTED WATER COMMITTEE

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Chair Meyers called the Imported Water Committee meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Committee members present were Chair Meyers, Vice Chairs Madaffer and Katz, and Directors Ayala, Castaneda, Fong-Sakai, Heidemann, Kerschbaum, Miller, Paul, Rivera, Scalzitti, and Serrano. Director Flesse was absent. Also present were Directors Abdullahi, Acosta, Arant, Butkiewicz, Coates-Hedberg, Douglass, Frieauf, Hilliker, Lyndes, Macedo, Molina, Norman, Robak, Whitburn, Wahl, and Williams. At that time, there was a quorum of the Board, and the meeting was conducted as a meeting of the Board; however, only committee members participated in the vote.

Staff present were General Manager Denham, General Counsel Edwards, Deputy General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Berge, Assistant General Manager Bradford, Director

of Imported Water Westford, Colorado River Program Manager Schnell, and Principal Water Resource Specialist Heide.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following members of the public provided comments:

- 1) Mr. Javier
- 2) Mrs. Javier
- 3) Ms. Brown
- 4) Mr. Marco

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Meyers gave an update on the Colorado River post-2026 guidelines and announced the continued efforts towards implementing interstate transfers utilizing the Water Authority's desalination plant.

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

There were no Directors' comments.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items on the Consent Calendar.

II. ACTION/DICUSSION/PRESENTATIONS

1. Approve memorandum of understanding with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on behalf of the United States Department of Interior for the purpose of exploring a Colorado River Imported Water/Interstate Water Transfer Pilot.
Staff recommendation: Approve the MOU with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to explore planning and implementation activities for interstate transfers.

Ms. Westford provided background information and reviewed the purpose, benefits, and limitations of the memorandum of understanding.

Directors made comments and asked questions, and staff responded.

Director Scalzitti moved, Director Madaffer seconded, and the motion to approve staff's recommendation passed unanimously.

2. MWD Issues and Activities Update.
2-A Metropolitan Water District Delegates Report.

MWD Delegates Fong-Sakai, Denham, and Miller reported on discussions and actions taken at the MWD Board meetings.

Directors made comments and asked questions, and staff responded.

At that time, Chair Meyers took the meeting out of order to allow item II-3 to precede II-2-B.

3. Colorado River Basin Post-2026 Operational Guidelines Update.

Ms. Schnell presented the NEPA process and timeline for developing the Post-2026 Guidelines on the Colorado River Basin. She explained the operational policy addressed in the draft EIS and reviewed related alternatives and concerns.

Directors made comments and asked questions, and staff responded.

2-B Metropolitan Water District of Southern California CAMP4W update.

Mr. Heide provided an overview of Metropolitan Water District's CAMP4W decision making process, drivers impacting investments, and key takeaways.

Directors made comments and asked questions, and staff responded.

4. Colorado River Board Representatives report.

No report was provided.

III. INFORMATION

There were no Information items.

IV. CLOSED SESSION

There were no Closed Session items.

LEGISLATION & PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The Legislation and Public Outreach Committee meeting was deferred to March 19, 2026.

FORMAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING OF FEBRUARY 26, 2026

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Serrano called the Formal Board of Directors' meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

2. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Director Castaneda led the salute to the flag.

3. **ROLL CALL, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Clerk of the Board Walker called the roll. Directors present were Chair Serrano, Vice Chair Hilliker, Secretary Acosta, and Directors Abdullahi, Arant, Ayala, Butkiewicz, Castaneda, Coates-Hedberg, Douglass, Fong-Sakai, Frieauf, Heidemann, Katz,

Kerschbaum, Lyndes, Macedo, Madaffer, Meyers, Miller, Molina, Norman, Paul, Rivera, Robak, Scalzitti, Wahl, Whitburn, and Williams. Absent were Directors Flesse(p), Morrison, Qualin, Reeh, Sanchez(p), and Supervisor Aguirre.

Staff present included General Manager Denham, General Counsel Edwards, Deputy General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Berge, Assistant General Manager Bradford, Acting Director of Administrative Services Bartolome, Director of Engineering Kuzmich, Director of Finance Harris, Director of Human Resources Love, Director of Imported Water Westford, Director of Operations & Maintenance Plajzer, Director of Public Affairs Lee, Director of Water Resources Stephenson, and Clerk of the Board Walker.

3-A **Report on proxies received.**

Director Arant was the proxy for Director Sanchez, and Secretary Acosta was the proxy for Director Flesse.

