

THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF
CASTROVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
November 18, 2025

President Ron Stefani called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Directors Present: Director Cosme Padilla, Director Glenn Oania, Director James Cochran, and Director Greg MacMillan and President Ron Stefani

Absent:

General Manager: James Derbin

Secretary to the Board: Lidia Santos

Staff Present:

Guest:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Ron Stefani led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. The motion was made by Greg MacMillan and seconded by James Cochran to approve the draft minutes of October 21, 2025, Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	5	Directors:	Padilla, Oania, Cochran, MacMillan, and Stefani
NOES:	0	Directors:	
ABSENT/NOT			
PARTICIPATING:	0	Directors:	

Consent Calendar accepted as presented

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. None

Correspondence Calendar accepted as presented

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. King City Rustler – As Supplies Thin, Price of Recycled Water Could Go Up
2. Caltrans News Release: Update #13, Overnight and Daytime Work Continues on State Route 183/Merritt Street in Castroville for Sidewalk, Curb Work and Grading

Informational items accepted as presented

PRESENTATIONS:

1. None

Minutes of the Castroville Community Services District
November 18, 2025, Regular Board Meeting
Page 2

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Consider approving and authorizing the General Manager to grant a Step Increase to the Operator I, Amezquita's hourly wages per the Wage Step Program-Board approved, May 20, 2025, effective Thursday, November 27, 2025 – General Manager James Derbin informed the Board he would like to grant a step 2 wage increase for Operator I, Amezquita. The staff report can be viewed on page 11 of the board packet. A motion is made by Cosme Padilla and seconded by Greg MacMillan to authorize the General Manager to adjust Operator I, Amezquita's hourly wages per the Wage Step Program to Step 2 which will increase his pay by 3% to \$31.59 hourly, effective Thursday, November 27, 2025. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES: 5 Directors: Padilla, Oania, Cochran, MacMillan, and Stefani
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 0 Directors:

2. Approve Castroville CSD Destruction Certificate #2025-2 as retention periods for the listed records on certificate have expired – The retention period for the listed records on the certificate have expired, therefore a motion is made by Glenn Oania and seconded by Greg MacMillan to approve the destruction of Destruction Certificate #2025-2. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES: 5 Directors: Padilla, Oania, Cochran, MacMillan, and Stefani
NOES: 0 Directors:
ABSENT/NOT
PARTICIPATING: 0 Directors:

3. Discussion on timing for the Districts next water and sewer rate study – General Manager James Derbin informed the board that at this time he did not produce a staff report as it is only a discussion item at this time. He wanted to remind the Board that the last rate study for Water-Castroville and Sewer-Zone 2 Moro Cojo was done by Harris & Associates in 2015. Rates increased the next five years during FY 2016/17 through FY 2020/21 for water in Castroville with Ordinance No. 66 and sewer Zone 2 Moro Cojo with Ordinance No. 67. It is time to consider a rate increase as there has been significant inflation. The District has capital improvement projects (CIP) coming up. For water, Well #6 has been drilled but site civil improvements will be upcoming for this project. Also, once Cal Am moves forward with the desal project, the District's portion of the Cal Am desal pipeline contribution is estimated at \$2.8 million. For sewer, the upcoming CIP is the Washington Sewer Trunk Line Bypass Project. There are also improvements to consider for Sewer Zone 3 Moss Landing. He is recommending the Board consider moving promptly with a water & sewer rate study to make the tax roll for FY 2026/2027 and this would require a rate study consultant to be selected at the next board meeting or if more time is needed it will be postponed until the following year. President Ron Stefani agrees that water cost for CIP's has doubled for water since now they have both Well #6 site civil improvements and the desal pipeline to consider. In his opinion, the District needs to focus on a rate study for water first and if need be, a sewer rate study could wait another year. Director Cosme Padilla noted Castroville is a disadvantaged community and the rate payers will want answers as to why a rate increase will be needed. After some discussion, the Board would like to see a staff report at next month's board meeting explaining why a rate study is needed and then possibly move forward with selecting a rate study consultant at the January 2026 board meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Update on street lighting for Castroville Zone 1 and Moro Cojo Zone 2 – General Manager James Derbin stated that he is still discussing minor billing issues that were discovered during the PG & E audit that are being researched. He also met once more with North County Recreation and Park District General Manager Alex Lopez to further discuss lighting at the Japanese Schoolhouse. CCSD would be funding the street lighting project as a pass through for the Japanese Schoolhouse.
2. Update on Well #6 Project – General Manager James Derbin informed the Board that the Well #6 construction is complete. The development, pump testing and water quality sampling is also complete and pending analytical results. The spinner log testing is to be completed when weather allows. Staff have requested additional zone-specific water quality testing to evaluate the water quality at specific elevations at an additional cost not to exceed \$8,200.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION: When needed, this time is reserved for the Board of Directors to communicate activity, educational classes, and/or Committee reports.

