



**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 3-4, 2026**  
**COASTAL HEARING ROOM**

Copies of the resolutions and water quality/water rights orders can be obtained by calling (916) 341-5600 or downloading from our website at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/).

The video of the Board Meeting is available to view on our website at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_info/video.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/video.shtml)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Joaquin Esquivel called the meeting to order on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 9:03 a.m. with both a physical meeting location and remote location.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel; Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo (joined virtually at 1:38 p.m.); Member Sean Maguire; Member Laurel Firestone; Member Nichole Morgan (virtual)

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**EXECUTIVE STAFF PRESENT**

Eric Oppenheimer, Executive Director  
Michael Lauffer, Chief Counsel  
Karen Mogus, Chief Deputy Director  
Erik Ekdahl, Chief Deputy Director  
Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board  
Marji Arjil, Assistant Clerk to the Board  
Beba Maletic, AGPA

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Instructions were given in regard to participating in the Remote Meeting.
- The Board meeting is being webcasted and recorded.

# TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

## BOARD MEETING

*Public comments on agenda items will be limited to 5 minutes  
or otherwise at the discretion of the Board Chair*

### PUBLIC FORUM

*(Approximately 30 minutes at the beginning of Board Meeting and any remaining  
speakers at the call of the Chair)*

Any member of the public may address and ask questions of the Board relating to any matter within the State Water Resources Control Board's jurisdiction provided the matter is not on the agenda or pending before the State Water Board or any California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

### **No Action Taken**

#### Commenters

*Mary Butterwick, General Public*

*Ray Tahir, TECS Environmental*

*Nikcole Whipple, Save California Salmon*

### BOARD BUSINESS

1. The Board will consider adoption of the February 18-19, 2026 Board Meeting minutes.

**Motion:** Board Member Firestone moved to adopt the February 18-19, 2026 Board Meeting minutes

**Seconded by:** Board Member Maguire

**MOTION CARRIED** (March 3, 2026)

**Aye:** Chair Esquivel  
Member Maguire  
Member Firestone  
Member Morgan

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Vice Chair D'Adamo

**Abstain:** None

## **UNCONTESTED ITEM**

2. Consideration of a proposed Resolution to amend the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region to incorporate applicable provisions of statewide plans and policies and improve clarity.

*Staff Presenting: Michelle Fuller, Lisa Bernard, Bayley Toft-Dupuy*

- [Public Notice](#)
- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Draft Resolution](#)
- Written comments were due by noon on September 2, 2025
- [Response to Comments](#)

**Motion:** Board Member Maguire moved to adopt the proposed Resolution

**Seconded by:** Board Member Firestone

**MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution No. 2026-0007)

**Aye:** Chair Esquivel  
Member Maguire  
Member Firestone  
Member Morgan

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Vice Chair D'Adamo

**Abstain:** None

### **Commenters**

*None*

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

3. Current Hydrologic Conditions and Response.

*Staff Presenting: Jessica Bean*

**No Action Taken**

### **Commenters**

*None*

4. Office of Enforcement: 2025 Enforcement Program Highlights.

*Staff Presenting: Yvonne West*

- [Agenda Item](#)

**No Action Taken**

### **Commenters**

*None*

## **DIVISON OF DRINKING WATER**

5. Consideration of a proposed Resolution adopting the prioritization of drinking water regulations development for calendar year 2026.

*Staff Presenting: Melissa Hall, Darrin Polhemus, Anna Gard*

- [Agenda Item](#)
- [Draft Resolution](#)

