



SPECIAL MEETING
of the
OPERATIONS & CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE
MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT
583 SAN YSIDRO ROAD, MONTECITO, CALIFORNIA

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2025
9:30 A.M.

Attend in Person or Join by Teleconference:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82570918209?pwd=adhcl2QULbZWwDIB6CaYrGxl6SbVik.1>

Meeting ID: 825 7091 8209 Passcode: 069 928

Tel: (669) 900-6833

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF COMMITTEE QUORUM

2. PUBLIC FORUM

NOTE: This portion of the agenda may be utilized by any person to address the Operations & Customer Relations Committee on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee. No consideration or discussion shall be undertaken by Committee members at this time on any item not appearing on this agenda except as permitted by the Ralph M. Brown Act. Discussion items receiving recommendations by the Committee, and/or items requiring action will be placed on the agenda of a future meeting of the Montecito Water District Board of Directors.

3. ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

- * A. Appeal of Water Loss Adjustment for Account #13-0860-02
- * B. Review of Resolution 2314 Declaring Surplus District Property
- C. Review of Legal Authorities of the Montecito Water District and Montecito Fire District
- * D. Review of Director Compensation, Benefits and Expense Reimbursement Policy
- E. Update on Reservoir Seismic Retrofit and Replacement Project (ASADRA)
- F. Update on FEMA Projects and Reimbursements
- * G. Customer Relations and Public Information

4. CLOSED SESSION

- * A. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6 Conference with Labor Negotiators

** Indicates attachment included for this item*

Agency designated representative: Nicholas Turner
Employee organization: SEIU

5. ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA

6. ADJOURNMENT

Montecito Water District conducts its meetings in-person in accordance with the Brown Act and also provides alternative methods of participation which permit members of the public to observe and address public meetings telephonically and/or electronically. These methods of participation can be accessed through the internet link provided at the top of this agenda.

This agenda was posted on the District website, and at the Montecito Water District outside display case at 5:00 p.m. on October 10, 2025. The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, the District's programs, services, or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District Office at 805-969-2271. Notification at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements.

Agendas, agenda packets, and additional materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available on the District website.

**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

SECTION: 3-A

DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2025

TO: OPERATIONS AND CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE

FROM: GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: WATER LOSS ADJUSTMENT APPEAL FOR ACCOUNT NO. 13-0860-02

RECOMMENDATION:

To be determined by the Committee.

DISCUSSION:

On April 29, 2025, the District received a written request from the customer of 1952 Tollis Avenue, Customer Account No. 13-0860-02, requesting a water loss adjustment on their March 2025 water bill. The Water Loss Adjustment Request is included as Attachment No. 1. This request is in response to a leak that occurred on the property continuously between February 26, 2025 and March 25, 2025. Based on the smart meter records for the property, the leak rate varied over this period reaching a peak of approximately 60,000 gallon per day between February 26 and about March 11. The daily water usage data during the leak period is shown in Attachment No. 2. It is estimated that approximately 1,379 HCF of water was lost as a result of this leak. The resulting March 2025 water bill was \$32,352.99.

At the time the water loss occurred, the customer was not registered nor utilizing Watersmart for tracking water use and receiving leak alerts. Despite this, the customer received an automated leak alert from Watersmart via email on February 26, 2025. The email on file for this account is that of the property manager, and Watersmart indicates this email was opened. Watersmart confirmed their system shows the first leak alert was opened at 6:57pm on February 26, 2025. On March 22, 24 and 25, 2025, six subsequent leak alerts were sent via email. Watersmart shows that 5 of those 6 alerts were opened by the email account on file. Based on information provided, the customer became aware of the leak on March 25 and shut off the water to the property until repairs could be made. The apparent cause of the leak was a faulty valve that fills a small, buried irrigation tank on the property. The valve was stuck in the open position and the tank overflow ran directly into the storm drainage system located in the street, making the leak not readily visible.

District Ordinance No. 82 establishes that the customer is responsible for payment for any water that is recorded through their meter. Adjustments to a customer's water bill are permitted pursuant to the District's Water Loss Adjustment Policy. A copy of the current Policy at the time of the water loss, which was adopted via Resolution No. 2285, is included as Attachment No. 3. Pursuant to Provision 2 of the Policy, an adjustment of a customer's water bill may be granted in the event

of a loss of water due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the customer, such as a mechanical malfunction, blind leak, theft of water, vandalism, unexplained water loss, or other unusual or emergency condition. Additionally, Provision 3 states that a determination as to whether a Water Loss Adjustment will be applied is at the discretion of the General Manager or their designee and that the General Manager or designee will consider the following factors including (a) the cause of the water loss (b) the customer's opportunity to detect the water loss (c) any act or omission of the customer in connection with the water loss (d) evidence of steps taken to correct the problem and (e) the promptness with which the water loss was discovered, stopped, and repaired.

Based on the available information, including the leak notifications provided to the customer and confirmed opened by Watersmart, and the lack of promptness with which the water loss was discovered, stopped, and repaired, the water loss adjustment was denied on May 29, 2025. The customer requested to appeal this determination to the Operations and Customer Relations Committee. A written appeal from the customer's legal representative is provided in Attachment No. 4.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Attachment 1 - Water Loss Adjustment Request
2. Attachment 2 – Daily Water Use during water loss period
3. Attachment 3 – Resolution No. 2285 Water Loss Adjustment Policy
4. Attachment 4 – Appeal of Denial of Water Loss Adjustment

APR 29 2025

DISTRICT OFFICE
FORM BARBARA, CA



Reliable Since 1921

583 San Ysidro Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108-2124

Phone: 805.969.2271
Fax: 805.969.7261
Email: info@montecitowater.com
Web: montecitowater.com

WATER LOSS ADJUSTMENT REQUEST

Note: Requests are limited to one adjustment every twenty-four (24) months.

This completed form along with all supporting documents, such as invoices, photos or videos, must be submitted to the District within thirty (30) days from the billing date for the period in which the loss occurred. Customers must meet eligibility requirements below for any request to be considered. Check to confirm that you:

- ☒ Are enrolled in and can demonstrate utilization of the District's smart metering customer portal **WaterSmart** for monitoring real time water use and receiving notifications of apparent water loss.
- ☒ Took corrective action to remedy the specific condition (leak) immediately upon being notified of or discovering the water loss.
- ☒ Have an account in good standing (and without an outstanding balance) at the time of the Water Loss Adjustment request.

If you have fulfilled all of the eligibility requirements above, please proceed with form:

ACCOUNT SERVICE ADDRESS (WATER LOSS LOCATION)

1952 TOLLIS AVE

ACCOUNT NUMBER [REDACTED] DATE OF LOSS DISCOVERY 03/26/2025

NAME ON ACCOUNT [REDACTED]

PHONE [REDACTED] EMAIL [REDACTED]

MAILING ADDRESS (If different from Service Address)

[REDACTED]

BILLING PERIOD(S)* ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED 2/1-2/28/25 and 3/1-3/31/25
3/1-3/31/2025 and 4/1-4/30/2025

*Limited to two consecutive billing periods, depending on the time and circumstances of the loss.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ATTACHED ☒ YES ☐ NO

BRIEF EXPLANATION: Please describe how water loss occurred, how quickly it was repaired, and steps taken to ensure that another water loss does not occur:

A potential leak was discovered on March 25, 2025. Our landscaper was quick to turn off the water at the valve gate and back flow meter. He then investigated the entire property and irrigation system. It was found that a broken valve on the irrigation tank may be the source of the leak; overflow runs to the sewer and creek so there were NO signs of a leak or running water around the tank. As a precaution, we hired a leak detection service who ran tests on April 15. In addition, our pool service tested and checked the pool and spa system for leaks. We believe we have resolved the issue and will continue to monitor water usage. Note, as most of this work took place in April, our vendor have not yet billed us for all of their work. We can submit those invoices at a later date if necessary. Thank you.
(Attach additional pages if necessary)

I certify that all of the information contained in this request is accurate and true:

ACCOUNT HOLDER SIGNATURE [REDACTED] DATE 04/29/2025

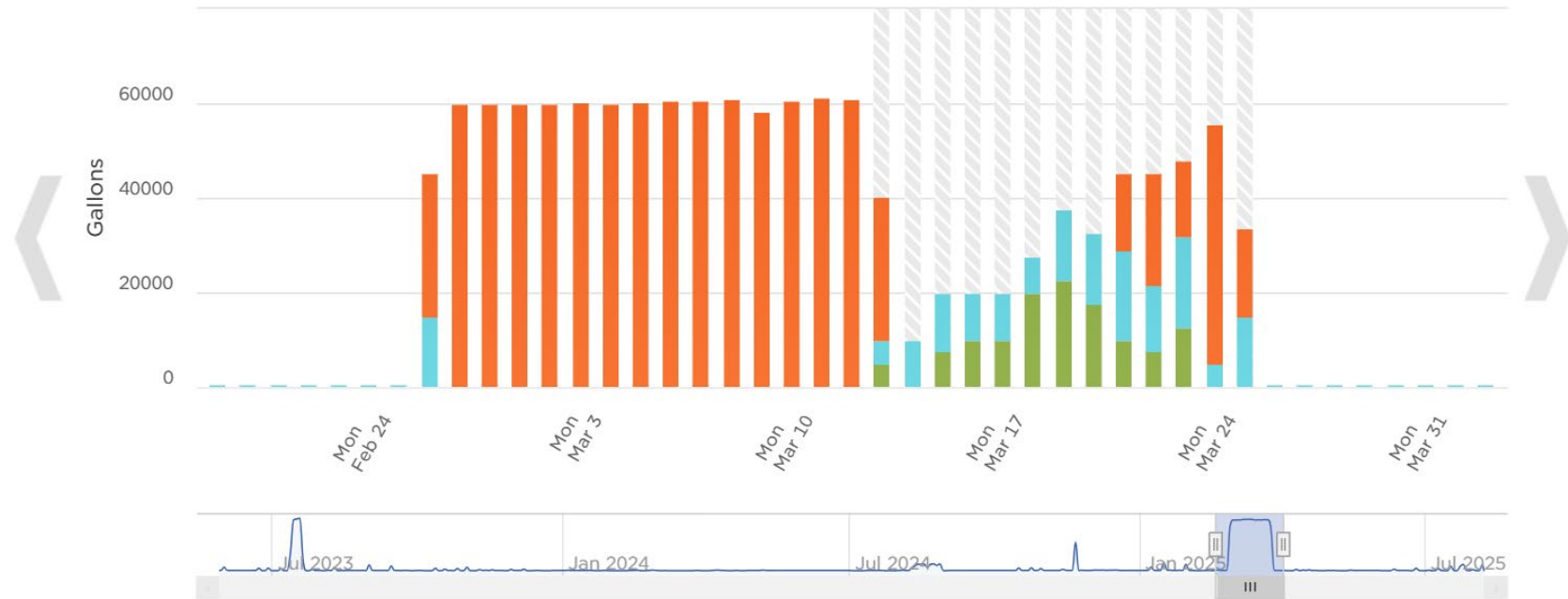
form revision date: 10/09/2024

Page left intentionally blank.

