MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EL TORO WATER DISTRICT
September 25, 2025

President Gaskins called the meeting of the Board of Directors of the EL TORO WATER DISTRICT to order at 7:30 a.m.

Director Monin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Committee Members MARK MONIN, MIKE GASKINS, KAY HAVENS, KATHRYN FRESHLEY, and WYATT McCLEAN participated.

Also participating were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, VISHAV SHARMA, CFO, HANNAH FORD, Director of Engineering, JUDY CIMORELL, Director of Human Resources, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, MIKE MIAZGA, IT Manager (Zoom), SHERRI SEITZ, Public Affairs Manager, VU CHU, Water Resources Supervisor, ABEL ESTRADA, Billing & Customer Service Supervisor (Zoom), ERIC NGUYEN, Laboratory Technician II, RAY LLADA, Electrical Instrumentation Technician II, DREW BALLARD, Foster and Foster Inc. (Zoom), and MARISOL MELENDEZ, Recording Secretary.

Determination of a Quorum

Five Board members were present for the meeting. Therefore, a Quorum was determined.

Oral Communications/Public Comments

There were no comments.

Items Received Too Late to be Agendized

President Gaskins asked if there were any items received too late to be agendized. Mr. Cafferty replied no.

Presentation of Awards, Recognitions, Certifications and Introductions

Mr. Cafferty recognized and congratulated Vu Chu, Eric Nguyen, and Ray Llada for their educational achievements.

Mr. Nguyen and Mr. Llada left the meeting at approximately 7:47 a.m.

Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Update

Mr. Sharma introduced Mr. Ballard, of Foster and Foster who provided an updated actuarial analysis of the Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability associated with the District's Retiree Healthcare Plan.

Mr. Ballard stated that a full Actuarial Valuation is done every two years and today's report is an interim valuation covering data as of June 30, 2024 to be used for the 2025 reporting.

Mr. Ballard left the meeting at approximately 8:02 a.m.

Consent Calendar

President Gaskins asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by Vice President Freshley to approve the Consent Calendar.

Roll Call Vote:

Director McClean	aye
Director Havens	aye
Director Monin	aye
Vice President Freshley	aye
President Gaskins	aye

Directors Reports for Meetings Attended

Director Havens stated that she attended the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC/Met Directors Workshop, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the South Orange County Economic Coalition Luncheon, the District's Engineering and Finance meeting and the District's regular Board meeting.

Vice President Freshley stated that she attended both ETWD's regular Board meetings, the RRC meeting, the LAFCO meeting, the SOCWA Board meeting, the SOCWA Finance meeting, the SOCWA Executive Committee meeting, the Agenda Review meeting, the Laguna Woods City Council meeting, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the MWDOC/MET Directors Workshop, the MWDOC Board meeting, the OC Water Summit, the South Orange County Agency Luncheon, and the President/VP/GM meeting.

Director McClean stated that he attended the District's Engineering and Finance meeting, the District's regular Board meeting, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, and the South Orange County Economic Coalition Luncheon.

Director Monin stated that he attended the ISDOC meeting, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC/Met Directors Workshop, the OC Water Summit, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the Laguna Woods City Council meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the District's Engineering and Finance meeting, the District's Board meeting, the WACO planning meeting, and will be attending the OCCOG meeting today.

President Gaskins stated that he attended the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the Pres/VP/GM meeting, the Agenda Review meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the District's Engineering and Finance meeting, today's Board meeting, and will attend the SOCAG meeting.

ETWD's Waste Discharge Pretreatment and Source Control Program Ordinance 2025-3

President Gaskins stated that this is the time and place set for the Public Hearing on Resolution No. 25-9-1 adopting the District's Waste Discharge Pretreatment and Source Control Program Ordinance 2025-3 which replaces in its entirety the District's Pretreatment and Source Control Program Ordinance 2020-1 effective September 25, 2025.

Mr. Cafferty stated that the notice of this Public Hearing was posted in the Orange County Register on September 10 and September 17, 2025.

President Gaskins asked Mr. Cafferty to describe the proposed amendments which have been incorporated into the restated Ordinance.

Mr. Cafferty stated that the proposed updates to the Ordinance are minor grammatical changes to be adopted with the new Sewer System Management Plan at today's meeting. The plan requires reference to the District's legal authority to operate the system, which has been incorporated into the Ordinance. Additional updates include a reference to the Baker Water Treatment Plant, revisions to SOCWA member agency information, a new Section 508 limiting interference with sewer maintenance as recommended by the consultant, and a new Section 509 addressing limitations on fats, oils and grease.

Open Public Hearing

At approximately 8:11 a.m. President Gaskins declared the Public Hearing open.

Public Hearing Regarding Adoption of ETWD's Waste Discharge Pretreatment and Source Control Program Ordinance 2025-3

President Gaskins asked if there was anyone wishing to speak, and if so, to please identify themselves and limit comments to 3 minutes.

Public Comment

There were no comments.

Close Public Hearing

At approximately 8:12 a.m. President Gaskins closed the Public Hearing.

Regular Session

At approximately 8:12 a.m. the Board meeting returned to Regular Session.

Resolution No. 25-9-1 Adopting ETWD's Waste Discharge Pretreatment and Source Control Program Ordinance 2025-3

The Board appreciated staff's detailed effort in updating the Ordinance.

President Gaskins asked for a Motion.

Motion: Vice President Freshley made a Motion, seconded by Director McClean to adopt Resolution No. 25-9-1 which adopts ETWD's Wastewater Discharge Pretreatment and Source Control Program Ordinance 2025-3 effective September 25, 2025.

