

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

MINUTES

August 6, 2026

The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board)
conducted this meeting at the location shown below:

City of Barstow
Council Chambers Room
220 East Mountain View Street Suite A
Barstow, California 92311

Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 6, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Water Board Members

Kimberly Cox, Ph.D., Helendale
Rick Dever, Crestline
Edwin Alonzo, Victorville

Jeff Loux, Ph.D., Truckee
Robert Pearce, Ph.D., Chalfant

State Water Board

Elizabeth Beryt, Office of Chief Counsel Jared Blumenfeld, Lahontan Board Liaison

Water Board Staff

Ben Letton, Executive Officer
Alonzo Poach, Supv. Engr. Geologist
Timothy Middlemis-Clark, Supv. WRC Engineer
Christina Guerra, Senior Engr. Geologist
Shelby Barker, Sr. Engineering Geologist
Molina Hauv, Engineering Geologist
Eli Balderas, Env. Scientist
Ariel Lafarga, Board Clerk

Jan Zimmerman, Assistant Executive Officer
Mary Fiore-Wagner, Environ. Prog. Manager I
Reginal Tan, Senior WRC Engineer
Amanda Lopez, Engineering Geologist
Todd Battey, Engineering Geologist
John Morales, WRC Engineer
Sandra Lopez, Administrative Officer
Kylie Beaujean, Asst. Board Clerk

[View the full Agenda and listen to the audio of this meeting](#)

REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, August 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

JEFF LOUX, CHAIR | BEN LETTON, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Water Board Member Dr. Jeff Loux, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Loux introduced the Water Board Members, and the Water Board staff, and discussed procedures for in-person and video and teleconference meetings.

1. PUBLIC FORUM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public speakers.

2. MINUTES

Motion: Moved by Member Dr. Cox, seconded by Member Dever, to approve May 6-7, 2026, meeting Minutes as presented. Board Clerk called for a roll call vote and the motion carried by the following votes:

Member Dr. Cox	Aye
Member Dever	Aye
Member Alonzo	Abstain
Vice Chair Dr. Pearce	Aye
Chair Dr. Loux	Aye

[View the adopted May 6-7, 2026, Meeting Minutes](#)

3. REPORTS BY WATER BOARD CHAIR AND WATER BOARD MEMBERS

Water Board staff, Jared Blumenfeld, State Board Liaison, discussed the following items: Delta Conveyance Project, Tribal Beneficial Uses, Statewide Regulatory Actions and Drinking Water Items.

COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

Dr. Loux announced he attended the Water Board Chairs meeting on August 3, 2026.

Dr. Loux announced the Donner Lake tour he and Ben attended on June 5, 2026.

4. *REVISED WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DUTCH DAIRY, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

The Water Board will consider adopting revised Waste Discharge Requirements that will update the requirements and monitoring for Dutch Dairy in Helendale.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public speakers.

COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

No comments by water board.

Motion: Moved by Member Dr. Cox, seconded by Member Dever, to adopt the order as presented. Board Clerk called for a roll call vote and the motion carried by the following votes:

Member Dr. Cox	Aye
Member Dever	Aye
Member Alonzo	Aye

Vice Chair Dr. Pearce
Chair Dr. Loux

Aye
Aye

5. CLOSURE AND POST-CLOSURE WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR TERRA-GEN, SOLAR ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEMS (SEGS) VIII AND IX, THREE SURFACE IMPOUNDMENTS, ONE LAND TREATMENT UNIT, AND SEGS IX LANDFILL

Water Board staff, Todd Battey, Engineering Geologist, presented the proposed closure and post closure Waste Discharge Requirements to close surface impoundments and a land treatment unit, and begin the post closure maintenance period at the facility.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public speakers.

COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

Dr. Cox asked what materials are acceptable for the evapotranspirative layer. Mr. Battey responded it is primarily silty sand.

Dr. Cox asked about Lahontan's involvement moving forward. Mr. Battey responded that his team would continue to manage the site, review post closure documentation and ensure vegetation is established properly.

Dr. Loux asked what native vegetation will grow at the site. Mr. Battey responded primarily with desert scrub.

Dr. Loux asked why the switch from thermal technology to photovoltaic. Mr. Battey responded he can't speak to the motivation behind the dischargers' decision. However, it may have economic basis.