4. **OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON MATTERS WITHIN THE BOARD'S JURISDICTION.**

The following members of the public provided comments:

- 1) Mrs. Javier.
- 2) Mr. Javier.
- 3) Mr. Dave Dawson commented on SDCWA's Project Labor Agreement (Consent Calendar 9.3).
- 4) Mr. Patrick McDonough, San Diego Coastkeeper, commented on the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP).

5. **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Director Scalzitti moved, Director Abdullahi seconded, and the motion passed at 95.531% to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Directors' meeting and Formal Board of Directors' meeting of January 22, 2026.

*Director Katz was not present during the vote to approve the minutes.

7. **PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 7-A Employee of the Second Quarter.
Recognition of Debby Dunn, Senior Water Resource Specialist,
for Employee of the Second Quarter.

Mr. Denham and Mr. Stephenson spoke briefly in recognition of Debby Dunn, and congratulated her on being awarded Employee of the Second Quarter.

Ms. Dunn addressed the Board briefly.

Director Coates-Hedberg commented.

8. **REPORT BY CHAIRS**

8-A Chair's Report: Chair Serrano congratulated Director Abdullahi for being recognized as a "Woman Warrior" at the 8th Annual Women of Color ROAR Breakfast.

Chair Serrano reported on new security protocols in place for publicly noticed meetings which would begin March 2026.

8-B Report of Committee Actions
Administrative and Finance Committee
Engineering and Operations Committee
Water Planning and Environmental Committee
Imported Water Committee

Ms. Walker reported on all committee actions.

9. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Director Madaffer moved, Director Molina seconded, and the motion carried at 95.86% to approve Consent Calendar items 9.1 through 9.4. Directors voting no or abstaining on individual items are listed under the item.

9.1 Monthly Treasurer's Report on Investments and Cash Flow.

Note and file the Treasurer's report.

9.2 Resolution adopting the benefit summaries between the Water Authority and unrepresented Confidential, Senior Management and Executive employees covering calendar years 2022 through 2026 for California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) compliance.

Adopt Resolution No. 2026-02, a resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Water Authority, adopting the amended benefit summaries covering calendar years 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026 with unrepresented employees (Confidential, Senior Management and Executive groups).

9.3 Project Labor Agreement determination for the Lake Hodges Hydroelectric Facility Isolation project.

In accordance with Administrative Code section 4.08.070 (Project Labor Agreements), make a determination that the Lake Hodges Hydroelectric Facility Isolation project does not include a requirement for a project labor agreement.

9.4 Approve memorandum of understanding with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on behalf of the United States Department of Interior for the purpose of exploring a Colorado River Imported Water/Interstate Water Transfer Pilot.

Approve the MOU with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Southern Nevada Water Authority, Arizona Department of Water Resources, and Central Arizona Water Conservation District to explore the potential of interstate transfers and exchanges.

10. **ACTION/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**

10-1 **Board of Directors Reappointments and Appointments.**

- A. Reappointment of Director Mark Robak, Otay Water District. Term ending January 23, 2032.
- B. Reappointment of Director Francisco X. Rivera, Otay Water District. Term ending March 3, 2032.

Chair Serrano announced the reappointment of Directors Robak and Rivera, representing the Otay Water District and extended his congratulations.

Director Robak commented.

11. **SPECIAL REPORTS**

- 11-A GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT – Mr. Denham reported on discussions from the Business Model Work Group Meeting, attended by Member Agency General Managers on February 11, 2026.
- 11-B GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT – No verbal report was provided. A written report was provided in the Board packet.
- 11-C SANDAG REPORT – Director Lyndes reported on discussion and action from the SANDAG Board meeting.
SANDAG Subcommittees:
Borders Committee – Director Castaneda stated a written report had been submitted to the Clerk's Office.
Regional Planning Committee – No report was provided.
- 11-D AB 1234 Compliance Reports – There were none.

12. **CLOSED SESSION(S)**

Mr. Edwards took the Board into Closed Session at 2:36 p.m.

- 12-A Conference with Real Property Negotiator
Government Code §54956.8
Property: QSA Portion of Colorado River Water/Carlsbad Desalination Water
Agency Negotiators: Dan Denham
Negotiating Parties: San Diego County Water Authority, City of Burbank,
Three Valleys Municipal Water District, Eastern Municipal Water District and
Western Municipal Water District
Under Negotiations: Terms and Price

Chair Serrano brought the Board out of Closed Session at 3:29 p.m. with no reportable action.

13. **ACTION FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION**

There was none.

14. **OTHER COMMUNICATION**


There was none.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**


There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Serrano adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.



Nick Serrano, Chair



Frank Hilliker, Vice Chair



Kelly Cole-Walker, Clerk of the Board