Roll Call Vote:

Director McClean	aye
Director Havens	aye
Director Monin	aye
Vice President Freshley	aye
President Gaskins	aye

General Manager Action Items

Resolution No. 25-9-2 Approving the Updated ETWD Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP)

Mr. Cafferty stated that the State Water Resources Control Board updated a discharge order requiring the District to restate the SSMP by a specified compliance date. Staff has submitted a draft and will submit subsequent updates following the adoption of Resolution No. 25-9-2. He noted that the updates do not change the program but reinforce the District's proactive and effective sewer maintenance efforts. The SSMP will be updated again in six years.

President Gaskins asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by Director Vice President Freshley to adopt Resolution No. 25-9-2 which approves the updated El Toro Water District Sewer System Management Plan consistent with State Water Resources Control Board Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ and to receive and file the SSMP document.

Roll Call Vote:

Director McClean	aye
Director Havens	aye
Director Monin	aye
Vice President Freshley	aye
President Gaskins	aye

WEROC Mobile Command Vehicle Shared Facilities Agreement

Mr. Cafferty provided a handout of the agreement that included non-substantive updates made after the distribution of the Board meeting materials.

Ms. Seitz stated that WEROC serves as the Operational Area Water and Wastewater Mutual Aid Coordinator for Orange County providing resource coordination and communication support during emergencies impacting water and wastewater utilities such as ETWD. She stated that staff is proposing to accommodate WEROC's request to store the Mobile Command Vehicle at the Main Office Campus.

President Gaskins asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Havens made a Motion, seconded by Director Monin to authorize the General Manager to execute the WEROC Mobile Command Vehicle Shared Facilities Agreement.

Roll Call Vote:

Director McClean	aye
Director Havens	aye
Director Monin	aye
Vice President Freshley	aye
President Gaskins	aye

General Manager Information Items

Strategic Plan Status Report

Mr. Cafferty provided a final update on the previous Strategic Plan, noting that some items will carry over into the new plan, which is currently underway. Highlights from this report include staff's completed equipment and inventory move into the new warehouse, ongoing collaboration with MNWD on the South County Pipeline project, the

addition of a reference of recycled water sales data, a potable water supplement usage table, and progress on the leak detection program. Updates to the Key Performance Indicators include implementation of training programs, succession planning efforts, and annual performance evaluations.

Vice President Freshley inquired about the $2.6 million difference between projected and actual costs noted on page 245 of the Board package. Mr. Cafferty and Ms. Ford explained that projects budgeted in FY 2024-25 but still in progress are tracked as carryover costs. The table reflects these carryover amounts, which will be spent in the next fiscal year due to project timing. They clarified that the table presents budgeted figures rather than year-to-date actuals and is intended to illustrate the District's ongoing investment in system improvements.

Director Havens suggested linking the Strategic Plan on the District's website to help customers understand how funds are utilized. The Board commended staff for the comprehensive report and the accomplishments achieved since the creation of the Strategic Plan.

General Manager's Monthly Report

Mr. Cafferty explained that the MWDOC Treated Water Surcharge Member Agency Workshop addressed MET's challenge with fixed revenue. He noted that MET will implement new treated water surcharge rates in 2027. However, it has not been determined how these charges will be passed through by MWDOC.

Mr. Cafferty noted that he and Ms. Ford attended a Joint Regional Supply System Member Agency meeting, where South Coast Water District expressed interested in modifying the JPA agreement related to the entire system of which the District is a member.

Legislative Reports

Vice President Freshley noted that the Delta Conveyance Project was not approved.

Public Education and Outreach Report

Ms. Seitz reported that links to recent LWVT interviews are included in the Board package. She noted that the Fall Newsletter has been completed and distributed to customers. She also demonstrated the District's draft version of the new website.

Director Monin left the meeting at approximately 9:44 a.m.

Water Use Efficiency Report

Mr. Chu reported that total potable water usage increased by approximately 5% in August, while recycled water usage rose by about 8% compared to the previous year. Mr. Cafferty confirmed that MET increased the turf removal rebate to $7 per square foot and is available to Laguna Woods Village.

SOCWA Reports

Vice President Freshley stated that the budget was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting and that quorum requirements were reviewed at the Engineering Committee meeting.

Mr. Cafferty reported that he attended the Finance Committee meeting, where SOCWA's Cost Allocation Policy was discussed, along with SOCWA's sponsorship of the Ocean Institute.

MWDOC

Mr. Cafferty stated that at the managers' meeting, discussions included the possibility of MWDOC adopting a two-year budget. He also noted that MET will soon issue a press release announcing their new General Manager.

LAFCO

Vice President Freshley stated that the commission held a Public Hearing regarding a Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence for the Central Region. Mr. Cafferty added that Serrano Water District (SWD) owns 25% of Irvine Lake and IRWD owns 75%. The lake requires over $300 million in capital improvements, and SWD has arranged with IRWD to relieve itself of capital obligations it cannot fund while continuing to use the water.

ISDOC

Director McClean reported that the committee discussed supporting Al Nederhood for the CSDA Board of Directors open position.

COMMITTEE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates to Remember for September/October

There were no comments.

Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items

There were no comments.

Attorney Report

Mr. Granito reported on the status of the Prop 218 Class Action case of Patz v. City of San Diego. Mr. Granito reported that the California Supreme Court's decision on the Petition for Supreme Court Review, is anticipated in late November.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MARISOL MELENDEZ
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

MIKE GASKINS, President of
the El Toro Water District and the
Board of Directors thereof

DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, Secretary
of the El Toro Water District and
the Board of Directors thereof