



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026
WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 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, July 21, 2026 at 9:04 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 Nichole Morgan; Member Jared Blumenfeld

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Eric Oppenheimer, Executive Director
Michael Laufer, Chief Counsel (departed at 10:00 a.m.)
Phil Wyels, Assistant Chief Counsel
Karen Mogus, Chief Deputy Director
Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
Meredith Thompson, Special Assistant to the Chair
Elizabeth Carrillo, Analyst II

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

REVISED
ITEM 6 – COMMENT DEADLINE EXTENDED

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026

BOARD MEETING

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

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

John Martin, MI Hope Inc

Regina Chichizola, Communities United for Water Protection

Chy Ya, Mount Shasta Forest Property Owners Association (MSVPOA)

May Yang, MSVPOA

Lue Lee, MSVPOA

Eliza Ya, MSVPOA

Dylan Verner-Crist, American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California

Ai Xiong, General Public

Ka Xiong, General Public

Debbie Xiong, General Public

Yiping Yang, General Public

Victor Coronado, Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC)

Kue Thao, General Public

Por Lor, General Public

Joua Yeng, General Public

May Lee, General Public

Edward Thao, General Public

Allison Norasingh, General Public

Peter Thao, Hmong-American Advisory Council

Ka Vang, General Public

Mouying Lee, Hmong Community Chief of Siskiyou County

Bao Lee, General Public

Nikcole Whipple, Tribal Member, Round Valley Indian Tribes

BOARD BUSINESS

1. The Board will consider adoption of the July 7-8, 2026 Board Meeting minutes.

Motion: Board Member Morgan moved to adopt the July 7-8, 2026 Board Meeting minutes

Seconded by: Board Member Maguire

MOTION CARRIED (July 21, 2026)

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

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

UNCONTESTED ITEM

2. Consideration of a proposed Resolution to allocate up to \$2,000,000 from the Cleanup and Abatement Account for the Rural Community Assistance Corporation's Tijuana River Trash Booms Project.

Staff Presenting: Jennifer Toney, Bridget Chase, Helen Wuellner

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

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

Seconded by: Board Member Blumenfeld

MOTION CARRIED (Resolution No. 2026-0026)

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

Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Commenters

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

3. Current Hydrologic Conditions and Response.

Staff Presenting: Karina Herrera, Marielle Rhodeiro

No Action Taken

Commenters

None

4. Informational Item on the 2026 Report of the Statewide Advisory Committee on Cooling Water Intake Structures.

Staff Presenting: Christine Manhart, Kat Faick, Phil Wyels

- [Agenda Item](#)

No Action Taken

Additional Presenters: Stephanie Kato (California Air Resources Board), Leuwam Tesfai (California Public Utilities Commission), Aleecia Gutierrez (California Energy Commission), Shannon O'Rourke (California Independent System Operator), Katherine Rubin (Los Angeles Department of Water and Power), Nermina Rucic (LADWP), Robert Kerrigan (LADWP), Arash Saidi (LADWP), Nicole Dobroski (California State Lands Commission)

Commenters

Odette Moran, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)

Melanie Pineda, CAUSE

Fatima Agredano, CAUSE

Heraclio Urbano, CAUSE

Yoselyn Gomez, CAUSE

Eduardo Ortiz, CAUSE

Jocelyn Lucas, CAUSE

DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

5. Consideration of a proposed Resolution authorizing funding from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) to the Quartz Valley Indian Reservation for the Scott River Headwaters Property Land Back, Protection, CWSRF Project No. 8841-110.

