

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

June 25, 2026

President Freshley 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.

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, MIKE MIAZGA, Information Technology Manager (Zoom), SHERRI SEITZ, Public Affairs Manager, VU CHU, Water Resources Supervisor, 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.

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 P&O meeting, the MWDOC/MET Directors Workshop, the MWDOC Board meeting, the District's Special Board meeting, the MWDOC Water Policy Forum, the Engineering and Finance committee meeting, the TV-6 interview, the SB 827 Fiscal training, and the District's regular Board meeting.

Director Monin stated that he attended both District Board meetings, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the ISDOC Executive meeting, the MWDOC/Met Directors Workshop, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC A&F meeting, the District's Special Board meeting, the MWDOC Water Policy Dinner, the MWDOC Board meeting, and the Laguna Woods City Council meeting.

Director McClean stated that he attended a meeting with the auditor, the District's Special Board meeting, the SB 827 Fiscal training, the Mission Viejo Chamber of

Commerce meeting, the MWDOC Water Policy Forum, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the Santiago Aqueduct Commission meeting, the ISDOC Executive meeting, the District's Engineering and Finance meeting, and the District's regular Board meeting.

Vice President Havens stated that she attended the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC/Met Directors Workshop, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC Admin/Finance meeting, the District's Special Board meeting, the Mission Viejo Chamber of Commerce lunch, the Agenda Review meeting, the MWDOC Water Policy Dinner, the MWDOC Board meeting, the Santiago Aqueduct Commission meeting, the OC WaterReuse meeting, the District's Engineering and Finance meeting, the CSDA Fiscal Training, may attend the Aliso Creek Collaborative meeting, and the District's regular Board meeting.

President Freshley stated that she attended both ETWD's regular Board meetings, the District's Special Board meeting, the Agenda Review meeting, the LAFCO meeting, the Laguna Woods City Council meeting, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC P&O meeting, the MWDOC Board meeting, the Mission Viejo Chamber Luncheon, and the SB 827 Fiscal Training.

ETWD 2025 Urban Water Management Plan, 2026 Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Response Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2026-1)

Mr. Cafferty stated that this item introduces three interrelated topics which are the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), the 2026 Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP), and the Water Shortage Contingency Response Ordinance No. 2026-1.

Mr. Chu gave a presentation on the UWMP which provides the foundation for thoughtful planning by connecting state wide policy, water supply planning, operations, and long-term water reliability. The UWMP must be adopted every 5 years and it assess current and future water demands and supplies. The WSCP is required by the California Water Code as part of the UWMP and it identifies the District's shortage response actions, communications, enforcement, and monitoring. It also addresses catastrophic interruptions such as power outages, earthquakes, or other emergencies. Mr. Chu stated that the Ordinance provides legal authority needed to implement WSCP shortage response actions.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING

At approximately 7:50 a.m. President Freshley opened the Public Hearing. Mr. Cafferty reported that the Notice of Public Hearing was appropriately noticed in the newspaper on two different publication dates and the evidences of the notices are in the appendices of the document.

There was no public in attendance and there were no comments.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING

President Freshley closed the Public Hearing at approximately 7:51 a.m.

REGULAR SESSION – ACTION ITEMS

Resolution No. 26-6-3 Adopting the El Toro Water District 2025 Urban Water Management Plan

President Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Gaskins made a Motion, seconded by Vice President Havens to adopt Resolution No. 26-6-3 which adopts the El Toro Water District 2025 Urban Water Management Plan.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolution No. 26-6-4 Adopting the El Toro Water District 2026 Water Shortage

Contingency Plan

President Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Vice President Havens made a Motion, seconded by Director Monin to adopt Resolution No. 26-6-4 which adopts the El Toro Water District 2026 Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Resolution No. 26-6-5 Adopting the El Toro Water District Water Shortage Contingency

Response Ordinance No. 2026-1

President Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Vice President Havens made a Motion, seconded by Director Gaskins to adopt Resolution No. 26-6-5 which adopts the El Toro Water District 2026 Water Shortage Contingency Response Ordinance No. 2026-1.