Feb 18, 2025 — Apr 2, 2025

DAY WEEK 2 WEEKS 2 MONTHS YEAR

Normal Use Possible Leak Timed Irrigation Data Unavailable



Page left intentionally blank.

RESOLUTION NO. 2285

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT UPDATING ITS WATER LOSS ADJUSTMENT POLICY FOR FY2025

WHEREAS, Montecito Water District (“District”) is responsible for the repair and maintenance of its water distribution system up to and including the water meters installed to serve District customers; and

WHEREAS, District customers are responsible for the repair and maintenance of the water system and plumbing facilities from the water meter to their property, including all plumbing fixtures on their property (i.e. the water system on the customer side of the water meter); and

WHEREAS, the District occasionally receives requests from customers to reduce their water bill due to a water leak or water loss which occurred on the customer’s side of the water meter; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Ordinance 82, the customer is responsible for payment for any water that is recorded through the meter including water that is lost due to a plumbing leak, a service line break, theft or unaccounted for water use; and

WHEREAS, in August 2017, the District adopted Resolution 2156 modifying Sections 6.2 and 9.1 of Ordinance 82 and establishing a *Water Loss Adjustment Policy*; and

WHEREAS, the *Water Loss Adjustment Policy* has been periodically updated to incorporate various revisions to the policy, including updating the unit rate for Excess Water and incorporating a requirement that customers must be enrolled in, and demonstrate utilization of, the District’s smart metering technology to be eligible for a water loss adjustment; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Resolution is to: (a) rescind the current *Water Loss Adjustment Policy* established by Resolution No. 2273; and (b) establish an updated *Water Loss Adjustment Policy* effective upon adoption of this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Montecito Water District hereby adopts the following updated Water Loss Adjustment Policy:

1. The *Water Loss Adjustment Policy* adopted by Resolution 2273 is hereby rescinded in its entirety and replaced with the *Water Loss Adjustment Policy* contained in this Resolution.
2. Notwithstanding the customer’s responsibility for charges due to water that is lost on the customer’s side of the water meter under Section 6.2 of Ordinance 82, the District may, upon written request of a customer, grant an adjustment of a customer’s bill (“Water Loss Adjustment”) in the event of loss of water due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the customer such as a mechanical malfunction, blind leak, theft of

water, vandalism, unexplained water loss or other unusual or emergency condition.

3. A determination as to whether a Water Loss Adjustment will be applied is at the discretion of the General Manager or their designee. In making the determination, the General Manager or designee will consider the following factors:
 - a. The cause of the water loss;
 - b. The customer's opportunity to detect the water loss;
 - c. Any act or omission of the customer in connection with the water loss;
 - d. Evidence of steps taken to correct the problem; and
 - e. The promptness with which the water loss was discovered, stopped, and repaired.
4. Water Loss Adjustments will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
5. In order to qualify for a Water Loss Adjustment, the customer must:
 - a. Be enrolled in and demonstrate utilization of the District's smart metering customer portal (Watersmart) for monitoring their real time water use and receiving notifications of apparent water loss.
 - b. Take corrective action to remedy the specific condition immediately upon being notified of or discovering the water loss. The customer may temporarily turn off water service to their property at their valve located on the customer's side of the water meter and/or request the District temporarily shut off the water to the property until such time as remedial repairs of the specific condition are made.
 - c. Fill out and submit a *Water Loss Adjustment Request* form and provide any supporting documents to the District within thirty (30) days from the billing date for the period in which the loss occurred. Supporting documents may include, but are not limited to:
 - i. Invoice(s) for the repair;
 - ii. Report(s) from a leak detection specialist;
 - iii. Invoice(s) for parts;
 - iv. Photographs or videos depicting the water loss and/or repairs;A site visit by District personnel may be required.
 - d. Have an account in good standing (and without an outstanding balance) at the

time of the Water Loss Adjustment request.

6. The Water Loss Adjustment will be determined as follows:

- a. The District will estimate a customer's normal water use ("Normal Use") in hundred cubic feet (HCF) for the month in which the loss occurred based on the following:
 - i. For existing accounts, Normal Use shall be an average of the usage during the same month for the past three (3) consecutive years. If less than three (3) consecutive years of data is available, an average of the available data shall be used.
 - ii. For new accounts with historical water use data available for the property, Normal Use shall be calculated in the same manner as existing accounts. For new accounts without historical water use data (i.e. new development), historical water use information for similar properties may be used.
 - iii. Other information may be used in estimating Normal Use on a property, as determined appropriate by the General Manager.

The General Manager or their designee will assess the available information and make a determination of estimated Normal Use for the month in question.

- b. The difference between the billed amount and the Normal Use will be considered the "Excess Water" resulting from the loss.
 - c. All Excess Water will be billed as follows:
 - i. At a unit rate equal to the additional cost incurred by the District to replace the lost water as specified in the attached Appendix A. This unit rate specified in Appendix A will be reviewed annually and updated accordingly.
 - ii. Surcharges and/or Penalties, if in place at the time of the adjustment request, will not apply.
 - d. The amount of the customer's revised bill as determined above will be due and payable in the billing cycle immediately following the billing cycle during which the Water Loss Adjustment is granted.
7. Water Loss Adjustments will be limited to two consecutive billing periods depending on the time and circumstances of the loss and will be limited to one adjustment every twenty-four (24) months.
8. The customer may appeal the decision made by the General Manager or their designee

under this Resolution to the Board of Directors by filing a written appeal with the District within 30 days of written notice of the General Manager’s decision. Such an appeal will be governed by the procedures set forth in Section 9 of Ordinance 82, with the amount due under subdivision (d), Section 6 above substituted for “the total amount due to the District” for purposes of Section 9.1.

9. This Resolution shall be immediately effective upon passage, and applicable to all Water Loss Adjustment Requests submitted subsequent to the date of passage of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager may take appropriate actions as may be necessary to implement this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District this 25th day of June 2024.

AYES: Coates, Goebel, Hayman, Plough, Wicks
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Kenneth Coates, President

Nicholas Turner, Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

Walt Wendelstein, District Counsel

under this Resolution to the Board of Directors by filing a written appeal with the District within 30 days of written notice of the General Manager's decision. Such an appeal will be governed by the procedures set forth in Section 9 of Ordinance 82, with the amount due under subdivision (d), Section 6 above substituted for "the total amount due to the District" for purposes of Section 9.1.

9. This Resolution shall be immediately effective upon passage, and applicable to all Water Loss Adjustment Requests submitted subsequent to the date of passage of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the General Manager may take appropriate actions as may be necessary to implement this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District this 25th day of June 2024.

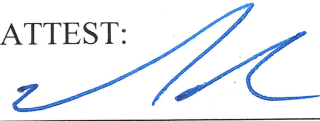
AYES: Coates, Goebel, Hayman, Plough, Wicks
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:



Kenneth Coates, President

ATTEST:



Nicholas Turner, Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:



Walt Wendelstein, District Counsel

Appendix A

All excess water will be billed at a unit rate equal to the additional cost incurred by the District to replace the lost water.

This unit rate is determined to be \$4.68/HCF for Fiscal Year 2025.



SENDER'S EMAIL:
travis@rogerssheffield.com

August 8, 2025

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Montecito Water District
Attn: Operations Committee
akanold@montecitowater.com

**Re: Appeal of Denial of Reasonable Relief of Water Loss Adjustment Under
Resolution No. 2285 / 1952 Tollis Avenue, Montecito, CA 93108 /
Hearing of August 14, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.**

Ladies and Gentleman:

I. INTRODUCTION

Our firm represents the property owner of 1952 Tollis Avenue, Montecito, CA 93108 (the "Property").

Thank you for the opportunity to communicate our client's basis of appeal for the denial of reasonable relief of water loss adjustment by the Montecito Water District's (the "MWD") Assistant General Manager, Adam Kanold.

Our client is a valued and productive member of the Montecito community. We are seeking your cooperation to work collaboratively and in good faith with our client. We will concisely describe the facts, relevant law, and then request you grant the relief of water loss adjustment.

Our description of the facts is truthful, without controversy, and based on the best knowledge of our client.

II. STATEMENT OF FACTS

On or about the morning of February 26, 2025, a significant leak of approximately 60,000 gallons per day (the "Leak") developed on the waterline (the "Waterline") that services the

Property. MWD's "leak alert" system (the "System") was triggered at 6:55 p.m. that same day.

According to Mr. Kanold:

- On February 26, the System sent an email notification (the "Disputed Email Notification") to our client's representative's email address, gkp.tmg@gmail.com;
- On February 26, the System shows the Disputed Email Notification was "opened" and that the email address is the current email for the account; and,
- On or about March 22, 24, and 25, six additional leak alerts were sent to the email address and "opened."

