MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CACHUMA OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BOARD

held at

3301 Laurel Canyon Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Monday, July 27, 2026
1:00 PM

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Directors Present:
Case Van Wingerden, Alternate, Carpinteria Valley Water District
Kristen Sneddon, City of Santa Barbara
Lauren Hanson, Goleta Water District
Cori Hayman, Montecito Water District

General Counsel Present:
William Carter - Musick, Peeler, Garrett, LLP

Staff Present:
Janet Gingras, General Manager
Edward Lyons, Administrative Manager / CFO
Tim Robinson, Fisheries Division Manager
Joel Degner, Engineer/Ops Division Manager
Elijah Papen, Water Resources Analyst II
Rosey Bishop, Administrative Assistant II
Dorothy Turner, Administrative Assistant II

Others Present:
Jack Dindia, Member of the Public
Dana Hoffenberg, City of Santa Barbara
Michael Miller, Member of the Public
Matthew Scrudato, County of Santa Barbara
Matt Young, County of Santa Barbara

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Minutes of June 22, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
b. Investment of Funds
   - Financial Reports
   - Investment Reports
c. Review of Paid Claims

Ms. Gingras referenced the June 2026 Minutes for Board consideration and invited Mr. Lyons to comment on the financial statements and paid claims. Mr. Lyons reported the receipt of revenue from a non-member agency and followed with discussion of several notable paid claims, including remittances to Yellowfin, Cushman Contracting, HDR Engineering, Aspect Engineering and Overhead Door & Gate.

Director Hanson motioned to approve Item 3.a. which was followed by a second from Director Hayman. The motion carried with a vote of five in favor and one abstaining.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Sneddon
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain: Van Wingerden

Director Hanson made a motion to approve Items 3.b and 3.c. Director Hayman seconded and the motion carried with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Van Wingerden, Sneddon
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

4. VERBAL REPORTS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

- Fisheries Committee Meeting – July 15, 2026
- Lake Cachuma Oak Tree Committee Meeting – July 22, 2026

Director Hanson provided a summary of the Fisheries committee meeting, action items appearing on today's agenda. President Sneddon noted that the Oak Tree Committee met and information would be presented as item six today.

5. PROPOSED ANNUAL RESOLUTIONS

a. Resolution No. 824 Adopting Annual Statement of Investment Policy
b. Resolution No. 825 Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund
c. Resolution No. 826 Establishing a Supplemental Account Agreement for Telephone Transfers
d. Resolution No. 827 Establishing a Check Signing Policy for General Fund Account Payment of Claims
e. Resolution No. 828 Authorizing Signatories for General Fund Account at American Riviera Bank
f. Resolution No. 829 Authorizing Signatories for Revolving Fund Account at American Riviera Bank
g. Resolution No. 830 Establishing a Check Signing Policy for Cachuma Project Trust Fund and Master Contract Renewal Fund Accounts for Payment of Claims
h. Resolution No. 831 Authorizing Signatories for Trust Fund and Renewal Fund Accounts at American Riviera Bank
i. Resolution No. 832 Establishing a Time and Place for Board Meetings

Ms. Gingras presented the annual resolutions and advised they could be broken out individually or approved in a single vote, at the Board's pleasure. Director Hayman motioned to approve all resolutions followed by a second from Director Hanson. The motion carried with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Van Wingerden, Sneddon
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

7. LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE RESTORATION PROGRAM FINAL REPORT

Mr. Robinson presented the final Oak Tree program report with a review of the twenty-year history of the program. He reminded the Board why the program was initiated and summarized its success in meeting its goals with a comfortable buffer. To congratulations from all, Mr. Robinson was presented with a trophy by Ms. Gingras, that commemorates staff's hard work and successful completion of the program.

8. RESOLUTION NO. 833 – COMPLETION OF LAKE CACHUMA OAK TREE RESTORATION PROGRAM AND CONCLUSION OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES EFFECTIVE JULY 31, 2026

Ms. Gingras presented the Resolution to the Board to memorialize the completion of the program and sunset of the committee. President Sneddon motioned to approve the resolution. Director Hayman seconded followed by a unanimous vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Van Wingerden, Sneddon
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

9. BOARD COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

1. Administrative Committee
2. Operations Committee
3. Fisheries Committee
4. Public Outreach Committee

President Sneddon asked the Board members if there were any requests for modifications to their committee assignments. Hearing none, she advised that the committee assignments remain the same for fiscal year (FY) 2026-27 as they were for FY 2025-26.