Motion: Moved by Dr. Cox, seconded by Dr. Pearce, to adopt the order as presented. Board Clerk called for a roll call vote and the motion carried by the following votes:

Member Dr. Cox	Aye
Member Dever	Aye
Member Alonzo	Aye
Vice Chair Dr. Pearce	Aye
Chair Dr. Loux	Aye

6. REGION 6 RACIAL EQUITY UPDATE

Water Board staff, Eli Balderas, Environmental Scientist and Molina Hauv, Engineering Geologist presented an overview and update of the Lahontan Region's Racial Equity Working Group activities since the last Board presentation in August 2025 along with regional successes in furthering racial equity and environmental justice goals.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public speakers.

COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

Member Dever expressed his gratitude for the community outreach the Racial Equity group does.

Member Alonzo expressed that engaging with young students goes a long way to educating their parents as well.

Dr. Loux echoed Member Dever and Member Alonzo's comments.

WATER BOARD TOOK A BREAK FROM 10:00 AM TO 10:10 AM

7. STATUS REPORT ON CLEANUP ACTIVITIES CONCERNING CHROMIUM CONTAMINATION FROM PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY'S (PG&E'S) HINKLEY COMPRESSOR STATION

Water Board staff, Amanda Lopez, Engineering Geologist, introduced PG&E representative, and the Independent Review Panel Manager who reported on actions taken during the past year and planned for this year for chromium contamination cleanup in Hinkley such as cleanup and remediation efforts, establishing cleanup values, and community outreach efforts.

Water Board staff, Amanda Lopez, Engineering Geologist, gave a presentation summarizing key activities Water Board staff performed over the past year for cleanup activities concerning chromium contamination.

John Glass, Environmental Remediation Program Manager from PG&E, gave a presentation on the overview of the PG&E gas pipeline operations, including the site history and remediation program.

Raudel Sanchez, IRP Manager, gave a presentation on the outreach and technical advisory services provided to the Hinkley community.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public speakers.

COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

Dr. Pearce asked what the total bill since the beginning of the project is. Mr. Glass responded it's a lot but he doesn't have a number.

Dr. Cox asked what the current population of the Hinkley area is compared to what it was 20 years ago. Mr. Sanchez responded with about 500 to 600 residents.

Member Alonzo asked if Hinkley was predominately private wells. Mr. Sanchez responded it is domestic wells.

WATER BOARD TOOK A BREAK FROM 11:02 AM TO 11:09 AM

8. FY 25/26 Accomplishments and FY 26/27 Priorities

Water Board staff, Ben Letton, Executive Officer, presented an overview of the Region's accomplishments from the past fiscal year and the top priorities for the coming fiscal year.

Water Board staff, TJ Middlemis-Clark, Supervising WRC Engineer, provided an update on the Regulatory and Cleanup Division's FY 25/26 successes and its FY26/27 priorities.

Water Board staff, Mary Fiore-Wagner, Environmental Program Manager, provided an update on the Compliance and Planning Division's FY 25/26 successes and its FY26/27 priorities.

Water Board staff, Alonzo Poach, Supervising Engineering Geologist, provided an update on the Protection, Restoration, and Sustainability Division's FY 25/26 successes and its FY26/27 priorities.

Water Board staff, Jan Zimmerman, Assistant Executive Officer, gave a final presentation on the FY25/26 Performance Targets reflections and the FY 26/27 projections.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public speakers.

COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

Dr. Cox asked if there is an exercise of evaluating personnel years that are needed for each task for the upcoming year. Mrs. Zimmerman responded that we consider personnel years not necessarily in personnel years that are needed but in the limitation we have. Mrs. Zimmerman responded we can request an increase, but they are hard to get.

Dr. Cox asked what the status of the return-to-work order is from the Governor. Mr. Letton responded that implementation started July 1st stating staff are required to work in the office four days a week with one telework day per week.

Dr. Loux asked about the editorial and cleanup changes to the basin plan. Mr. Letton responded it is still a priority and is listed in the FY 26/27 priorities. Mrs. Fiore-Wagner also responded we are moving forward and hope to bring it to the board for consideration by the end of next calendar year.

9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Water Board staff, Ben Letton, Executive Officer, provided an update to the Water Board and public on key actions and activities in the Lahontan region, including the items below.

- a. Personnel Updates
- b. April EO Report Articles
- c. May EO Report Articles

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public speakers.

COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

No comments by water board.

10. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Water Board members will provide requests for future agenda items and other items of interest.

COMMENTS BY WATER BOARD

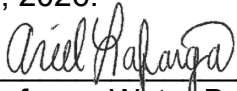
No comments by water board.

11. CLOSED SESSION

The Water Board members did not enter Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Water Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m. on August 6, 2026.

Prepared by:  Adopted: October 1, 2026
Ariel Lafarga, Water Board Clerk