



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2026
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026
COASTAL HEARING ROOM

Copies of the resolutions and water quality/water rights orders can be obtained by calling (916) 341-5600 or downloading from our website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/.

The video of the Board Meeting is available to view on our website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/video.shtml

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joaquin Esquivel called the meeting to order on Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 9:01 a.m. with both a physical meeting location and remote location.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel; Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo; Member Sean Maguire; Member Laurel Firestone; Member Nichole Morgan

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Michael Lauffer, Chief Counsel
Karen Mogus, Chief Deputy Director
Erik Ekdahl, Chief Deputy Director
Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
Marji Arjil, Assistant Clerk to the Board
Beba Maletic, Analyst II

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Instructions were given in regard to participating in the Remote Meeting.
- The Board meeting is being webcasted and recorded.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2026

BOARD MEETING

***Public comments on agenda items will be limited to 5 minutes
or otherwise at the discretion of the Board Chair***

PRESENTATION OF SUSTAINED SUPERIOR ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARDS

- *Michelle Beckwith, with the Office of Enforcement presented a Sustained Superior Accomplishment Award to Catherine Hawe.*

PUBLIC FORUM

(Approximately 30 minutes at the beginning of Board Meeting and any remaining speakers at the call of the Chair)

Any member of the public may address and ask questions of the Board relating to any matter within the State Water Resources Control Board's jurisdiction provided the matter is not on the agenda or pending before the State Water Board or any California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

No Action Taken

Commenters

Peter Drekmeier, Yosemite Rivers Alliance

Hector Santiago, General Public

- *Chair Esquivel made an announcement to recognize Joe Karkoski's upcoming retirement. Joe Karkoski also made remarks.*
- *Board Member Firestone announced her upcoming resignation from the Board.*

BOARD BUSINESS

1. The Board will consider adoption of the June 2, 2026 Board Meeting minutes.

Motion: Board Member Morgan moved to adopt the June 2, 2026 Board Meeting minutes

Seconded by: Board Member Firestone

MOTION CARRIED (June 16, 2026)

Aye: Chair Esquivel
Vice Chair D'Adamo
Member Maguire
Member Firestone
Member Morgan

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

UNCONTESTED ITEMS

2. Consideration of a proposed Resolution authorizing the Executive Director, Chief Deputy Director, and Deputy Director of the Division of Administrative Services to execute and amend contracts for external helicopter services for up to \$50,000 per year and up to five years in duration to conduct aerial watershed surveillance, observation, and monitoring.

Staff Presenting: Maggie Robinson, Devon Rabellino, Stephanie Yu

- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Draft Resolution](#)

Motion: Vice Chair D'Adamo moved to adopt the proposed Resolution

Seconded by: Board Member Morgan

MOTION CARRIED (Resolution No. 2026-0020)

Aye: Chair Esquivel
Vice Chair D'Adamo
Member Maguire
Member Firestone
Member Morgan

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Commenters

None

3. Consideration of a proposed Resolution to authorize the Executive Director, the Chief Deputy Director, or the Deputy Director of the Division of Administrative Services to enter into contracts, and any amendments thereto, for computer-based examinations for the Wastewater and Drinking Water Operator Certification Programs.

Staff Presenting: Keisha Kelley, Julie Osborn

- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Draft Resolution](#)

Motion: Vice Chair D'Adamo moved to adopt the proposed Resolution

Seconded by: Board Member Morgan

MOTION CARRIED (Resolution No. 2026-0021)

Aye: Chair Esquivel
Vice Chair D'Adamo
Member Maguire
Member Firestone
Member Morgan

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Commenters

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

4. Second Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel recommendations for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.

Staff Presenting: Adelia McGregor, Erica Kalve, Annalisa Kihara, Eric Gillman, Daniel Geisseler (UC Davis)

- [Revised Public Notice](#)
- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Draft Panel Report](#)
- Written comments were due by noon on May 4, 2026