10. 2026 ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH INSTITUTE (ESRI) USER CONFERENCE / GIS PROJECTS UPDATE

Mr. Papen shared a presentation of the ESRI conference that he and Mr. Waller attended. He noted some enhancements in the technology and demonstrated new capability in digital elevation modeling. Staff utilizes GIS daily and is working on three projects for which it is critical. The Board discussed some concerns with certain emerging technology and data privacy and security.

11. CACHUMA PROJECT MASTER CONTRACT RENEWAL FUND AND WARREN ACT TRUST FUND – LONG-TERM AND ANNUAL PLAN / SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BETTERMENT FUND

Mr. Lyons opened the discussion with a review of the history of the restricted funds, how and why they were established and how deposits into these funds are generated. Mr. Robinson followed with a discussion of the proposed use of the funds for this fiscal year. Ms. Gingras noted that COMB is asking the Board only to approve the proposed use of the funds.

President Sneddon recused herself from this matter due to a conflict. Director Hanson motioned to approve the use of funds. Director Hayman seconded the motion which carried with a vote of four in favor and two unvoted due to recusal.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Van Wingerden
Nays:
Absent:
Recuse: Sneddon

12. FISHERIES DIVISION FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 SCOPE OF WORK – HDR, INC.

Mr. Robinson presented the proposed scope of work for the fisheries division and discussed the reasons for the Sole Source Justification, notably consultant expertise in fisheries matters in the Santa Ynez River and recent experience with preliminary engineering and design of the project. He fielded comments, questions and suggestions from the Board.

Director Hanson motioned to approve the scope of work. Director Van Wingerden seconded the motion which carried with a vote of six in favor.

Ayes: Hayman, Hanson, Van Wingerden, Sneddon
Nays:
Absent:
Abstain:

13. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

- Administration

Ms. Gingras announced receipt of the Distinguished Budget award for the seventh consecutive year and congratulated staff. She had participated with Reclamation in a brief O&M contract negotiation, noting the changes were slight. Finally, Ms. Gingras referred the Board to the list of contracts she executed over the past quarter.

14. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Climate Conditions and Lake Elevation
- Winter Storm Damage and Repairs
- Sheffield Tunnel Project Update
- Lauro Outlet Works Tunnel
- Infrastructure Improvement Projects Update

Mr. Degner reported that the El Niño condition for this year has officially begun but whether it will be wet or dry is yet to be determined. Environmental and cultural review has been completed to allow the FEMA grant application to proceed in order to fund the Lauro Bypass Channel road repair. Mr. Degner provided an update on the Osprey nest. The nesting pair successfully raised a chick which recently fledged, a first for Santa Barbara County. Finally, Mr. Degner provided updates on projects underway, in particular progress at Sheffield. He fielded comments from the Board.

15. OPERATIONS DIVISION REPORT

- Lake Cachuma Operations
- Operation and Maintenance Activities

Mr. Degner presented the Operations report, advising that Cushman Contracting completed maintenance in and at the Lauro tunnel. Mr. Degner also provided an update on completed and ongoing projects including the completion of road work at the Glen Anne turnout and the telemetry panel project and its integration with SCADA.

17. FISHERIES DIVISION REPORT

- LSYR Steelhead Monitoring Elements
- Surcharge Water Accounting
- Reporting/Outreach/Training

Mr. Robinson presented the fisheries report, noting target flows continue to be met at the monitoring sites. Stranding surveys with fish rescue and relocation, in conjunction with CDFW, as well as snorkel surveys, have been keeping staff busy. Mr. Robinson reported that a CDFW/FRGP review team will conduct a site visit next week as the next step in grant application review and approval. Finally, Mr. Robinson noted that staff is gathering data for the upcoming AMS.

18. MONTHLY CACHUMA PROJECT REPORTS

a. Cachuma Water Reports
b. Cachuma Reservoir Current Conditions
c. Lake Cachuma Quagga Survey

Ms. Gingras advised that the reports were routine.

19. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETING

President Sneddon requested a policy be drafted for the use of Artificial Intelligence.

20. [CLOSED SESSION]: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

a. [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)]
Potential Litigation (Potential Exposure)

The Board adjourned into closed session at 3:08 PM.

21. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

[Government Code Section 54957.7]
Disclosure of actions taken in closed session, as applicable
[Government Code Section 54957.1]

18a. Potential Litigation (Potential Exposure)

The Board reconvened into open session at 3:24 PM. Mr. Carter stated that there was no reportable action on item 18.a.

22. MEETING SCHEDULE

- **Regular Board Meeting – August 24, 2026 at 1:00 PM**
- **Board Packages available on COMB website** www.cachuma-board.org

24. COMB ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Gingras, Secretary of the Board

√	***Approved***
	Unapproved

APPROVED:

Kristen W. Sneddon, President of the Board