

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EL TORO WATER DISTRICT

April 23, 2026

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

Vice President Havens led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Directors 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, JUDY CIMORELL, Director of Human Resources, HANNAH FORD, Director of Engineering, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, SHERRI SEITZ, Public Affairs, Manager, MIKE MIAZGA, Information Technology Manager (Zoom), VU CHU, Water Resources Supervisor, VINCENT COPPOLA, Compliance Program Coordinator, MICHAEL G., Member of the Public (Zoom), and MARISOL MELENDEZ, Recording Secretary.

Determination of a Quorum

Roll Call:

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

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

Presentation of Awards, Recognition, Certifications and Introductions

Service Awards

Mr. Cafferty recognized and congratulated Vincent Coppola, Compliance Program Coordinator, for 10 years of service.

Consent Calendar

President Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by Director McClean to approve the Consent Calendar.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Directors Reports for Meetings Attended

Director Gaskins stated that he attended the MWDOC Met Directors Workshop, the SOCEC Meet the Mayors event, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC Admin/Fin meeting, the Board Budget Workshop, the MWDOC Board meeting, the Engineering and Finance committee meeting, the MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning meeting, the District's regular Board meeting, and will attend the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon.

Director Monin stated that he attended the Lake Forest Chamber Meet the Mayor event, the MWDOC Met Directors Workshop, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the ISDOC meeting, will attend the ISDOC Quarterly luncheon, the MWDOC A&F meeting, the Board Budget Workshop, the OCWA luncheon, the WACO Planning meeting, and both District Board meetings.

Director McClean stated that he attended the ISDOC Executive meeting, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the Board Budget Workshop, the MWDOC Met Directors Workshop, the SOCEC Meet the Mayor, the WACO meeting, the OCWA luncheon, the District's Engineering and Finance meeting, the District's regular Board meeting, and will be attending the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon next week.

Vice President Havens stated that she attended the MWDOC Met Directors Workshop, the SOCEC Meet the Mayor event, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the Board Budget Workshop, the United Town Hall meeting, the Agenda Review meeting, the District's Engineering and Finance meeting, the District's regular Board meeting, will attend the OC WateReuse this afternoon, and will attend the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon next week.

President Freshley stated that she attended both ETWD's regular Board meetings, the Board Budget Workshop, the SOCWA Board meeting, the SOCWA Budget Workshop, the SOCWA Finance meeting, the Agenda Review meeting, the OCWA luncheon, the Laguna Woods City Council meeting, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC Met Directors Workshop, the MWDOC Board meeting, the TV-6 Presentation, and will attend the ISDC Quarterly luncheon.

General Manager Information Items

General Manager's Monthly Report

Mr. Cafferty reported that next months agenda will include an item regarding an agreement with the City of Laguna Woods for a City surveillance camera to be mounted on a light pole at the District's Oso Lift Station.

He also reported that a Board member from Trabuco Canyon Water District is running for a seat with CSDA and may attend a future District Board meeting.

Mr. Cafferty further noted that Santa Margarita Water District announced its upcoming water festival and has invited Board members to participate in a photo opportunity.

Legislative Reports

Ms. Seitz provided update on SB 1153, an ACWA sponsored measure, stating that it passed with amendments and will advance to the Senate Appropriations Committee. She also reported on AB 2180, another ACWA sponsored bill, which has passed and is scheduled for consideration by the Senate Local Government Committee in June.

Public Education and Outreach Report

Ms. Seitz reported that President Freshley is scheduled to participate in a Laguna Woods Television Interview on April 30. She also noted that Mr. Cafferty spoke at the United Town Hall meeting regarding infrastructure and costs. Ms. Seitz further reported a successful turnout at the Children's Water Education Festival, where District staff hosted a booth.

Water Use Efficiency Report

Mr. Chu reported that potable water usage increased significantly in March, with total usage rising approximately 11% compared to the same month last year. However, on a year-to-date basis, potable water consumption through March is approximately 6.5% lower compared to last year. He also noted that recycled water demand increased in March and is higher on a year-to-date basis.

SOCWA Reports

Mr. Cafferty reported that he attended a Finance Committee meeting where quarterly billing for O&M expenses was discussed. He explained that following budget adoption and year-end closing actual costs were reviewed and reconciled. This year's process was complicated by the transition of MNWD and the Regional Plant, which created challenges in allocating costs associated with some unfunded liabilities. He noted that they are working on an actuarial analysis and revised cost allocations. The Finance Committee decided to proceed with dispersing the money based on historical allocation of costs, with the understanding that they will continue efforts to complete the actuarial analysis.

Mr. Cafferty also reported on funds billed to the member agencies and collected by SOCWA for capital projects. He stated that he and Mr. Granito are preparing a response to express the Districts position on the matter.

Ms. Ford added that the primary project update is related to the ETM techite replacement project.

MWDOC

Director McClean commented on the fund allocation associated with the Friant-Kern Canal and the subsidence issue.

South Orange County Agencies Group Meeting

Director Gaskins reported that this meeting was held at SMWD for the first time, and included a presentation on subsidence.

LAFCO

President Freshley reported that she and Douglass Davert are retaining their respective Alternate and Regular seats on OC LAFCO.

ISDOC

Director Monin reported that the committee indicated it is resuming billing.

WACO

Director Monin reported that the presentation was titled "Restoring Hope on the Floodplains of the Bay-Delta Watershed".

COMMITTEE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates to Remember for April/May 2026

There were no comments.

Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Items

There were no comments.

Attorney Report

Mr. Granito reported that there is a need for a Closed Session today in regards to the item on today's Closed Session agenda.

Closed Session

At approximately 8:56 a.m. everyone left the open session except the Board members, General Counsel, and Mr. Cafferty. Also, at this time, the Board took an approximate 10-minute break prior to going into Closed Session.

Regular Session

At approximately 9:24 a.m., the meeting returned to Regular Session. Also, at this time, Ms. Melendez returned to the meeting.

Open Session Report

Mr. Granito reported that the Board went into Closed Session to discuss the item on today's Closed Session Agenda. No reportable action was taken.

Adjournment

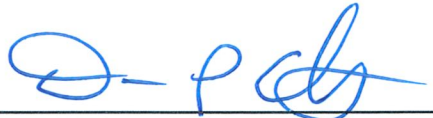
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


MARISOL MELENDEZ
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:


KATHRYN FRESHLEY, 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