**Motion:** Board Member Morgan moved to adopt the proposed Resolution

**Seconded by:** Board Member Firestone

**MOTION CARRIED** (Resolution No. 2026-0008)

**Aye:** Chair Esquivel  
Member Maguire  
Member Firestone  
Member Morgan

**Nay:** None

**Absent:** Vice Chair D'Adamo

**Abstain:** None

### **Commenters**

*Nick Blair, Association of California Water Agencies*

*Angela Islas, Central California Environmental Justice Network*

*Megan Murphy, California Municipal Utilities Association*

*Sue Mosburg, American Water Works Association - California-Nevada Section*

*Andria Ventura, Clean Water Action*

*Debbie Mackey, Central Valley Clean Water Association*

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

6. Discussion on yearly Board Priorities.

*Staff Presenting: Eric Oppenheimer, Karen Mogus, Erik Ekdahl, James Nachbaur*

### **No Action Taken**

### **Commenters**

*Marty Farrell, California Coastkeeper Alliance*

*Kjia Rivers, Community Water Center*

7. Board Member Reports.

For full details on each Board Member report, please review the video at [Board Videos | California State Water Resources Control Board](#). It begins at 5:07:55 on the video for the March 3, 2026 Board Meeting.

**No Action Taken**

**Commenters**

None

8. [Executive Director's Report](#).

**No Action Taken**

**Commenters**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board adjourned on March 3, 2026 at 4:45 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Sessions are not open to the Public.

*Closed Session may be held on Tuesday, March 3, Wednesday, March 4, or both days.*

*No open meeting agenda items will be heard on Wednesday, March 4.*

**ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS OFFICE/ DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS**

The Board may meet in closed session to deliberate on procedural or substantive decisions to be reached in the proceeding to consider the water right change petition filed by the California Department of Water Resources to add two new points of diversion and rediversion to water right permits 16478, 16479, 16481, and 16482 (Applications 5630, 14443, 14445A, and 17512, respectively) for the State Water Project associated with the Delta Conveyance Project. (This closed session is authorized under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (c)(3).)

**The Board met in Closed Session on March 3 on the above item.**

The Board may meet in closed session to deliberate on procedural or substantive decisions to be reached in the proceeding to consider the petition for partial assignment of state-filed Application 25517, accompanying water right Application 25517X01, and petitions for release from priority of state-filed Applications 25513, 25514, 25517 (unassigned portion), 22235, 23780, and 23781 in favor of water right Application 25517X01 filed by the Sites Project Authority. (This closed session is authorized under Government Code section 11126, subdivision (c)(3).)

**The Board met in Closed Session on March 3 on the above item.**

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!**

Unless otherwise specified, submittal of written comments **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on February 26, 2026 and will not be accepted after that time.**

Submittal of electronic PowerPoint presentations **must be received by 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on February 26, 2026 and will not be accepted after that time.**

Submittals are to be sent via e-mail to the Clerk to the Board at [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov). Please indicate in the subject line, **03/03/2026 BOARD MEETING – ITEM # (fill in bolded subject from appropriate item).**

If you have questions about the agenda, or if you do not have internet access and need a telephone number to participate in the meeting, please contact the Clerk to the Board at (916) 341-5600 prior to the date of the meeting.

If you would like to request a copy of public comments submitted on an agenda item, please send a request to [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov), identifying the Board meeting date, and agenda item by name and number.

Agenda and items will be available electronically at:  
[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_info/calendar/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/index.shtml)

\*Items on the uncontested items calendar may be removed at the request of any Board Member or person. If an item is removed from the uncontested items calendar, it will only be voted on at this meeting if the Board accepts the staff recommendation for the agenda item. Otherwise, the item will be continued to a subsequent board meeting to allow input by interested persons.

Video broadcast of meetings will be available at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>.  
An alternate live-stream broadcast will also be available at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/>

## **LANGUAGE SERVICES**

This meeting will be offered in English. To request translation of written documents, interpretation services in another language, or sign language services, please use one of the following options at least seven (7) calendar days before the meeting, if possible:

- Submit a [Language Services Request](#) online
- Contact the Office of Public Engagement, Equity, and Tribal Affairs (OPEETA) at: 916-341-5254 or at: [LanguageServices@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:LanguageServices@waterboards.ca.gov)

## **ACCESSIBILITY AND REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS**

The State Water Board is committed to making its meetings accessible consistent with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.) and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable modifications or accommodations.

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922. In addition, persons requiring reasonable modification or accommodation for disabilities should promptly (preferably at least 7 days before the meeting) email [contact@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:contact@waterboards.ca.gov) to initiate a request for reasonable modification or accommodation.