



# Marina Coast Water District

## Marina Coast Water District

Regular Board Meeting/Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Meeting  
September 18, 2023

### Minutes

#### 1. Call to Order:

President Shriner called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. on September 18, 2023 both in-person at 920 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite A, Marina, California; and, via Zoom teleconference. President Shriner then proceeded with a land acknowledgement. “As Marina Coast Water District celebrates its 63rd year providing publicly owned water service to its customers in Marina and the Ord Community, we acknowledge that our service area is located on the traditional lands of the Esselen people. They are known today as the Ohlone/Constanoan-Esselen Nation. We respect their elders, past, present, and emerging, for they hold the memories, traditions, culture, and hopes of the Esselen people. We also acknowledge the government of the Ohlone/Coastanoan-Esselen Nation and appreciate the spiritual role it plays today in preserving the cultural, historical and heritage beliefs of the Esselen people. We are grateful that they share their traditional lands with us.”

#### 2. Roll Call:

##### Board Members Present:

Jan Shriner – President  
Herbert Cortez – Vice President  
Brad Imamura  
Thomas P. Moore  
Gail Morton

##### Board Members Absent:

None

##### Staff Members Present:

Remleh Scherzinger, General Manager  
Roger Masuda, District Counsel  
Derek Cray, Operations and Maintenance Manager  
Mary Lagasca, Director of Administrative Services  
Garrett Haertel, District Engineer  
Teo Espero, IT Administrator  
Paula Riso, Executive Assistant/Clerk to the Board

##### Audience Members:

Andy Sterbenz, Schaaf & Wheeler  
Chelsea Tu, Executive Director Monterey Waterkeeper  
Phil Clark, Seaside Resident

3. Public Comment on Closed Session Items:

There were no comments made.

The Board entered into closed session at 6:05 p.m. to discuss the following items:

4. Closed Session:

- A. Pursuant to Government Code 54956.9  
Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation  
Marina Coast Water District, and Does 1-100 v, County of Monterey, Monterey County Board of Supervisors, and Does 101-110 (California-American Water Company, Real Party in Interest), Monterey County Superior Court Case No. 19CV003305 (Petition for Writ of Mandate and Complaint for Injunctive Relief); Sixth District Court of Appeals Case Nos. H049146 and H049170

The Board ended closed session at 7:15 p.m. President Shriner reconvened the meeting to open session at 7:18 p.m.

5. Reportable Actions Taken During Closed Session:

Mr. Roger Masuda, District Counsel, stated that with regards to agenda item 4-A, Marina Coast Water District, and Does 1-100 v, County of Monterey, Monterey County Board of Supervisors, and Does 101-110 (California-American Water Company, Real Party in Interest), the Board approved filing a petition for rehearing in that case by the following vote:

Director Imamura	-	No	Vice President Cortez	-	Yes
Director Moore	-	Yes	President Shriner	-	Yes
Director Morton	-	Yes			

6. Pledge of Allegiance:

Vice President Cortez led everyone present in the pledge of allegiance.

7. Oral Communications:

Ms. Chelsea Tu, Executive Director of Monterey Water Keeper, explained that Monterey Waterkeeper is a non-profit organization, and they use outdoor education, policy ethicacy, and the law, to ensure drinkable, fishable, and swimmable water in the central coast region. She commented that the contaminants and pollutants in local waters caused the Regional Board adopted the Central Coast Agricultural Order – Ag Order 4.0 in 2021. Ms. Tu said that this order required growers to slowly reduce how much fertilizer they can use on their farms. She added that now, in 2023, the State is looking to remove the enforceable limits all together and adopting a modified Order 4.0, where the growers only need to meet nitrate targets over “groundwater protection areas” which are still to be defined. Ms. Tu commented that Monterey Waterkeeper and Community Partners, will show up at the September 20, 2023 State Water Board meeting to urge the Boad to reduce nitrate pollution and protect drinking water in the Central Coast region.

8. Consent Calendar:

Director Morton made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar consisting of: A) Receive and File the Check Register for the Month of August 2023; and, B) Approve the Draft Minutes of the Regular Joint Board/GSA Meeting of August 21, 2023. Director Moore seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Director Imamura	-	Yes	Vice President Cortez	-	Yes
Director Moore	-	Yes	President Shriner	-	Yes
Director Morton	-	Yes			

9. Action Items:

A. Receive the Marina Coast Water District FY 2022-2023 Preliminary Year End Financial:

Ms. Mary Lagasca, Director of Administrative Services, introduced this item. The Board asked clarifying questions.

B. Adopt Resolution No. 2023-44 to Amend the FY 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Budget to Fully Fund the A1/A2 Reservoir and B/C Booster Pump Station; Crescent Avenue Connector to Reservoir 2; and, the Imjin Parkway Pipeline, Reservation Rd to Abrams Drive Projects:

Mr. Garrett Haertel, District Engineer, introduced this item and noted that the Resolution was corrected so the “NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED” line reads “amend the FY 2023-2024...”.

Director Morton made a motion to adopt the amended Resolution No. 2023-44 to amend the FY 2023-2024 Capital Improvement Budget to Fully Fund the A1/A2 Reservoir and B/C Booster Pump Station; Crescent Avenue Connector to Reservoir 2; and, the Imjin Parkway Pipeline, Reservation Rd to Abrams Drive Projects. Director Moore seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the following vote:

Director Imamura	-	Yes	Vice President Cortez	-	Yes
Director Moore	-	Yes	President Shriner	-	Yes
Director Morton	-	Yes			

10. Informational Items:

A. General Manager’s Report:

Mr. Scherzinger gave the following updates:

- He noted that he made a presentation to LULAC on September 16<sup>th</sup>, and they were very concerned regarding environmental injustice in Marina. He provided them contacts within the City of Marina.

- The District Chili Cook-off is scheduled for October 26th.
- The Board facilities tour is looking to take place at the end of October, and staff will follow up with setting a date.
- The Request for Proposals for the Rate Study is going out by the end of the week.
- On September 12<sup>th</sup>, Department of Water Resources listed the Grants they are going to start working on in the next cycle, and the District received \$6.4 million, while the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainable Agency received \$10.3 million.
- The audit is scheduled to come before the Board in October, and the Reserve Policy and DEI Policy are scheduled for December.

Director Morton asked when the Strategic Plan was coming to the Board. Mr. Scherzinger answered that Rauch Communications just received the draft Strategic Plan and is going to begin working on it and scheduling workshops in the upcoming months.

B. Committee and Board Liaison Reports:

1. Budget and Engineering Committee:

Director Morton and President Shriner gave a brief update.

2. Executive Committee:

Vice President Cortez gave a brief update.

3. Community Outreach Committee:

Director Imamura gave a brief update.

4. M1W Board Member Liaison:

Director Moore gave a brief update.

11. Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items:

Director Morton requested that the Executive Committee look at the Monterey One Water proposal for weighted voting at their next meeting.

12. Director's Comments:

Director Imamura, Director Moore, Director Morton, Vice President Cortez, and President Shriner made comments.

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13. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

APPROVED:



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Jan Shriner, President

ATTEST:



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Paula Riso, Deputy Secretary