Our client became actually aware of the Leak on or about March 25. Subsequently, our client and its representatives worked with MWD and Mr. Kanold, cooperatively, expeditiously, and in good faith, to locate the Leak.

Our client acted both diligently and reasonably throughout.

The invoice of our client's landscape contractor, Steve Hanson, indicates:

- On or about March 25, Mr. Hanson searched for the Leak and shutoff the delivery of water from the meter to the Property; and,
- On or about April 10, Steve Hanson determined the Leak was caused by the faulty fill valve on the greywater system and replaced the valve.

On or about May 12, Mr. Kanold's email states, "I had a productive site visit with your team this morning. They were able to show me how the Leak discharged straight into a storm drain system...My question is: What actions, if any, were taken between February 26 and March 25 to find or fix the leak?"

MWD's bill to our client for the Leak is approximately \$32,352.99. Our client requested Mr. Kanold review the situation and credit it accordingly.

MWD offered our client a credit of \$23,000.00 at the end of April 2025, but later withdrew it for reasons unknown.

Mr. Kanold denied the request for the appeal and our client timely appealed the decision to the Board of Directors.

III. THE LAW

MWD adopted Resolution No. 2308 (the "Resolution") as its "water loss adjustment policy for Fiscal Year 2026." The Resolution states each case will be handled "on a case -by-case basis." It describes certain criteria the customer must meet in order to qualify for a water loss and provides methods to determine it.

IV. ANALYSIS

Under the Resolution, our client satisfies all of the criteria to qualify for a water loss. Our client was both diligent and reasonable, under the circumstances. There are numerous mitigating factors to support the basis for relief.

First, our client vehemently denies the Disputed Email Notification was opened and viewed. It was never opened and viewed. Our client's representative describes how the System incorrectly treated a prior notice from November 2024 by showing it as "not viewed" when, in fact, it was viewed. We assure you no one is "playing games" pretending not to receive notice. If necessary, corroborating testimony under oath will be offered to bolster these facts.

Next, our client worked both swiftly and diligently to identify the source of the Leak once they were actually made aware of it. Mr. Hanson investigated the Leak and offered his professional opinion that there was no leak. Mr. Hanson runs a well-respected landscaping company in Montecito, which has over 100 employees. Our client reasonably relied on Mr. Hanson and his professional opinion, for which he has a reasonable basis after diligent inspections and investigative efforts.

Further, our client engaged a leak detection company and its pool company to perform even more inspections, all in an effort to locate the Leak.

Moreover, it was not until a subsequent inspection by Mr. Hanson did it become apparent that the irrigation tank was the cause. The Leak and evidence thereof was not readily visible or observable. Conversely, it was completely concealed and hidden, which is why it proved illusive and difficult to identify. To exacerbate matters, water from the Leak was leaking into the septic system and/or dry creek. There was no visible evidence of moisture anywhere despite reasonable action and measures employed.

Finally, MWD may rest assured that our client has taken identifiable steps to minimize the chance of a leak from ever happening again without detection. Our client paid for the installation of two meters to monitor future water use and has instructed its staff and Mr. Hanson to regularly inspect for leaks and implement "best practices."

Therefore, our client is entitled to an appropriate credit, under the language of the Resolution.

V. **CONCLUSION**

Our client truly wants to continue its collaborative and amicable relationship with MWD. Our client has a deep respect and gratitude for MWD's staff, representatives, and the important work they do.

Our client does not take the option of seeking appropriate redress with "the next step" lightly; however, the course and resolution of this matter remain squarely in your hands.

Respectfully, we ask that you grant this appeal and reverse Mr. Kanold's decision. Alternatively, if you are unwilling to grant the appeal and need more information, we request you continue the hearing and would be more than happy to work in good faith to provide documentation, as necessary.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Travis C. Logue', with a stylized, flowing script.

Travis C. Logue, Esq.

American Leak Detection
2175 Goodyear Ave, Suite 102
Ventura, CA 93003
8059651000
americanleakdetectionsbvtr@gmail.com

Invoice

**BILL TO**

The Lighthouse Trust
c/o The Management Trust
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 400
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

SHIP TO

The Lighthouse Trust
1948 Tollis Ave
Montecito, CA 93108

INVOICE #	DATE	TOTAL DUE	DUE DATE	TERMS	ENCLOSED
75799	04/14/2025	\$450.00	04/14/2025	Due on receipt	

WORK ORDERED BY
Ursula

ORDERED BY PHONE
310-271-0300 Ext 230

DATE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
	CI	Commercial Irrigation Detection See Attached Report 20250415-18400824206	450.00

Please click on the "Review and pay" button towards the top of the email to pay by credit card.

BALANCE DUE

\$450.00

We also accept payment checks mailed to:

American Leak Detection

2175 Goodyear Ave, Suite 102

Ventura, CA 93003

Tax ID: ALDSBVTR, a Calif Co DBA A.L.D. 82-4408219

CONTRACTOR LIC:1039306

Contractors are required by law to be licensed and regulated by the Contractors' State License Board. Any questions concerning a contractor may be referred to the Registrar, Contractors' State License Board, 9835 Goethe Road, Sacramento, CA 95827.
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 26000, Sacramento, CA 95826.

Guarantee on Detections: All leak detection work is guaranteed for 30 days after completion. We will re-test the system or refund the detection fee (at our sole option) if it is reported the leak was not as marked.

We will not be liable for any consequential losses due to any missed detections.

Guarantee On Repairs: Minor repairs are guaranteed for 30 days. Major repairs are guaranteed for 2 years. All repairs are guaranteed from the date of completion & for defective workmanship only.

I find the work satisfactory & the charges as agreed:

Signed _____ Date _____



Date	Invoice #
6/30/2025	39466

Lighthouse Trust
c/o The Management Group
8383 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 400
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Section 3-A
Page 19 of 24



Steve Hanson Landscaping, LLC
P.O. Box 4547
Santa Barbara, CA 93140
Ph (805)563-3429
www.stevhansonlandscaping.com

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
4/24/2025	36191

Bill To

Lighthouse Trust
c/o The Management Group
8383 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 400
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Terms

Due on receipt

Date	Description	Qty	Rate	Amount
	Special Billing - Water Leak Project			
4/2/2025	Check property for leak and find irrigation meter	1.5	75.00	112.50
4/2/2025	Check irrigation for leak on main line (property manager request)	1	120.00	120.00
4/3/2025	Investigate Leak	1	120.00	120.00
4/4/2025	Work with Chas on irrigation leak on property	2	75.00	150.00
4/10/2025	Replace defective valve @ Grey Water Cistern	2	75.00	150.00
4/14/2025	Search for leak on property with leak detector company	2	75.00	150.00
4/17/2025	Turn on city water and refill pool	1.5	75.00	112.50
	Subtotal: Extra Irrigation Labor			915.00
4/24/2025	Glue (1)	1.25	3.50	4.38
4/24/2025	1.5" Inline Valve (1)	1.25	165.00	206.25
4/24/2025	1.5" Fittings (6)	1.25	25.02	31.28
	Subtotal: Extra Irrigation Materials			241.91

Total

\$1,156.91

A finance charge of 1.5% per month (18% annually) will be charged on all accounts 30 days past due.

NEW WIRE INSTRUCTIONS

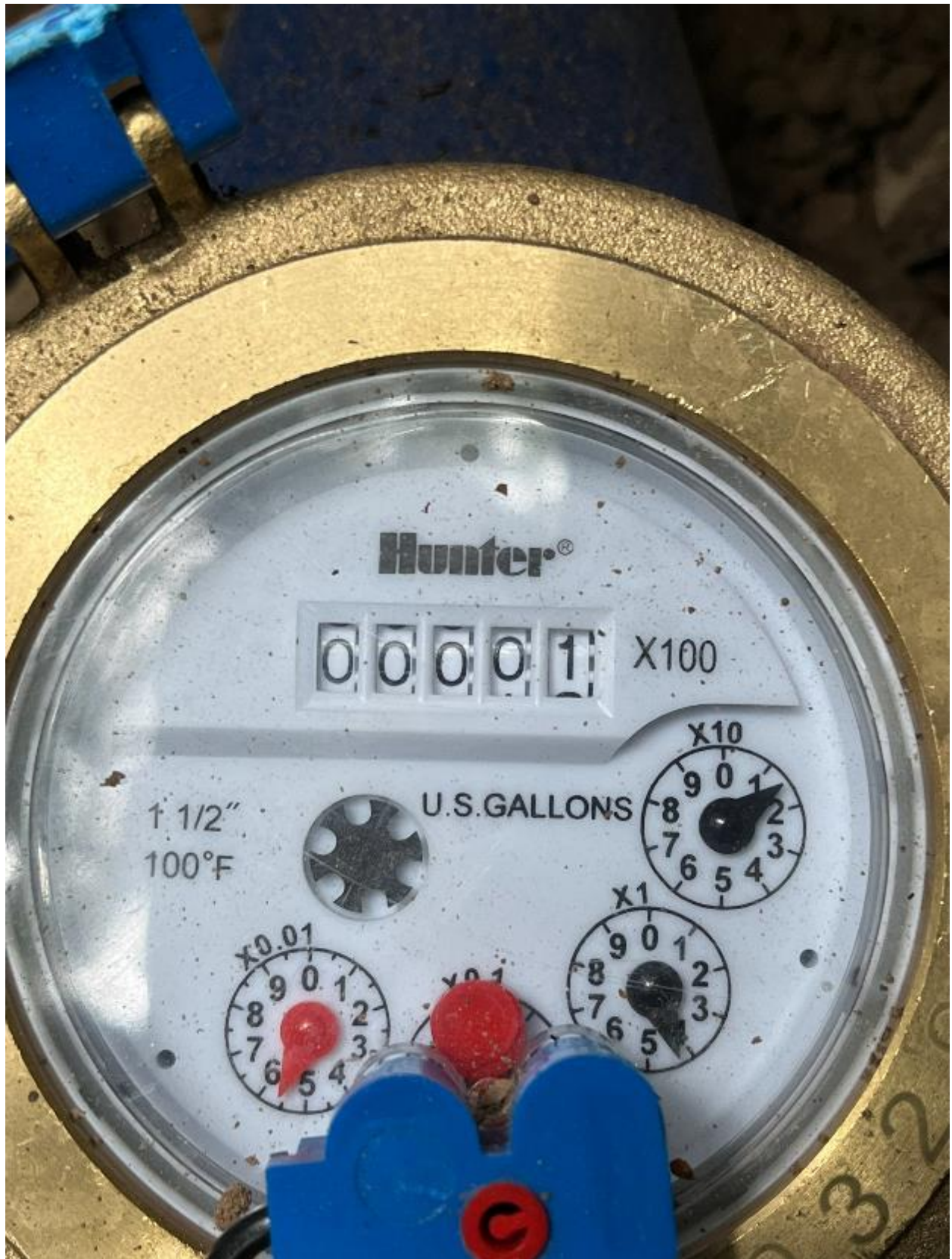
Northwest Bank
Routing Num: 243374218
Account Num: 5506053916

