



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

May 28, 2026

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 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 28, 2026. Vice President MARILYN THOMS led the Pledge of Allegiance. JEFF 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	Administrative Manager
JEFF HOSKINSON	District Secretary and Legal Counsel
IAN BERG	Starting Line Advisory (Consultant)
CHAD WANKE	Orbis Public Affairs (Consultant)

Other staff and members of the public may have attended that 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 4–9). The Board, on motion from DAVERT, seconded by THOMS, approved the Consent Calendar by a unanimous vote as follows:

4. **Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held April 23, 2026:** THE BOARD APPROVED THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED;
5. **Wholesale and Retail Water Usage Report:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WATER USAGE REPORT;
6. **Schedule of Disbursements:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE SCHEDULE OF DISBURSEMENTS;



7. **Financial Statements:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS;
8. **457(B) Matching Program:** THE BOARD RECEIVED AND FILED THE 457(B) MATCHING PROGRAM REPORT;
9. **Portable Water Pump Trailer:** THE BOARD AUTHORIZED THE GENERAL MANAGER TO PURCHASE A PORTABLE WATER PUMP TRAILER FOR \$150,825;

***** ITEM 13 HEARD OUT OF ORDER**

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

13. Monthly Legislative & Outreach Report. President MURDOCH introduced the matter, noting that the Townsend report was submitted in writing within the agenda packet.

President MURDOCH then introduced Chad Wanke of Orbis Public Affairs, who presented his report. Mr. Wanke summarized his written report, including updates on matters of interest at various Orange County public agencies, as well as at Cal-LAFCO. A brief discussion occurred regarding Orange County Sanitation District's public efforts in dealing with encroachments into its easements.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by DAVERT, seconded by MARQUEZ, by unanimous vote received and filed the Monthly Legislative and Outreach Report.

***** RETURN TO BALANCE OF THE AGENDA**

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION.

10. 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan. General Manager Youngblood introduced the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan. President Murdoch opened the public hearing. No public comments were received, and the public hearing was closed. Vice President Thoms submitted written comments that were typographical in nature, including a misspelling of "San Gabriel." Other written comments were received and were primarily typographical in nature.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by DAVERT to approve the item subject to revision for minor typographical modifications, seconded by MARQUEZ, by unanimous vote adopted the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan and adopted Resolution No. 25/26.03.

11. Annual Budget. General Manager Youngblood introduced the FY 2026/27 Budget. He noted that retail reserves reflect \$226,000 received from the PFAS litigation settlement that is not yet reflected in the budget graphs. General Manager Youngblood then turned the presentation over to Ian Berg, who presented on the budget. The Board discussed the budget presentation.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board, on motion by DAVERT, seconded by SEARS, by unanimous vote approved the FY 2026/27 Budget and adopted Resolution No. 25/26.04.

12. General Manager's Report. General Manager Youngblood reported that the budget had passed. He provided an update on the automated metering infrastructure (AMI) project, reporting that 900 of the 1,200 meters have been installed and that the remaining installations are the more difficult ones. He reported that the septic-to-sewer conversion grant process remains ongoing and will likely be reduced from the original request, with approximately \$700,000 more likely. He also reminded the Board of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) Water Policy dinner scheduled for June 15.

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

14. Directors' reports on meetings attended at District expense (Government Code Section 53232.3) and Directors' comments. The Directors reported attendance as follows:

President Murdoch

4/3 ACWA Region 10 Spring Conference Planning
4/15 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee
4/16 ACWA Groundwater Quality Subcommittee
4/17 ACWA Board of Directors' Executive Director Candidate Interviews
4/20 Special Briefing – ACWA Vision for our Water Future
4/21 ACWA Live Webinar
4/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Vice President Thoms

4/3 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
4/7 ISDOC Executive Committee Meeting
4/15 EOCWD Engineering & Operations Committee
4/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Davert

4/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director Sears

4/3 Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO)
4/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting
4/30 ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon

Director Marquez

4/23 EOCWD Regular Board Meeting

Director SEARS reported on the Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) meeting, which included a presentation by Heal the Bay, an environmental nonprofit



founded in 1985, on its mission and its goal of enacting clean water policy and protecting watersheds from plastic pollution.

President MURDOCH reported on ACWA, noting that, following second interviews, Karla Nemeth was hired as ACWA's new Executive Director and is expected to start toward the end of September. It was announced that the General Manager's review will be calendared for July 23, and that staff will work with General Counsel on a survey and background.

Vice President THOMS noted California Special District Association (CSDA) trainings and indicated she will sign up.

CLOSED SESSION.

15. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code § 54956.9(d)(2)). Number of matters: one. As orally announced, the closed session concerned a claim from Christina Martinez, copies of which are available upon request.

Report Out: General Counsel Hoskinson reported that the Board met in Closed Session on Item 15 as agendaized, wherein the Board, on motion duly seconded, voted unanimously to reject the claim of Ms. Martinez, with legal counsel directed to provide notice of the Board's action.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned to the next regular meeting, scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at the District Office located at 185 N. McPherson Road, Orange, California 92869.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Hoskinson", is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the name "Jeffrey A. Hoskinson" is printed in a black, sans-serif font.

Jeffrey A. Hoskinson