1. Update on Monterey One meeting – General Manager James Derbin attended the MIW meeting instead of President Ron Stefani as he could not attend. General Manager James Derbin stated that there were a lot of closed session items, which he cannot discuss. The MIW Board of Directors approved a contract amendment with Brown & Caldwell for the Outfall Improvement Projects for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project, in the Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$1,364,262, for a Total Contract Amount of \$2,820,773.
2. Update on Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) meeting – President Ron Stefani announces that at this meeting they mostly had public comments from attorneys regarding Demand Management. At this meeting they approved the framework, however the GSA will have one year before it must be finalized. He would also like to have the GSA come next year to a Castroville CSD board meeting to do a presentation.
3. Update on meetings or educational classes attended by the Directors – Director Cosme Padilla announced he was invited by General Manager James Derbin to attend an event honoring Veterans of the Vietnam War as they did not receive the recognition back then. Those in attendance received a nice pin for their service. He proudly represented not only himself but the Castroville CSD Directors that also served during this time; Oania, Cochran & MacMillan. Director Cosme Padilla also attended the annual community event that was held at the NCRPD on the 8th of November, where various agencies participated to inform the community of the resources available. He was pleased to see that General Manager James Derbin and President Ron Stefani on behalf of Castroville CSD participated in this event with a shared booth with the GSA. Per General Manager James Derbin, the GSA, made nice posters for the Castroville CSD to display.

GENERAL OPERATIONS

1. General Manager's Report – Compliance update, current projects update, meetings/seminars update, staff update, suggestive projects discussions
2. Operations Report
 - a) Water – Pumpage & Usage Update, Water Testing Update, Current Installation
 - b) Water -Status Update, Current Contractor Work Update, Maintenance/Repair Update, Customer Service Update, Safety Issue
 - c) Sewer & Storm Drain – Jetting, Current Installation Status Update, Current Contractor Work Update, Maintenance/Repair Update, Customer Service Update, Safety Issues
3. Customer /Billing Reports – Water Sales, Water Usage, A/R Update, Customer Service Update
4. Financial Reports – Treasures
5. L.A.I.F. Report, Internal Report, Administration Update

Minutes of the Castroville Community Services District
November 18, 2025, Regular Board Meeting
Page 4

General Operations Reports were accepted as presented

CHECK LIST – October 2025. A motion was made by Glenn Oania and seconded by Greg MacMillan to pay all bills presented. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	5	Directors:	Padilla, Oania, Cochran, MacMillan, and Stefani
NOES:	0	Directors:	
ABSENT/NOT			
PARTICIPATING:	0	Directors:	

There being no further business, a motion was made by Glenn Oania and seconded by Greg MacMillan to adjourn to the next scheduled Board meeting; the motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	5	Directors:	Padilla, Oania, Cochran, MacMillan, and Stefani
NOES:	0	Directors:	
ABSENT/NOT			
PARTICIPATING:	0	Directors:	

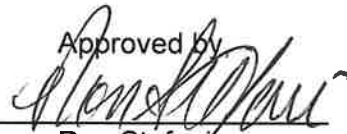
The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Lidia Santos
Secretary to the Board

Approved by



Ron Stefani
President