

**MINUTES OF THE**  
**SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**  
**April 9, 2026**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**  
Chair Serrano called the Special Board of Directors' meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.
2. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**  
Director Hilliker led the salute to the flag.
3. **ROLL CALL, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**  
Deputy Clerk of the Board Reifschneider called the roll. Directors present were Chair Serrano, Vice Chair Hilliker, Secretary Acosta, and Directors Abdullahi, Arant, Ayala, Butkiewicz, Castaneda, Douglass, Flesse, Fong-Sakai, Frieauf, Heidemann, Katz, Lyndes, Madaffer, Meyers, Miller, Molina, Morrison, Norman, Paul, Qualin, Rivera, Robak, Sanchez, Scalzitti, Whitburn, and Supervisor Desmond. Absent were Directors Coates-Hedberg(p), Kerschbaum, Macedo, Reeh, Wahl, and Williams.  
  
Staff present included General Manager Denham, General Counsel Edwards, Deputy General Manager/Chief Operating Officer Berge, Assistant General Manager Bradford, 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 Deputy Clerk of the Board Reifschneider.
- 3-A **Report on proxies received.**  
Director Scalzitti was the proxy for Director Coates-Hedberg.
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
5. **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**  
There were no additions to the agenda.
6. **CLOSED SESSION(S)**  
Mr. Edwards took the Board into Closed Session at 1:44 p.m.
  - 6-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 and Eastern Municipal Water District  
Under Negotiations: Terms and Price

Chair Serrano brought the Board out of Closed Session at 2:05 p.m. with no reportable action.

7. **ACTION/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**

7-A Exchange Water Delivery Agreement with Eastern Municipal Water District.  
Staff recommendation: Ratify an Exchange Water Delivery Agreement Between the San Diego County Water Authority and Eastern Municipal Water District.

General Manager Denham provided background information and reviewed the partners, framework and priorities for the agreement. Additionally, he outlined key terms and benefits of the agreement.

The following Eastern MWD representatives made commemorating comments and expressed appreciation.

- 1) Stephen Corona, Board President.
- 2) Philip Paule, Board Member and Metropolitan Water District Board member.
- 3) Joe Mouawad, General Manager.

Michael Camacho, Vice Chair of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors, provided comments, thanked staff, and acknowledged the significance of the agreement.

Chair Serrano followed with commemorating remarks. Directors made comments and expressed their appreciation to staff.

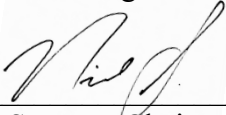
Chair Whitburn moved, Director Molina seconded, and the motion passed at 92.495% to approve staff's recommendation.

8. **OTHER COMMUNICATION**

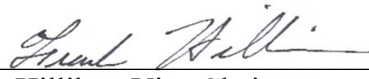
There was none.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Serrano adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.



Nick Serrano, Chair



Frank Hilliker, Vice Chair



Kelly Cole-Walker, Clerk of the Board