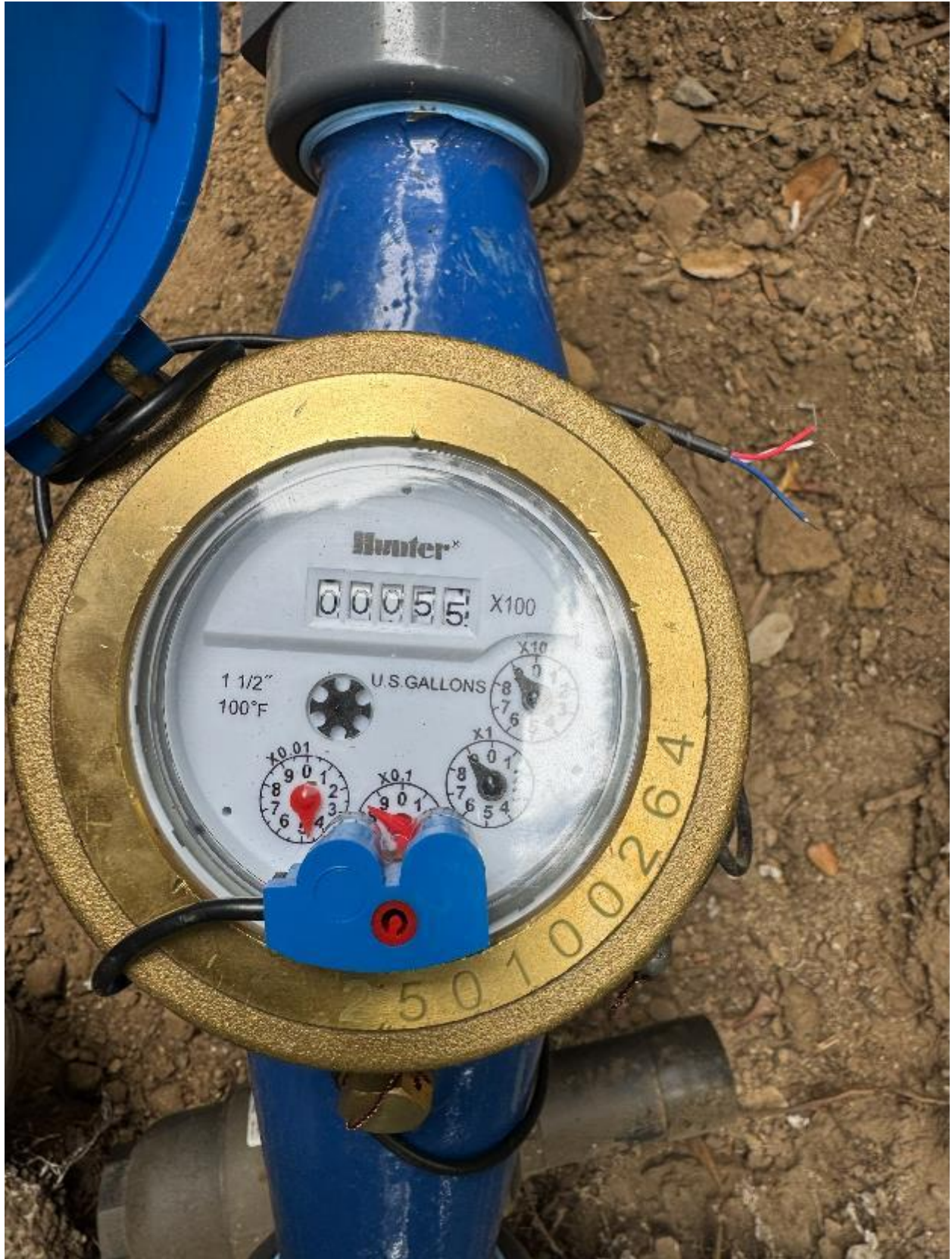
Payments/Credits

\$0.00

Balance Due

\$1,156.91









**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

SECTION: 3-B

DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2025

TO: OPERATIONS AND CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE

FROM: ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER / ENGINEERING MANAGER

**SUBJECT: REVIEW OF RESOLUTION NO. 2314 DECLARING SURPLUS DISTRICT
PROPERTY**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Operations and Customer Relations Committee recommend that the Board of Directors adopt Resolution No. 2314, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District declaring certain parcels of real property owned by the District are surplus land and not necessary for the District's Use [Government Code §54221], finding that such declaration is exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act, and taking related actions.

BACKGROUND:

In September 2024, the District completed an Office Headquarters Master Plan (Master Plan) which detailed the needed improvements at the District property located at 583 San Ysidro Road. These improvements include replacement of aging Distribution facilities, expansion of the administration building, and redesign of traffic flow for more efficient operations. The total estimated cost to implement the Master Plan is \$9.6M. During review of the Master Plan, the Board of Directors requested staff research funding mechanisms for the implementation of the Master Plan including the potential sale of surplus property.

The District owns 20 parcels within its service area, and most are fully utilized for essential District operations. However, the District's use of several properties has changed over time. Three properties were identified as surplus and potential candidates for sale since they are not currently used for District operations nor are they anticipated to be needed for future District operations. In March 2025, the Board of Directors directed staff to proceed to prepare the properties for potential sale.

For the District properties located at Bella Vista Drive and Hidden Valley Lane (Buell Reservoir), confirmation of access rights and engineering feasibility was required, and those tasks have since been completed. Declaring these two properties as surplus property is the first step required for the properties may be marketed. Note that the Hidden Valley Lane "Buell Reservoir" property consists of three separate parcels. Therefore, a total of four parcels are proposed to be declared surplus property.

DISCUSSION:

The sale of public property must comply with the Surplus Land Act (SLA). The SLA, originally enacted in 1968, was modified in 2020 (AB1486) to ensure availability of property for affordable housing development. Under the SLA, public agencies choosing to sell or lease property must go through a structured disposition process as follows:

1. Declare Land Surplus

- The District must declare the property surplus via resolution at a regular public meeting.
- Support the declaration with written findings detailing the rationale for the exemption.

2. Issue a Notice of Availability (NOA)

- Send the NOA to State of California Housing and Community Development (HCD), local public agencies, and developers who have registered with HCD as interested in affordable housing

3. Engage in Good Faith Negotiations

- Affordable housing developers and other listed parties have 60 days to express interest.
- Parties are provided 90 days to negotiate in good faith.
- The District does not have to sell the property for less than fair market value.

4. Submit for State of California Housing and Community Development Review

- Prior to finalizing the disposition, submit the NOA, any notices of interest received, descriptions of the negotiations, and details of any deed restrictions to HCD for review.

5. Obtain HCD Approval

- Receive HCD approval before the sale or lease of the surplus land can be finalized

The first step in the process is for the Board to adopt a resolution declaring the property surplus. Included as Attachment 1 is draft Resolution No. 2314. The draft NOA is included as Attachment 2. The NOA would be sent to all entities who have registered with HCD as interested in affordable housing.

Staff are seeking feedback on the draft resolution and Committee support for this item to be presented to the Board of Directors.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Completion of the SLA process will utilize District legal counsel and land use consultant whose costs are included in the Board adopted Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget. These costs are expected to be less than \$15,000 and within budget.

According to District consultants, the potential value of the Buell properties is between \$1,250,000 and \$2,000,000. The potential value of the Bella Vista property is between \$500,000 and \$1,500,000.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Resolution No. 2314 A Resolution Of The Board Of Directors Of The Montecito Water District Declaring That Certain Parcels Of Real Property Owned By The District Are Surplus Land And Not Necessary For The District's Use [Government Code §54221], Finding That Such Declaration Is Exempt From Environmental Review Under The California Environmental Quality Act, And Taking Related Actions.
2. Draft Notice of Availability (NOA)

Page left intentionally blank.

