



MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE EAST ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT (EOCWD)

June 26, 2025

1. Call to Order. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the East Orange County Water District, held at the District Office, located at 185 N. McPherson Road in the City of Orange, California, was called to order by President GEORGE MURDOCH at 3:01 p.m. on Thursday, June 26, 2025. Vice President MARILYN THOMS led the Pledge of Allegiance. JEFFREY HOSKINSON, Secretary, recorded the minutes of the meeting.

The following Directors attended the meeting: DOUGLASS DAVERT, KARIN MARQUEZ, GEORGE MURDOCH, JOHN SEARS, and MARILYN THOMS.

Also present were:

DAVID YOUNGBLOOD	General Manager
JERRY MENDZER	Operations Manager
BOBBY YOUNG	Engineering Manager
SYLVIA PRADO	Office Manager
JEFF HOSKINSON	District Secretary and Legal Counsel
IAN BERG	Starting Line Advisory

Other staff and members of the public may have attended but are not listed above.

2. Addition of Items Arising After Posting of Agenda Requiring Immediate Action.
(Requires 2/3 vote or unanimous vote if less than 2/3 of members are present).

ACTION TAKEN: None.

3. Public Communications to the Board. None.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 4-10) President MURDOCH requested that Item No. 5 be pulled from the Consent Calendar. As to the balance of the Consent Calendar, the Board, on motion from DAVERT, seconded by THOMS, approved the Consent Calendar by unanimous vote as follows:

4. Minutes: THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 22, 2025 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD WERE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED;

6. **Wholesale and Retail Water Usage Report:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WATER USAGE REPORT;
7. **Schedule of Disbursements:** THE BOARD APPROVED THE SCHEDULE OF DISBURSEMENTS AS SUBMITTED;
8. **Financial Statements:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS;
9. **Annual Water Quality report:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT;
10. **Legal Services:** THE BOARD APPROVED AALRR RATE INCREASE; AND

The Board then considered Item No. 5 individually, as follows:

5. General Manager's Report: President MURDOCH and Vice President THOMS requested that in the future the General Manager's Report be moved to Miscellaneous Items to provide more opportunity for discussion and for Staff to report to the Board more detailed information relating to ongoing projects.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by DAVERT, second by MARQUEZ, unanimously voted to receive and file the General Manager's Report, with direction to staff to move the item to Miscellaneous Items at future Board meetings.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

11. FY 2025/2026 Budget for Retail, Wholesale, and ID1: General Manager David Youngblood introduced the item and, to present on the budget, Ian Berg of Starting Line Advisory. It was noted that both Committees of the Board had met to review the respective budget components, and that the overall capital budget has been greatly reduced with this year focused more on future planning rather than construction.

Director DAVERT inquired as to whether the proposed budget was based on the rate increases reflected in the rate study. General Manager Youngblood confirmed that the District is entering the third year of a five-year Retail Zone (RZ) rate increase, with rates increasing as scheduled but no changes recommended beyond such scheduled increases. Vice President THOMS questioned whether the RZ budget included terms for paying back the sewer loans, to which it was confirmed that the \$4 million loan had a 15-year repayment term with payments incorporated into the current budget.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by THOMS, seconded by DAVERT, by unanimous vote approved the proposed 2025-26 budgets and adopted Resolution No. 24/25.02 determining appropriations subject to limitation.



12. Sewer Service Charges: General Manager, David Youngblood introduced the item summarizing that re-authorization is required to be submitted to the Orange County (OC) Auditor-Controller’s office by August 1, 2025.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion from SEARS, seconded by MARQUEZ, by unanimous vote approved Resolution No. 24/25.03 to submit to the OC Auditor’s Controller’s office to collect sewer fees on the annual fiscal years 2025/2026 property tax bill.

13. Conference and Meeting Request. The Board considered attendance at the OC Water Summit, Friday, September 5, 2025 in Costa Mesa, CA.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion from DAVERT, seconded by SEARS, by unanimous vote authorized the attendance of all Board members, with the direction to coordinate with District staff if they plan to attend.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

14. Monthly Legislative & Outreach Report: President MURDOCH introduced the item, referring the Board to the report in the agenda packet. General Manager Youngblood reported that Townsend reached out to the District regarding a letter to support the WaterSMART program, which the District submitted as requested.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion from DAVERT, seconded by THOMS, by unanimous vote received and filed report.

13. Directors’ reports on meetings attended (Government Code Section 53232.3) and Directors’ comments. The Directors reported attendance as set forth in the agenda, as follows:

President Murdoch

- 5/1 ACWA Region 10 Meeting
- 5/8 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee
- 5/9 ACWA Region 8, 9, 10 Joint Planning Meeting
- 5/13-5/15 ACWA Spring Conference
- 5/13 ACWA Finance Committee
- 5/14 ACWA Region 10 Meeting
- 5/19 ACWA Special Board Meeting
- 5/20 EOCWD Advocacy Meeting
- 5/22 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
- 5/28 ACWA State Legislative Committee Prep Meeting

Vice President Thoms

- 5/2 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
- 5/6 Independent Special Districts of Orange County (ISDOC) Executive Committee Meeting
- 5/8 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee Meeting



5/22 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Davert

5/22 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Sears

5/2 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)

5/15 EOCWD Administration & Finance Committee

5/22 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Marquez

5/15 EOCWD Administration & Finance Committee

5/22 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director SEARS provided an overview of the attended WACO meeting, including an overview of a presentation from Las Virgenes Municipal Water District on Planning a More Resilient Water System and Lessons Learned. Vice President THOMS added a compliment to the WACO fire presentation, noting it was one of the best presentations she has seen.

President MURDOCH notes that he attended all referenced ACWA items, including the ACWA Conference, which was a well-attended event with 1,700 registrants. He also reported that a ACWA Region 8, 9, 10 Joint Meeting will be held in Newport Beach in November. President MURDOCH also provided an update on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET) search for a General Manager, noting that Devin Upadhyay will be leaving at year-end and the MET Board will be recommending candidates for the General Manager position to a recruitment firm. President MURDOCH also reported attending the Tustin Effective Apartment Managers (TEAMS) meeting, which was led by Director MARQUEZ, and he noted was a very good meeting.

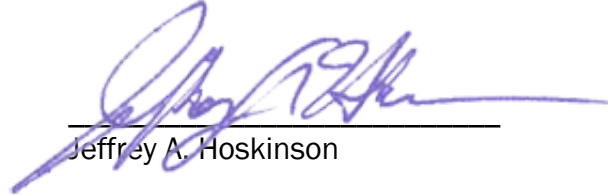
President MURDOCH also recommended adding the General Manager's performance review to July's Board Meeting, suggesting that he will coordinate with General Counsel Jeff Hoskinson to distribute a questionnaire to Board members.

***** THE BOARD PULLED CLOSED SESSION ITEM NO. 1 FROM THE AGENDA**

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:48 p.m. to the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors to be held on **Thursday, July 24, 2025**, at 5:00 p.m. or such other time as may be coordinated by General Manager Youngblood, at East Orange County Water District, 185 N. McPherson Orange, CA 92869 or as noticed pursuant to findings of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Hoskinson