No Action Taken**Commenters**

*Sarah Lopez, Central Coast Water Quality Preservation
Maile Lono-Batura, California Association of Sanitation Agencies
Ariana McCray, Los Angeles Irrigated Lands Group
Abby Taylor-Silva, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
Corinne Gibson, Leadership Counsel for Justice & Accountability
Madi Richards, California Coastkeeper Alliance
Vi Thuy Nguyen MD, San Diego Physicians for Clean Air
Natalie Herendeen, Monterey Waterkeeper
Maricela Alatorre, Community Water Center
Miriam Sanchez, General Public
Michael Prado Sr., AGUA
Rosa Carrillo, San Jerardo Cooperative, Inc.
Kjia Rivers, Community Water Center
Anna Larson, California Climate and Agriculture Network
David Cory, Central Valley ILRP Coalitions
Noelle Cremers, Wine Institute
Ted Morton, Santa Barbara Channelkeeper
Elias Rodriguez, California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.
Aaron Dillon, California Association of Nurseries
Peter Drekmeier, Yosemite Rivers Alliance*

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

5. Consideration of a proposed Resolution authorizing the Executive Director, or designee, to issue a Final Concurrence Letter regarding the Kern River Oil Field Aquifer Exemption Proposal.

Staff Presenting: Eric Morita, Forest Kan, Annalisa Kihara, Linsey Moore, Eric Gillman

- [Public Notice](#)
- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Draft Resolution](#)
- Written comments were due by noon on April 20, 2026

Motion: Board Member Maguire moved to adopt the proposed Resolution

Seconded by: Board Member Morgan

MOTION CARRIED (Resolution No. 2026-0022)

Aye: Chair Esquivel
Vice Chair D'Adamo
Member Maguire
Member Firestone
Member Morgan

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Commenters

Bob Gore, The Gualco Group

Christian Bisher, Central California Environmental Justice Network

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

6. Constituents of Emerging Concern Program and interagency coordination on 6PPD and 6PPD-Quinone updates.

Staff Presenting: Rebecca Greenwood, Manoela Romano de Orte, Sarabeth George, Kelly Grant (DTSC), Allan Laca (Caltrans), Khalil Abusaba (Brown & Caldwell), Darrin Polhemus

- [Agenda Item](#)

No Action Taken

Commenters

Marty Farrell, California Coastkeeper Alliance

7. Board Member Reports.

For full details on each Board Member report, please review the video at [Board Videos | California State Water Resources Control Board](#). It begins at 7:04:20 on the video for the June 16, 2026 Board Meeting.

No Action Taken

Commenters

None

The Board recessed at 3:35 p.m. until Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joaquin Esquivel called the meeting to order on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 9:02 a.m. with both a physical meeting location and remote location.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel; Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo (arrived at 9:05 a.m.); Member Sean Maguire; Member Laurel Firestone; Member Nichole Morgan

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Michael Lauffer, Chief Counsel (departed at 10:23 a.m.)
Andy Sawyer, Assistant Chief Counsel (arrived at 10:22 a.m.)
Karen Mogus, Chief Deputy Director (departed at 10:47 a.m.)
Erik Ekdahl, Chief Deputy Director (arrived at 10:37 a.m.)
Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
Marji Arjil, Assistant Clerk to the Board
Beba Maletic, Analyst II

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Instructions were given in regard to participating in the Remote Meeting.
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BOARD MEETING

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

8. Office of the Delta Watermaster: Periodic Report.
Staff Presenting: Jay Ziegler, Will Anderson, Lisamarie Windham-Myers
 - [Agenda Item](#)

No Action Taken

Commenters

None

9. Quarterly Delta Stewardship Council Lead Scientist's Report: Review of current Delta science research, activities, and initiatives.
Staff Presenting: Lisamarie Windham-Myers, Jay Ziegler, Will Anderson
 - [Agenda Item](#)

No Action Taken

Commenters

None

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

10. Consideration of a proposed Order to act on a petition for reconsideration of the Bucks Creek Hydroelectric Project water quality certification.

Staff Presenting: Nathan Fisch, Erin Ragazzi, Parker Thaler, Bryan Muro, David Rose

- [Public Notice](#)
- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Final Proposed Order](#)
 - [Attachment 1](#)
 - [Attachment 2](#)
- Written Comments on the Draft Order were due by noon on May 21, 2026

Motion: Board Member Morgan moved to adopt the proposed Order

Seconded by: Board Member Maguire

MOTION CARRIED (Order WQ 2026-0018)

Aye: Chair Esquivel
Member Maguire
Member Firestone
Member Morgan

Nay: None

Absent: Vice Chair D'Adamo

Abstain: None

Commenters

None

11. Consideration of a proposed Order to act on petitions for reconsideration of the McCloud-Pit Hydroelectric Project water quality certification and certify a subsequent environmental impact report (SEIR).