RESOLUTION NO. 2314

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT DECLARING THAT CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE DISTRICT ARE SURPLUS LAND AND NOT NECESSARY FOR THE DISTRICT'S USE [GOVERNMENT CODE §54221], FINDING THAT SUCH DECLARATION IS EXEMPT FROM ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT, AND TAKING RELATED ACTIONS

WHEREAS, Montecito Water District ("District") is a County Water District organized and existing under and by virtue of Water Code §30000-33901; and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to dispose of property necessary to the full exercise of its powers [Water Code 31041]; and

WHEREAS, the District is the owner in fee simple of the following parcels of real property in the County of Santa Barbara designated by the following Assessor's Parcel Numbers ("APN"): APN 155-090-024, APN 155-090-025, APN 155-090-033 and APN 155-010-037 ("Properties"). The Properties are further described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, under the Surplus Land Act [Government Code §§54220-54233] ("Act") surplus land is land owned in fee simple by the District for which the District takes formal action in a regular public meeting declaring the land is surplus and not necessary for the District's use [Government Code §54221(b)(1)]; and

WHEREAS, under the Act, land is necessary for the District's use if the land is being used, or is planned to be used pursuant to a written plan adopted by the District, for District work or operations [Government Code §54221(c)(1)]; and

WHEREAS, the Properties are not currently being used, and no written plan has been and/or will be adopted by the District to use the Properties for District work or operations; and

WHEREAS, the District Board of Directors, in consultation with District staff, have evaluated the Properties for their potential to be used for District work or operations, and have determined that the Properties are not suitable for the District's use; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to declare that the Properties are surplus land and not necessary for the District's use, and to dispose of the Properties; and

WHEREAS, the Act requires that before the District disposes of the Properties or engages in negotiations to dispose of the Properties, the District shall send a written notice of availability of the Properties to certain designated entities [Government Code §54222]; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution was considered as an agendized item at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors and the publicly available staff report for the agenda item provides additional

supporting information upon which the declaration and findings set forth in this Resolution are based;

WHEREAS, this Resolution has been reviewed with respect to the applicability of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and the adoption of this Resolution and designation of the Properties as surplus is not a “Project” because it does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and is therefore exempt from review [CEQA Guidelines §15378].

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Montecito Water District as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct and are a substantive part of this Resolution.
2. The Properties described in this Resolution and Exhibit “A” are surplus land and not necessary for the District’s use because they are not currently being used for District work or operations, and no written plan has been and/or will be adopted by the District to use the Properties for District work or operations.
3. District staff is authorized and directed to send a notice of availability to the entities designated in Government Code §54222 (“Designated Entities”) by electronic mail and/or by certified mail.
4. District staff are authorized and directed to do all things necessary or proper to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District this 28th day of October 2025 by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

Kenneth Coates, Board President

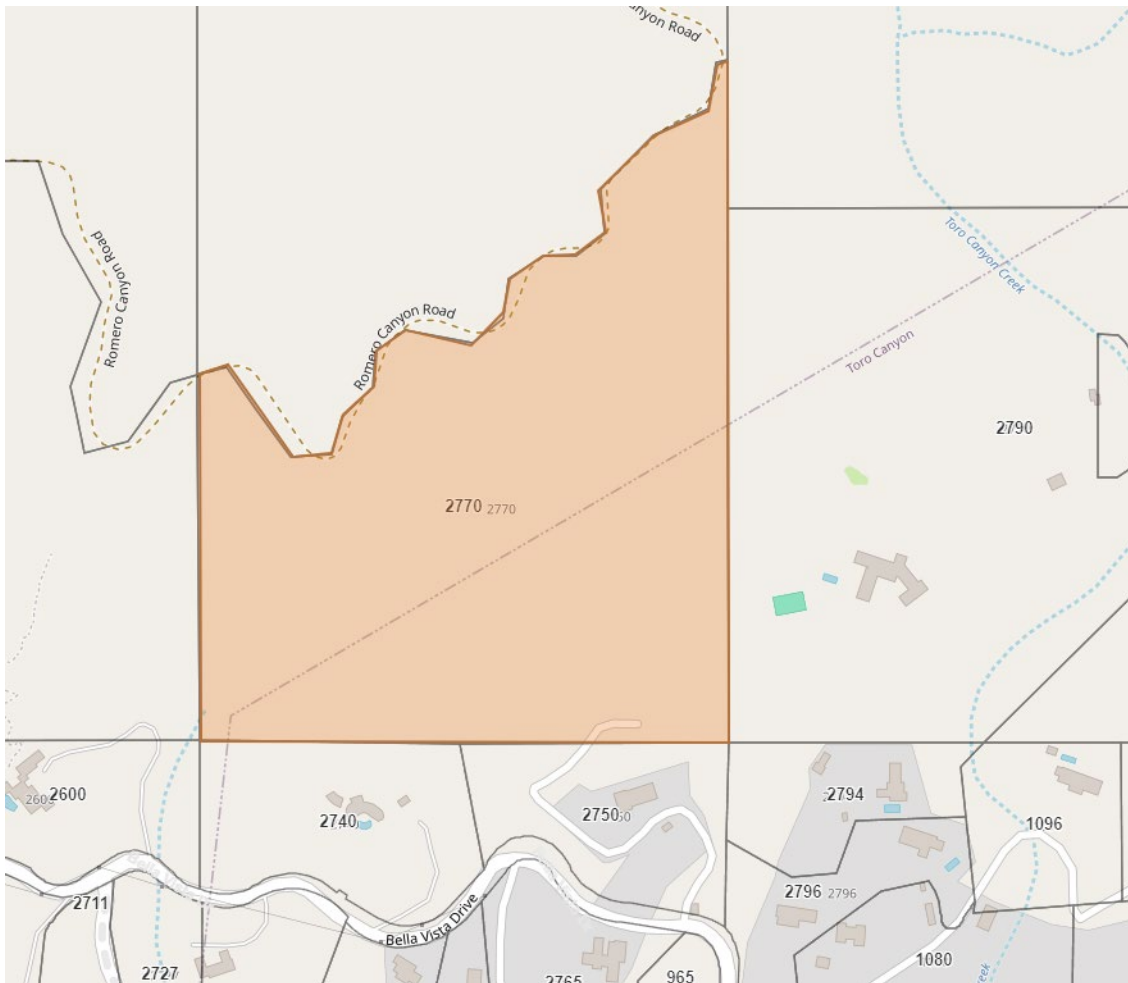
ATTEST:

Nicholas Turner, Secretary

Exhibit A
to Resolution 2314

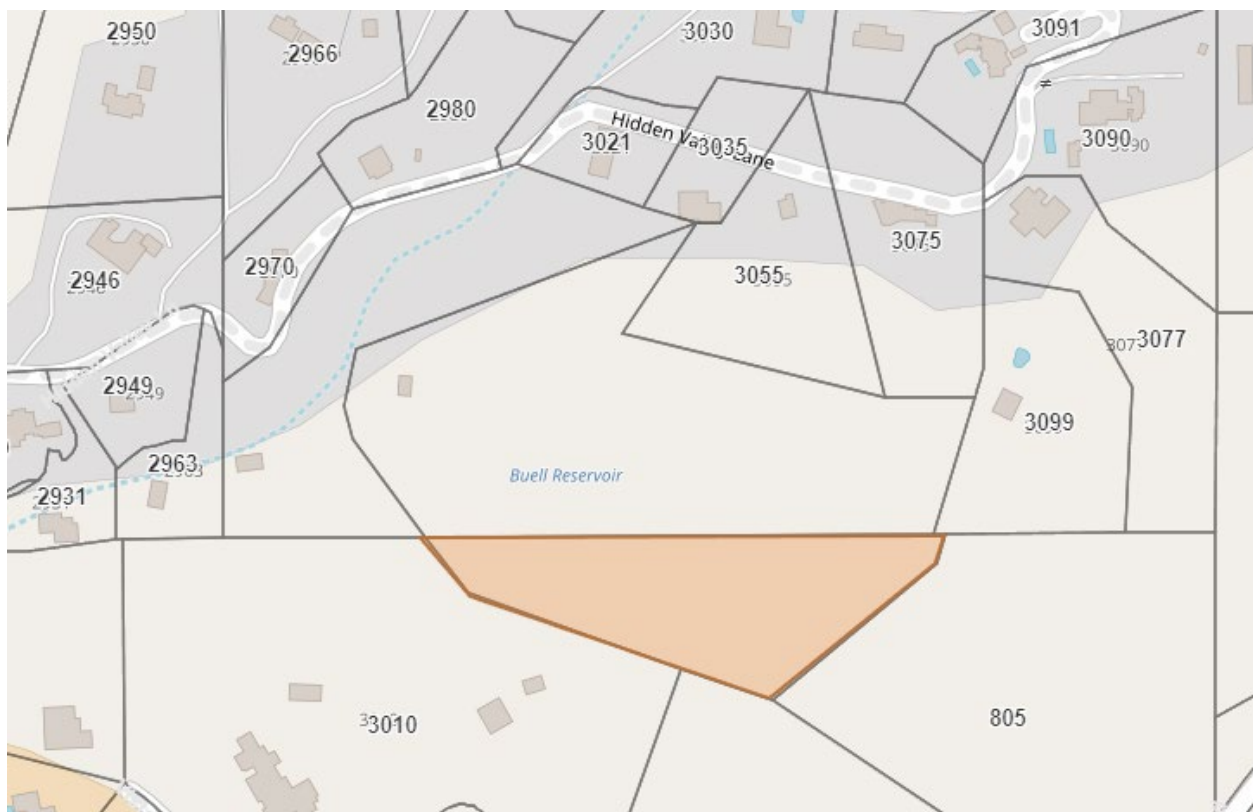
Property Description – “Bella Vista Site”

- **Address:** 2770 Bella Vista Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93108
- **Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN):** 155-010-037
- **Size:** Approximately 32.82-acres
- **Zoning:** RMZ-40
- **General Plan Designation:** MA-40
- **Current Use:** Montecito Water District water tank; wireless telecommunications facility (lease area)