Staff Presenting: Melky Calderon, Lisa Hong, Matt Wilson, Adriana Renteria

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

Motion: Board Member Blumenfeld moved to amend the proposed Resolution to insert “with a provision for reasonable principal forgiveness up to the amount of \$5,000,000, considering the health of the CWSRF and other relevant considerations,” in Resolved #1, and with direction to staff to develop a 10-year goal for funding Land Back and Tribal projects

Seconded by: Board Member Morgan

MOTION CARRIED

Aye: Chair Esquivel
Vice Chair D'Adamo
Member Morgan
Member Blumenfeld
Nay: Member Maguire
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Motion: Board Member Maguire moved to adopt the proposed Resolution with the amendment

Seconded by: Board Member Morgan

MOTION CARRIED (Resolution No. 2026-0027)

Aye: Chair Esquivel
Vice Chair D'Adamo
Member Maguire
Member Morgan
Member Blumenfeld
Nay: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Commenters

Leonard Lincoln- Chairman, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation
Sherrie Williams- Tribal Council Secretary, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation
Mary Benedict- Tribal Administrator, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation
Fred Case, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation
Sarah Schaefer, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation
Tasha VanDunk, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation
Alex Leumer, on behalf of Karuk Tribe
Juan Altamirano, Trust for Public Land
Nick Joslin, Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center
Jun Bando, California Native Plant Society
Angelina Cook, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
Sammi Jerry, Communities for Water Protectors
Regina Chichizola, Communities United for Water Protection
Moisés Moreno-Rivera, Trust for Public Land

BOARD WORKSHOP

6. Board Workshop presentation on the Draft Proposition 4 Stormwater Grant Program Guidelines.

Staff Presenting: Jennifer Toney, Bridget Chase, Matthew Reidy

- [Public Notice](#)
- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Draft Guidelines](#)
- Written Comments are due by noon on ~~August 17, 2026~~ **August 24, 2026**

No Action Taken

Commenters

Karen Cowan, California Stormwater Quality Association

Katharyn Muniz, Orange County Conservation Corps

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

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 7:58:58 on the video for the July 21, 2026 Board Meeting.

No Action Taken

Commenters

None

The Board recessed at 4:04 p.m. until Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joaquin Esquivel called the meeting to order on Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 9:07 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 Nichole Morgan; Member Jared Blumenfeld (departed at 1:10 p.m.)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT

Eric Oppenheimer, Executive Director
Phil Wyels, Assistant Chief Counsel
Karen Mogus, Chief Deputy Director (departed at 4:20 p.m.)
Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
Marji Arjil, Assistant Clerk to the Board
Elizabeth Carrillo, Analyst II

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

BOARD WORKSHOP

OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, EQUITY, AND TRIBAL AFFAIRS

8. Board Workshop to discuss and receive feedback on the Draft Guidance on Designating Tribal Beneficial Uses.

Staff Presenting: Adriana Renteria, Nathan Blacksmith, Phil Wyels, Andy Sawyer, Lisa Bernard, Cody Walker, Michelle Fuller, Sajleen Phagura, Ben Letton, Daniel Sussman, Robert McCarthy

- [Public Notice](#)
- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Draft Guidance](#)
- Written Comments are due by noon on August 31, 2026

No Action Taken

Panelists

*Sherri Norris, California Indian Environmental Alliance
Sarah Ryan, Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians
Javier Silva, Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians*

*Michael Preston, Winnemem Wintu Tribe
Dean Tonenna, Kootzaduka'a Tribe
Jewelina Acosta, Yokaia Tribe
Matthew Teutimez, Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation*

Commenters

*Dean Tonenna, Mono Lake Kootzaduka'a Tribe of California and Nevada
Heidi Brow, Pala Band of Mission Indians
Gregory Wolfin, Pit River Tribe
Alan Bacock, Owens Valley Indian Water Commission
Trisha Velasquez, Save California Salmon
Angelina Cook, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
Regina Chichizola, Communities United for Water Protection
Andria Ventura, Clean Water Action
Sammi Jerry, Communities Untied for Water Protectors
Javier Silva, Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians
Bianca Garza, Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center*

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned on July 22, 2026 at 4:33 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 did not meet in Closed Session on the above item.

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 did not meet in Closed Session on the above item.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

Unless otherwise specified, submittal of written comments **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on July 16, 2026 and will not be accepted after that time.**

Submittal of electronic PowerPoint presentations **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on July 16, 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, **07/21-22/2026 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 or board.clerk@waterboards.ca.gov 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 ਸੰਪਰਕ 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.