Staff Presenting: Savannah Downey, Erin Ragazzi, Parker Thaler, Adam Cohen, Amanda Pearson

- [Revised Public Notice](#)
- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Final Proposed Order](#)
 - [Attachment 1](#)
 - [Attachment 2](#)
 - [Attachment 3](#)
 - [Attachment 3 Volume 2.1](#)
 - [Attachment 3 Volume 2.2](#)
 - [Attachment 4](#)
 - [Attachment 5](#)

- Written Comments on the Draft Order were due by noon on May 19, 2026
- Written Comments on the Draft SEIR were due by noon on May 22, 2026
- [Change Sheet #1](#)

Motion: Board Member Firestone moved to adopt the proposed Order with Change Sheet #1 and additional changes as read into the record by Amanda Pearson

Seconded by: Board Member Maguire

MOTION CARRIED (Order WQ 2026-0019)

Aye: Chair Esquivel
Vice Chair D'Adamo
Member Maguire
Member Firestone
Member Morgan

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Commenters

Chris Shutes, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

Regina Chichizola, Communities United for Water Protection

Theresa Lorejo-Simsiman, American Whitewater

Dave Steindorf, American Whitewater

Analise Rivero, California Trout

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned on June 17, 2026 at 2:36 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Closed Sessions are not open to the Public.

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS OFFICE/ DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

The Board may meet in closed session to deliberate on procedural or substantive decisions to be reached in the proceeding to consider the water right change petition filed by the California Department of Water Resources to add two new points of diversion and rediversion to water right permits 16478, 16479, 16481, and 16482 (Applications 5630, 14443, 14445A, and 17512, respectively) for the State Water Project associated with the Delta Conveyance Project. (This closed session is authorized under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (c)(3).)

The Board met in Closed Session on the above item on June 17.

The Board may meet in closed session to deliberate on procedural or substantive decisions to be reached in the proceeding to consider the petition for partial assignment of state-filed Application 25517, accompanying water right Application 25517X01, and petitions for release from priority of state-filed Applications 25513, 25514, 25517 (unassigned portion), 22235, 23780, and 23781 in favor of water right Application 25517X01 filed by the Sites Project Authority. (This closed session is authorized under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (c)(3).)

The Board met in Closed Session on the above item on June 17.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

Unless otherwise specified, submittal of written comments **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on June 11, 2026 and will not be accepted after that time.**

Submittal of electronic PowerPoint presentations **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on June 11, 2026 and will not be accepted after that time.**

Submittals are to be sent via e-mail to the Clerk to the Board at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. Please indicate in the subject line, **06/16-17/2026 BOARD MEETING – ITEM # (fill in bolded subject from appropriate item).**

If you have questions about the agenda, or if you do not have internet access and need a telephone number to participate in the meeting, please contact the Clerk to the Board at (916) 341-5600 prior to the date of the meeting.

If you would like to request a copy of public comments submitted on an agenda item, please send a request to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov, identifying the Board meeting date, and agenda item by name and number.

Agenda and items will be available electronically at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/index.shtml

*Items on the uncontested items calendar may be removed at the request of any Board Member or person. If an item is removed from the uncontested items calendar, it will only be voted on at this meeting if the Board accepts the staff recommendation for the agenda item. Otherwise, the item will be continued to a subsequent board meeting to allow input by interested persons.

Video broadcast of meetings will be available at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>.
An alternate live-stream broadcast will also be available at:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/>

LANGUAGE SERVICES

This meeting will be offered in English. To request translation of written documents, interpretation services in another language, or sign language services, please use one of the following options at least seven (7) calendar days before the meeting, if possible:

- Submit an online request: bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm
- Call (916) 341-5254
- Email languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov

Contact us to request information in your language.
Contáctenos para solicitar información en su idioma.
Liên hệ chúng tôi để yêu cầu thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị.

귀하의 언어로 작성된 정보를 요청하려면 저희에게 문의하십시오.

ਆਪਣੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਭ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧ ਕਰੋ।

Makipag-ugnayan sa amin para humiling ng impormasyon sa iyong wika.

请联系我们，以您的语言获取相关信息。

ACCESSIBILITY AND REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

The State Water Board is committed to making its meetings accessible consistent with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.) and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable modifications or accommodations.

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922. In addition, persons requiring reasonable modification or accommodation for disabilities should promptly (preferably at least 7 days before the meeting) email contact@waterboards.ca.gov to initiate a request for reasonable modification or accommodation.