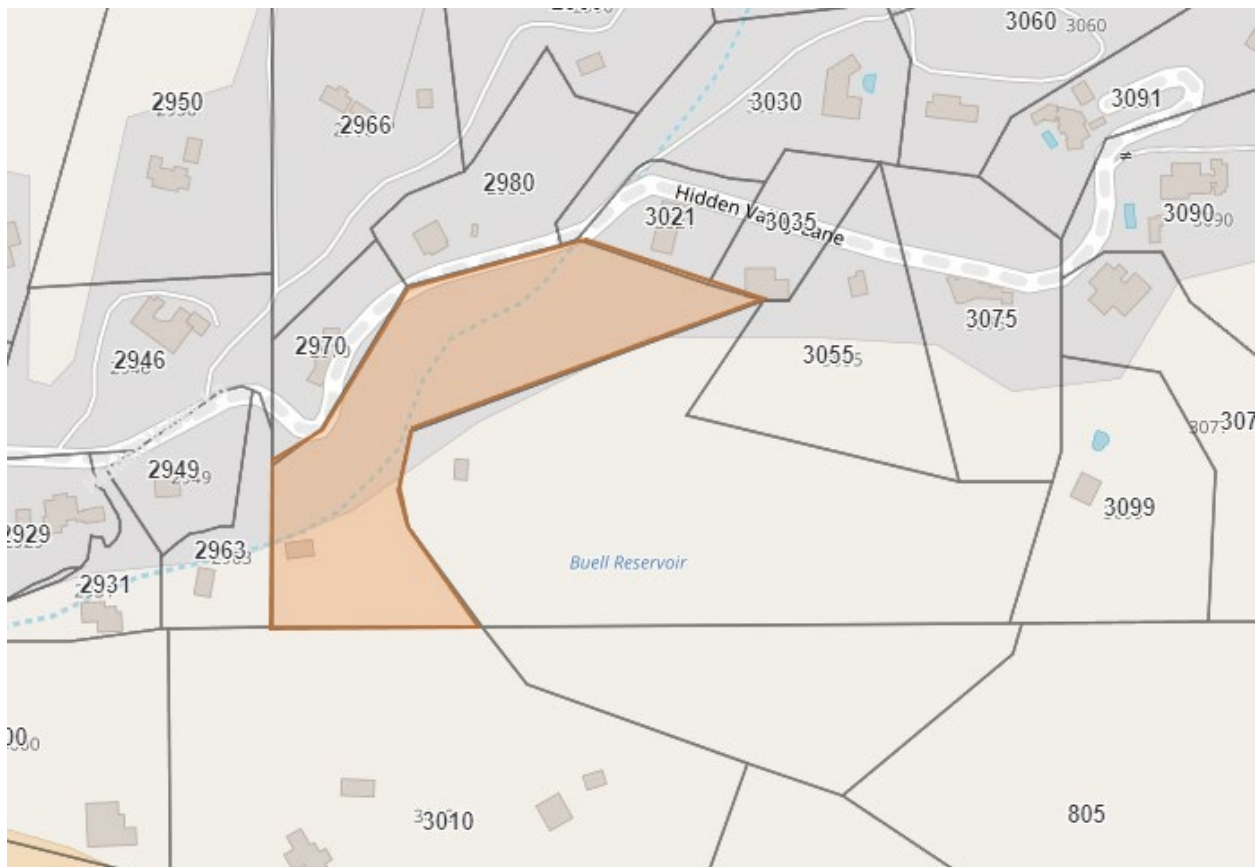
Property Description – “Hidden Valley Site 1”

- **Address:** No address assigned
- **Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN):** 155-090-025
- **Size:** Approximately 4.09-acres
- **Zoning:** 10-E-1 (Single Family Residential, 10-acre minimum parcel size)
- **General Plan Designation:** SRR-0.1
- **Current Use:** Vacant



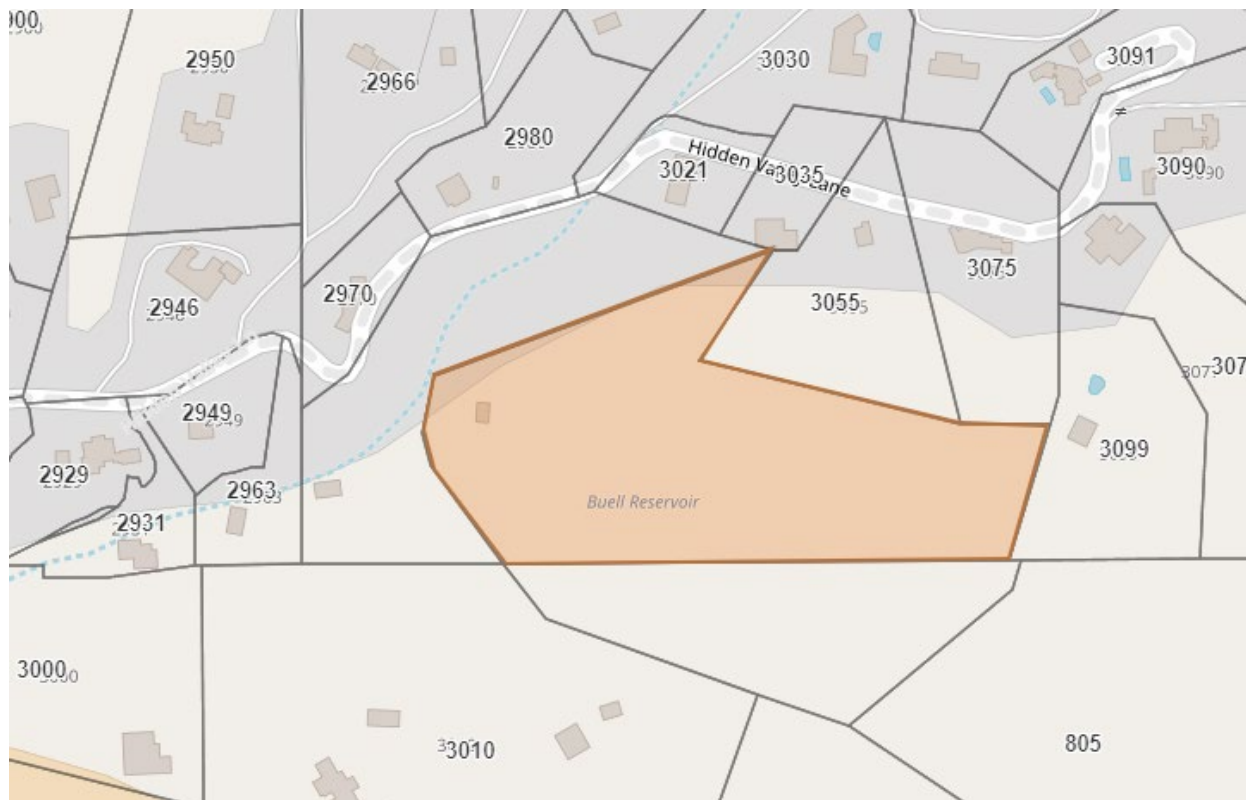
Property Description – “Hidden Valley Site 2”

- **Address:** No address assigned
- **Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN):** 155-090-024
- **Size:** Approximately 4.09-acres
- **Zoning:** 10-E-1 (Single Family Residential, 10-acre minimum parcel size)
- **General Plan Designation:** SRR-0.1
- **Current Use:** Pipelines, hydrants, and pump station building



Property Description – “Hidden Valley Site 3”

- **Address:** No address assigned
- **Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN):** 155-090-033
- **Size:** Approximately 9.39-acres
- **Zoning:** 10-E-1 (Single Family Residential, 10-acre minimum parcel size)
- **General Plan Designation:** SRR-0.1
- **Current Use:** Abandoned District hydraulic fill dam (“Buell Reservoir”), pipelines, hydrants, and storage building



NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF SURPLUS LAND

Montecito Water District

Date: [Insert Date]

Pursuant to California Government Code §54220 et seq. (Surplus Land Act), the Montecito Water District (District) hereby provides notice that the following properties have been declared surplus and are available for disposition:

Property Description – “Bella Vista Site”

- **Address:** 2770 Bella Vista Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93108
- **Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN):** 155-010-037
- **Size:** Approximately 32.82-acres
- **Zoning:** RMZ-40
- **General Plan Designation:** MA-40
- **Current Use:** Montecito Water District water tank; wireless telecommunications facility (lease area)

Property Description – “Hidden Valley Site 1”

- **Address:** No address assigned
- **Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN):** 155-090-025
- **Size:** Approximately 4.09-acres
- **Zoning:** 10-E-1 (Single Family Residential, 10-acre minimum parcel size)
- **General Plan Designation:** SRR-0.1
- **Current Use:** Vacant

Property Description – “Hidden Valley Site 2”

- **Address:** No address assigned

- **Assessor's Parcel Number (APN):** 155-090-024
 - **Size:** Approximately 4.09-acres
 - **Zoning:** 10-E-1 (Single Family Residential, 10-acre minimum parcel size)
 - **General Plan Designation:** SRR-0.1
 - **Current Use:** Pipelines, hydrants, and pump station building
-

Property Description – “Hidden Valley Site 3”

- **Address:** No address assigned
 - **Assessor's Parcel Number (APN):** 155-090-033
 - **Size:** Approximately 9.39-acres
 - **Zoning:** 10-E-1 (Single Family Residential, 10-acre minimum parcel size)
 - **General Plan Designation:** SRR-0.1
 - **Current Use:** Abandoned District hydraulic fill dam (“Buell Reservoir”), pipelines, hydrants, and storage building
-

Any future developer of the property will be solely responsible for obtaining all permits, demolition costs, land use approvals, and environmental clearances necessary to complete a proposed project, subject to the existing site conditions and development constraints of the site.

Eligible Respondents

This notice is being sent to all entities listed in Government Code §54222(a), including:

- Affordable housing developers
- Local public entities
- Housing authorities
- School districts
- Park and recreation districts

- County offices of education
- California Department of Housing and Community Development

Response Deadline

Eligible entities must notify the District of their interest in purchasing the each individual property within **60 days** of the date of this notice. Written notices of interest must be submitted to:

Contact

Adam Kanold
Asst. General Manager / Engineering Manager
Montecito Water District
583 San Ysidro Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93108
akanold@montecitowater.com
(805) 969-2271

If no entity expresses interest within the 60-day period, or if negotiations do not result in a disposition agreement, the District may proceed with other disposition options in accordance with the Surplus Land Act.

