

**RELIABLE SINCE 1921**

583 San Ysidro Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108-2124

**Phone:** 805.969.2271

**Email:** info@montecitowater.com

**Web:** montecitowater.com



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

**APPROVED**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
*of the*  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT**  
**583 SAN YSIDRO ROAD, MONTECITO, CALIFORNIA**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2026**  
**9:30 A.M.**

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

President Goebel called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Directors present (In Person and via Zoom):

Directors Ken Coates, Brian Goebel, Tobe Plough, and Floyd Wicks participated in person.  
Director Cori Hayman joined the meeting in person at 9:37 a.m.

Staff present (In Person and via Zoom):

Nick Turner, General Manager	Laura Camp, Public Information Officer
Adam Kanold, Asst. GM/Engineering Mgr.	Christina Perry, Administrative/HR Assistant
Emma Godinez, Business Manager	Ray Willefert, Financial Analyst/IT Specialist

Counsel present (In Person):

Walt Wendelstein, Wendelstein Law Group PC, District Counsel

Special Counsel present (via Zoom):

Guillermo Frias, Best Best & Krieger LLP  
Robert Donlan, Wangler Jones Helsley PC

Consultants present (via Zoom):

None

Others present (In Person and via Zoom):

Ray Stokes, Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) (In Person)  
Peter Thompson, Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) (In Person)  
Stephanie Hastings, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck (In Person)

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3. PUBLIC FORUM**

No members of the public were present.

### **4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following items were approved or accepted by vote on one motion:

- A. Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2026
- B. Payment of District Bills for January 2026
- C. Investment of District Funds as of January 31, 2026
- D. Unaudited Financial Statements as of January 31, 2026
- E. Waterworks Reports for January 2026

Director Plough moved to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was seconded by Director Coates and carried after a roll call vote with Directors Coates, Goebel, Hayman, Plough, and Wicks in favor.

### **5. DISTRICT OPERATIONS AND GENERAL MANAGER REPORTS**

- A. ACTION ITEM: Adoption of Resolution No. 2318, a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District Concurring in Nomination to the California Water Insurance Fund Board, an ACWA JPIA Captive Insurance Company

Counsel introduced the item.

Director Plough moved to adopt Resolution No. 2318. The motion was seconded by Director Wicks and carried after a roll call vote, with Directors Coates, Goebel, Hayman, Plough, and Wicks in favor.

- B. INFORMATIONAL: Customer Relations and Public Information Update

Ms. Camp presented the item and responded to questions from the Board.

- C. INFORMATIONAL: General Manager Report

Mr. Turner presented the item and responded to questions from the Board.

### **6. DISTRICT BUSINESS REPORT**

- A. INFORMATIONAL: Financial Strategy for the ASADRA Reservoir Seismic Retrofit and Replacement Project

Mr. Turner presented the item, responded to questions, and received feedback and direction from the Board.

### **8. DIRECTOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. President's Report: Director Goebel reported that he worked with the General Manager and Public Information Officer on public communications related to recent legal activity.

- B. Operations & Customer Relations Committee: Director Wicks reported that no meeting was held.
- C. Finance Committee: Director Hayman reported that relevant items were previously addressed. Mr. Turner noted recent changes to the formatting of financial reports, including those presented to the Board.
- D. Strategic Planning Committee: Director Coates reported that the Summerland Sanitary District Board of Directors met on February 12<sup>th</sup> and deferred action related to consolidation until after the Montecito Sanitary District Board meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup>.  
  
Mr. Turner reported that Rincon Consultants met with the Strategic Planning Committee on February 5<sup>th</sup> and will return in early March to discuss key elements of the Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) 2025 Update.
- E. Central Coast Water Authority: Director Coates reported that Peter Thompson has been appointed as the new CCWA Executive Director, effective May 15, 2026. The Board will meet with Mr. Thompson, retiring Executive Director Ray Stokes, and Stephanie Hastings with Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck during Closed Session.
- F. Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board: Director Hayman reported continued surplus water supply conditions at the Cachuma Project. Director Plough also reported about a meeting he attended in Director Hayman's absence whereat a COMB Strategic Plan was discussed.
- G. Cachuma Conservation Release Board: Director Plough reported that CCRB staff continue to assist the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in the review and finalization of the Cachuma Project Biological Assessment (BA).
- H. Santa Barbara County Chapter of the California Special Districts Association: Director Wicks reported that he did not attend the meeting on February 4, 2026.
- I. ACWA JPIA: Director Wicks reported that he will attend an ACWA JPIA Board meeting at the Spring Conference in May.
- J. CalDesal: Director Wicks reported on topics from the Annual Conference held on February 12-13, 2026.
- K. Ad hoc Committee: Water Rights Opportunities: Director Coates reported that relevant items would be addressed in Closed Session.
- L. Directors' List of Compensable and Reimbursable Meetings (Government Code §53232.1 and §53232.3): Director Wicks reported meetings attended in January and February.

## 7. LEGAL MATTERS

### A. Recent and Pending Legal Matters Review – Oral Report

Counsel has provided Directors with updated information on the Ralph M. Brown Act, including a link to the full Act, in accordance with Senate Bill 707 (2025). Counsel also noted potential new requirements for the direct filing of Form 700 Statements of Economic Interest with the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC).

The Board recessed to Closed Session at 10:45 a.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 2:34 p.m.

- B. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(4) Conference with Legal Counsel – Initiation of Litigation; 1 case

As to Item 8-B, the Board received an update from Counsel and no action was taken.

- C. CLOSED SESSION; Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, Montecito Water District v. Miradero LLC, Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No.26CV00403

As to Item 8-C, the Board received an update from Counsel and no action was taken.

- D. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2) Anticipated Litigation – 4 cases.

As to Item 8-D, the Board received an update from Counsel and no action was taken.

- E. CLOSED SESSION; Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(1) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation, Sheba Lux v. Montecito Water District, Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No. 23CV02417

As to Item 8-E, the Board received an update from Counsel and no action was taken.

- F. CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Government Code §54959.8 Conference with Real Property Negotiators

Property: State Water Project assets  
Agency Negotiator: Nicholas Turner, General Manager  
Negotiating Parties: Solomon Hills Developer  
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

As to Item 8-F, the Board received an update from the Real Property Negotiator and no action was taken.

## 9. DIRECTOR REQUESTS

Director Goebel requested that staff provide the Finance Committee with a list of historic financial partners.

Director Plough requested an update on recent IT work.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

APPROVED:



Brian Goebel, Board President

ATTEST:



Nicholas Turner, Secretary