Roll Call Vote:

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

General Manager Action Items

California Special District Association (CSDA) Board of Directors, Southern Network – Seat C Election

Mr. Cafferty stated that CSDA is holding elections for their Southern Network - Seat C Board member. The package includes the candidate information for those who are running.

The Board held a discussion and selected John Horst for the CSDA Board of Directors, Southern Network – Seat C nomination.

President Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Gaskins made a Motion, seconded by Director Monin to select John Horst and direct the General Manager to cast the ballot for said candidate for the CSDA Board of Directors, Southern Network, Seat C, and cast the ballot by the July 24, 2026 deadline.

Roll Call Vote:

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

General Manager Information Items

General Manager's Monthly Report

Mr. Cafferty reported that the water meters at Clubhouse Four were restored and are back in service. Restoration work on the property is underway.

Mr. Cafferty stated that after following up with staff he responded to Mr. Cardenas with appropriate information regarding the reason why staff was at his house.

Mr. Cafferty stated that next month's Board meeting will include an item responding to the Grand Jury report regarding PFAS.

Legislative Reports

Director Gaskins stated that the SB 827 training by CSDA was informative and reaffirmed the District's current policies and procedures.

Public Education and Outreach Report

Ms. Seitz reported that Director Gaskins appeared on the Laguna Woods Village "This Day" interview. The Water Quality Report will be mailed out by the end of the month. The new website training is scheduled for next week and staff plans to go live soon after. She also provided details on the District's participation in America's 250 celebration.

Water Use Efficiency Report

Mr. Chu reported that demand continued to rise in May with total usage up approximately 8% and on a year to date basis usage is only slightly lower than the prior year. He added that the recycled water demand is projected to be approximately 2% higher than last year.

SOCWA Reports

Ms. Ford reported that the design for the Effluent Transmission Main (ETM) Reach B alignment project has been accelerated to accommodate the City's request to complete the work by next October. She also reported that the CEQA proposals were reviewed and will not go to the Board for recommendation since it falls within the General Manager's authority.

Mr. Cafferty explained the historical arrangement for the ETM, noting that the District has participated in the project through PC-21 at SOCWA. Following IRWD's and MNWD's withdrawal, the District assumed 100% capacity. He noted that Ms. Ford has led the ETM replacement project and the grant application process for the Trail Bridge Crossing Project. Mr. Cafferty stated that staff has discussed the possibility of the District assuming ownership of the pipeline. This would allow staff to proactively maintain the facilities. Other pipeline users are supportive of furthering discussions.

Ms. Ford added that direct ownership would reduce the administrative burden without increasing liability on the District. She noted that ownership would allow the District to appropriately charge the beneficiaries for capital labor, add to the District's assets, and provide better control over discharge to the ocean.

The Board held a discussion and staff will initiate discussions with SOCWA and report back to the Board in July.

MWDOC

There were no comments.

South Orange County Agencies Group Meeting

Director Gaskins noted that the meeting format has slightly changed to include conversation topics outside of South Orange County.

Santiago Aqueduct Commission Meeting Report

Vice President Havens reported that the meeting included a discussion on the budget, a presentation on the Baker pipeline relocation, and the 7-day shut off of the Allen-McCulloch pipeline which is expected next March.

LAFCO

President Freshley reported that the commission approved amendments to CEQA, a new auditing accounting firm was hired, and Derek McGregor was reappointed as the regular public member of OC LAFCO.

ISDOC

Director Monin reported that the draft election timeline was discussed.

WACO

Director Monin reported that the program included the topic of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

COMMITTEE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Dates to Remember for June/July 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 9:21 a.m. everyone left the open session except the Board members, General Counsel, Mr. Cafferty, and Ms. Ford.

Regular Session

At approximately 9:33 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.

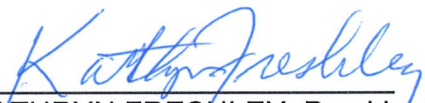
Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:34 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