Additional Information

Interested entities may request additional documentation, including site maps, zoning details, and environmental reports. The District reserves the right to reject any proposal not in compliance with SLA requirements.

Page left intentionally blank.

**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

SECTION: 3-D

DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2025

TO: OPERATIONS AND CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE

FROM: GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF *DIRECTORS' COMPENSATION, EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT AND BENEFITS POLICY*

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Operations and Customer Relations Committee discuss potential revisions to the *Directors' Compensation, Expense Reimbursement, and Benefits Policy* for 2026.

DISCUSSION:

At its September 16, 2025, meeting, the Board of Directors discussed potential revisions to the *Directors' Compensation, Expense Reimbursement, and Benefits Policy* (Policy). The stated goals of the Board are to establish appropriate and competitive compensation for Director service, which in turn will contribute to attracting highly qualified Directors in the future.

The Board requested an analysis of potential benefits and, following a review of policies from other public water agencies, a list was compiled. These benefits are currently not authorized under the Policy.

1. Revising the list of compensable meetings, which could include:

- a. Meetings with management and staff, including the General Manager and District Counsel;
- b. Trainings (in person or remote), including independent study in connection with trainings;
- c. Hearings, including administrative and judicial proceedings related to District business;
- d. Phone calls of a certain length (e.g. TBD minutes)

2. Modifying current procedures to allow meeting-day limits - for MWD and MGSA to be additive, and not to exceed total of twenty meeting-days per month

3. Providing Health Insurance Benefits

- a. Participation in the District's health insurance program or life insurance coverage with the District paying X% for Director coverage and/or X% for dependent coverage.

- b. For Directors who choose to obtain their own health insurance coverage, the District could reimburse premiums up to a certain amount; e.g., equivalent to the single-coverage premium for the lowest-cost group health plan (similar to the current policy for eligible retirees).
- c. Reimbursement of Medicare expenses.
- d. Participation in a pre-tax Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and/or Dependent Care Account (DCA) with the District's provider, with a potential District contribution or match.

4. Providing Retirement Benefits

- a. Participation in a pre-tax 457 Deferred Compensation Plan with a potential District contribution or match.

5. Reimbursing tuition expenses up to a designated maximum

6. Furnishing office equipment necessary to Director duties, which may include:

- a. Providing a monthly or yearly electronic equipment allowance
- b. Providing office equipment; e.g., computer, tablet and/or printer
- c. Providing a one-time reimbursement per term of office for the purchase, operation and maintenance of a tablet device or laptop computer.

Included for reference is the District's *Directors' Compensation, Expense Reimbursement, and Benefits Policy* (Policy) for 2025, adopted via Resolution No. 2289.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Resolution No. 2289, a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District Updating the District's *Directors' Compensation, Expense Reimbursement, and Benefits Policy* for 2025

RESOLUTION NO. 2289

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT UPDATING THE DIRECTORS' COMPENSATION, EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT AND BENEFITS POLICY FOR 2025

WHEREAS, the Montecito Water District's *Directors' Benefits, Compensation and Expense Reimbursement Policy* (Policy), last revised on November 14, 2023, provides guidance to District Directors on the use and expenditure of District resources as well as the standards against which those expenditures will be measured; and

WHEREAS, District Ordinance No. 88, adopted September 18, 2007, set the base rate for Directors' compensation at \$100 per day for each day of attendance at meetings in accordance with the Policy and the Water Code. Ordinance No. 88 established that "For each subsequent calendar year following calendar year 2007, the compensation set forth herein may be increased upon the adoption of a resolution by the Board of Directors authorizing an increase in the compensation paid to each Director in an amount not to exceed the sum of \$5.00 for each calendar year following the last adjustment".

WHEREAS, beginning in 2009 and periodically thereafter, the District adopted resolutions increasing the base rate for Directors' compensation per day for each day of attendance at meetings in accordance with the Policy. Most recently, the District adopted Resolution No. 2269 on November 14, 2023, which increased the base rate for Directors' compensation to \$185 per day for each day of attendance at meetings in accordance with the Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors desires to update the *Directors' Benefits, Compensation and Expense Reimbursement Policy* including the base rate for Directors' compensation annually;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District as follows:

1. Resolution No. 2269 updating Director compensation for 2024 is hereby repealed entirely and replaced with Resolution 2289.
2. That the adoption of this Resolution is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act because it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15060(c)(2).
3. **Director Compensation**
 - a. Compensation will be paid for Director attendance at:
 - i. District Board meetings and Board workshops
 - ii. District Committee meetings including Ad hoc Committees

- iii. Meetings of Joint Powers Agencies of which the District is a member, and other agency meetings to which the Director is assigned as the principal District representative.
 - iv. One orientation meeting for a Joint Powers Agency or other agency when a new Director is assigned as the principal District representative.
 - v. Other functions authorized by the Board majority and/or Board President, including but not limited to ACWA and CSDA conferences, and communicating with representatives of regional, state, and national government on District adopted policy positions adopted policy positions.
- b. Director compensation is limited to payment for one meeting per day for the District or any agency sharing the same Board of Directors as the District, and no more than ten meetings per month pursuant to Water Code §20201 and §20202.
 - c. The rate of Director compensation is set by the Board in accordance with state law and annual Board resolution. Beginning January 1, 2025, Director compensation is increased by the sum of \$5 (five dollars) from the current \$185 to \$190 per day for each day of attendance at meetings in accordance with Ordinance 88.
 - d. Compensation will not be paid to the Director when attendance is compensated by another agency.
 - e. Compensation for one travel day each way will be allowed, but only if required for distant location or timeliness.

4. Expense Reimbursements

- a. Expenses will only be paid for attendance at meetings that Directors are designated to attend by a majority vote of the Board or assigned by the Board President.
- b. Directors will be reimbursed for those actual, reasonable, and necessary expenses related to the District business specified herein, and for the benefit of District customers.
- c. Reimbursement will be limited to those expenses incurred by Directors only and do not include additional expenses for spouses, family members, or guests. Exception will be made if another person is necessary to provide essential support necessary to a Director due to a specific recognized handicap or physical limitation.
- d. Where expenses are not included in the registration cost of an authorized event or activity, reimbursement of actual expenses will be in accordance with the limits set forth below:

- i. Incidental Expenses: Expenses for alcoholic beverages, entertainment, personal phone calls and other personal incidental expenses will not be reimbursed.
 - ii. Travel: Reimbursement will be provided only for the expense equivalent to the most economical mode and class of transportation reasonably consistent with scheduling requirements. The actual mode of travel will be at the option of the Director.
 - 1. Mileage: If travel involves the use of a personal vehicle, mileage will be reimbursed at the current IRS rate.
 - 2. Air Travel: The District will pay for the actual cost of air travel. The District will endeavor to book air travel in consultation with the Director and pay the cost of air travel directly.
 - 3. Travel outside of California must have prior Board approval.
 - iii. Meals: Reimbursement will be made up to the per diem amount established by the IRS for San Francisco. Meals will be reimbursed based upon actual cost and submittal of receipts.
 - iv. Lodging: The District will pay for the actual cost of lodging. The most reasonable cost room should be chosen. The District will endeavor to book lodging in consultation with Directors and pay the lodging costs directly.
 - v. District-Related Incidental Costs: District-related faxes, phone calls, or photocopying will be reimbursed based upon actual costs and submittal of receipts.
 - vi. The District will not issue District credit cards or cell phones for use by any Director.
- e. Reimbursement Procedure
- i. Expenses will be reimbursed by the District in accordance with these rules within two weeks of submission to the General Manager on the Director's fee and/or expense form. No request for reimbursement will be considered more than six months after the expense was incurred.
 - ii. All compensation and reimbursement paid to Directors will be included on the next check register to be reviewed and ratified by the Board at the succeeding Board meeting.
 - iii. At the next Board meeting after expenses are incurred, Directors shall briefly report on meetings they attended at District expense. If multiple Directors attended, a joint report may be made. [Government Code §53232.3]

5. Director Benefits

Medical and retirement benefits are not available to Directors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District this 19 day of November 2024 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Coates, Goebel, Hayman, Plough, Wicks

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:


Ken Coates, Board President

ATTEST:


Nicholas Turner, Secretary

**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

SECTION: 3-G

DATE: OCTOBER 13, 2025

TO: OPERATIONS AND CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE

FROM: PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

SUBJECT: CUSTOMER RELATIONS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION:

Information only.

DISCUSSION:

District outreach methods include e-News, bill inserts, bill messages, press releases, website updates, articles, social media posts, advertisements, regular updates in meeting presentations to community organizations, and participation in events. Communications are consistent with the District's 2022 5-Year Strategic Plan and regional and State initiatives including "Water Conservation is a California Way of Life". Recent outreach includes:

Rain & Reservoir Updates This water year wrapped up with rare September rains. Enews communications to customers included rain data and information on upcoming reservoir projects. (Attachment 1). Bill insert sent with October 1 invoice highlighted Capital Improvement Projects, including the reservoir retrofit and replacement project and smart meter technology, with links to web site for additional information. (Attachment 2)

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Attachment 1 Water Year Rain & Reservoir Update Enews
2. Attachment 2 Bill Insert

Page left intentionally blank.



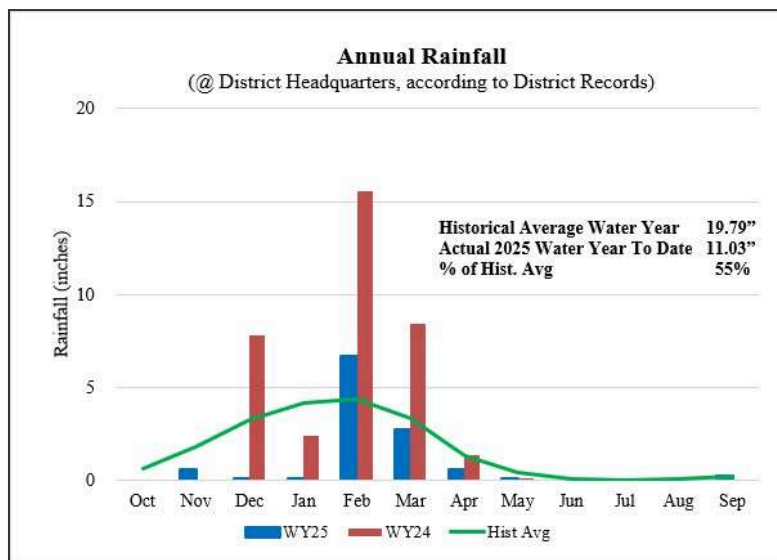
Got Rain!

2025 Water Year Tallies Final Drops

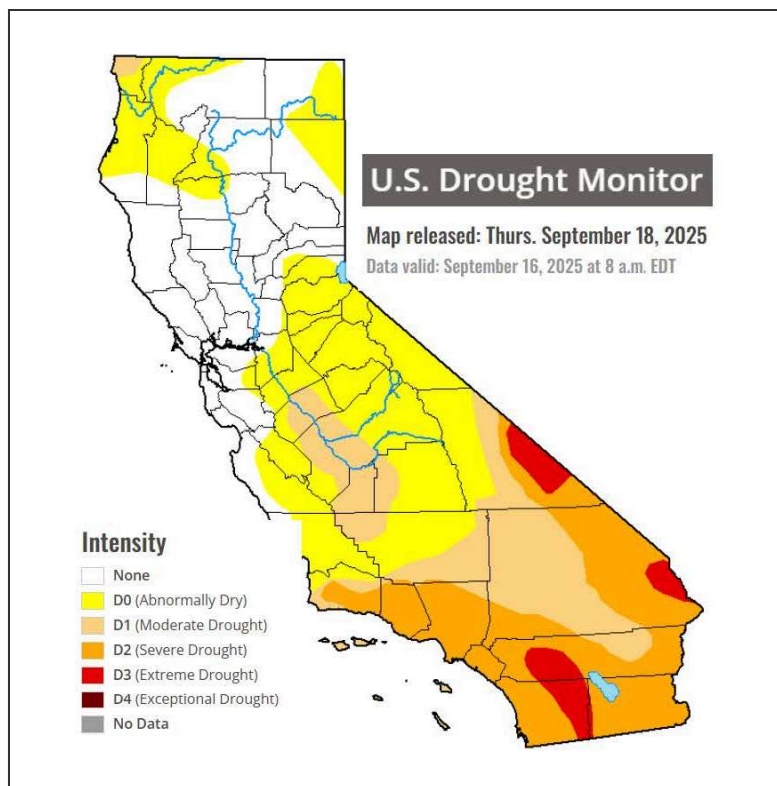
A slightly soggy September bumps up the inches received for Water Year 2025, with just a couple of weeks remaining before the new Water Year 2026 begins on October 1st.

How does this year compare to previous years?

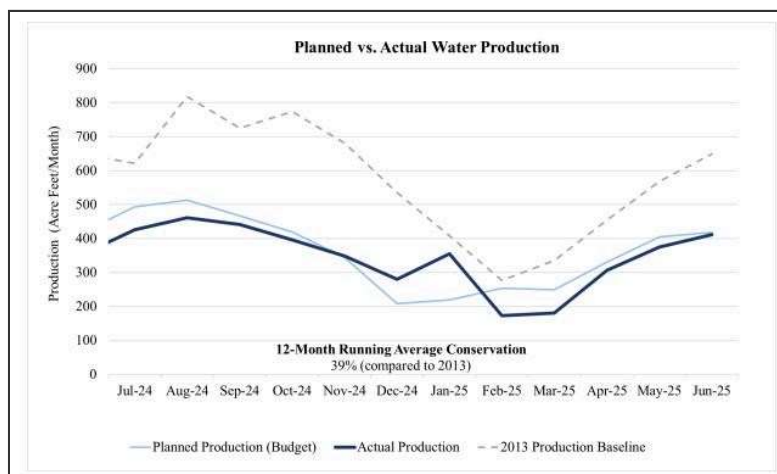
Here's a snapshot:



Shown is Rainfall for Water Year 2025 (blue bar), Water Year 2024 (red bar), and the Historical Average (green line). Rainfall totals for Water Year 2025, which ends September 30, are just over 11-inches year-to-date, which is approximately half of average.



The most recent U.S. Drought Monitor indicates current conditions in Santa Barbara County vary from "abnormally dry" to "severe."



Here in the District, actual water use is trending at planned levels for the past year (that's great news!). Minor variations occur month-to-month and these differences can typically be attributed to climate variance. With consistent ongoing efficient water use the District's 3-year water supply outlook remains favorable, with adequate supply forecast through Water Year 2028.

[Complete Quarterly Water Report \(August 2025\) >>](#)



Water Budgets

What does "efficient water use" mean for your property? Find out by checking the graph on your monthly bill or login to WaterSmart.

[Discover Water Budgets >>](#)



Reservoir Resilience

District reservoirs, some of which are nearly 100 years old, will be upgraded for seismic resilience with favorable funding assistance.

[Read Article >>](#)



Garden Contest Winner

Congratulations to this green-thumbed local who took first place countywide. Wow - That's what we call community partnership in efficient water use!

[Read Article >>](#)



Public Meetings

Five publicly elected Directors serve as the District Board responsible for policies and decision-making. Regular meeting schedules and agendas are online.

[Learn More >>](#)

The Latest News

Did you receive this email forwarded from a friend?
Sign up to receive your own copy at the link below.

[SUBSCRIBE to this newsletter >>](#)

FOLLOW US



Questions? Contact us

phone: 1.805.969.2271 • email: info@montecitowater.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Kenneth Coates, President | Brian Goebel, Vice President
Cori Hayman, Director | Tobe Plough, Director | Floyd Wicks, Director
General Manager and Board Secretary: Nick Turner

Page left intentionally blank.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

You expect high quality drinking water at-the-ready 24/7/365 when you turn on the tap. Montecito Water District works around the clock to make sure your water service is reliable. Our goal is to prevent unexpected emergencies by proactively investing in the infrastructure that keeps everything running behind the scenes.

Capital Improvement Projects are scheduled upgrades to the important facilities needed to supply the community with water. Our engineering team plays a key role in actively planning and implementing projects designed to meet today's needs while preparing for tomorrow's demands. Examples include:

- Replacing aging pipelines
- Upgrading treatment plants and storage reservoirs
- Implementing smart meter technology to monitor pressure and detect leaks

These large scale endeavors ensure our system remains resilient and ready for the challenges ahead, while offering immediate benefits to customers, such as:

- Preventing failures and reducing water loss
- Minimizing unplanned expenditures
- Decreasing service interruptions

Upgrades help improve daily dependability and emergency response, maintain water quality, and decrease long-term costs.



THE RESERVOIR SEISMIC RETROFIT AND REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Starting this fall, the District will be upgrading some of its oldest and most important assets: water storage reservoirs. Plans are complete for eight reservoirs located throughout the service area. Construction will be underway on only one or two reservoirs at any given time to ensure sufficient water storage and operational flexibility at all times.

Federal grant funding awarded for the project makes it particularly favorable with a zero interest loan that provides 30% principal forgiveness. These subsidized project costs are already included in long-term financial planning. The District looks forward to sharing progress and updates as we proceed with this vital project to improve resilience in drinking water storage facilities.



[Scan to Learn More](#)



[Scan to Learn More](#)

www.montecitowater.com | 805.969.2271 | [f](#) [t](#)

SMART ALERTS REAL SAVINGS



**SIGN UP
FOR ALERTS**

REGISTER AND SET
PREFERENCES
TO ENSURE YOU RECEIVE
USEFUL NOTIFICATIONS

Leak detected
and fixed

Appreciate these
alerts so much!

Outdoor faucet was leaking

Found the problem
and it has been
corrected, thanks!

Leak in irrigation system
has been repaired

Toilet left running while
we were out of town

Thanks for the heads up!

www.montecitowater.com | 805.969.2271 |  



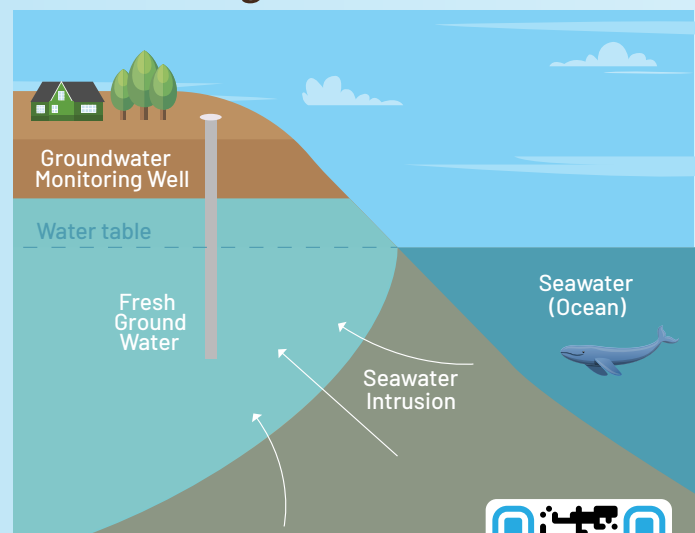
Is our groundwater at risk?

Analysis to-date shows that the basin is in good health. This community depends on groundwater, so it is important to keep it that way. The Montecito GSA collects data regularly and monitors for any changes and signs of risk.

How can well owners help?

Using existing wells for monitoring saves on the costs of installing new dedicated monitoring wells. Owners of properties with wells in the coastal zone may be eligible for the volunteer monitoring network. Participation is free, private, and protects groundwater for all of us.

Seawater can be a risk for coastal groundwater basins



Get to Know Montecito GSA

staff@montecitogsa.com
805.324.4207 | montecitogsa.com

