

THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF  
**CASTROVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

March 17, 2026

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

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**Absent:**

**General Manager:** James Derbin

**Secretary to the Board:** Lidia Santos

**Staff Present:**

**Guest:** Bill Lipe (Resource Conservation District of Monterey County)

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Ron Stefani led the pledge of allegiance.

**ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Bill Lipe stated that Castroville holds a special place in his heart and he is committed to liberating Castroville from its water woes and obtaining clean sustainable water.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. The motion was made by James Cochran and seconded by Greg MacMillan to approve the draft minutes of February 17, 2026, Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

AYES:	4	Directors:	MacMillan, Oania, Cochran, and Stefani
NOES:	0	Directors:	
ABSENT/NOT			
PARTICIPATING:	1	Directors:	Padilla

*Consent Calendar accepted as presented*

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Letter of support for SB 1001 by Senator Bob Archuleta, which would authorize the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to establish a standardized identification card program for essential utility workers who may need access to emergency areas to maintain or restore critical infrastructure.

*Correspondence Calendar accepted as presented*

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

*The Monterey Herald – Local News: Founding the next generation of water leaders in Salinas Valley*  
*Informational items accepted as presented*

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. None

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. California Special Districts Association Board of Directors (CSDA) call for nominations seat C – At this time, the Board and General Manager declined to call for nominations for the CSDA Board of Directors 2027-2029 term for seat C, therefore there was no action taken.
2. Consider voting for the election of one Special District Alternate Member to Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County (LAFCO): David Kong (Greenfield Public Recreation District and Greenfield Cemetery District) or Bill Lipe (Resource Conservation District of Monterey County) –Bill Lipe was present at this meeting and had also submitted an email requesting the Castroville CSD Board Members support to vote for him as the Special District Alternate Member to LAFCO. After some discussion, a motion is made by James Cochran and seconded by Greg MacMillan to vote for Bill Lipe for the seat of Special District Alternate to LAFCO. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

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

3. Consider and approve Well 6 extended pump testing with Pueblo Water Resources Inc. not to exceed \$14,995 and Pacific Coast Well Drilling Inc. not to exceed \$74,331.57: total combined cost \$89,326.57 – General Manager James Derbin informed the Board that our consulting Hydrogeologist, Pueblo Water Resources suggested the District continue with well development and water quality testing for an additional 30 day period. Pacific Coast Well Drilling Inc. was the lowest bidder. Staff report with proposals can be viewed on pages 27-37 of the board packet. A motion was made by Greg MacMillan and seconded by Cosme Padilla to approve the Well 6 extended pump testing with Pueblo Water Resources Inc. not to exceed \$14,995 and Pacific Coast Well Drilling Inc. not to exceed \$74,331.57. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

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

4. Consider and approve amending the annual 2025/2026 Operating Budgets for Castroville Zone 1-Water, Sewer and Governmental; Moro Cojo Zone 2-Sewer and Governmental; and Moss Landing Zone 3-Sewer – General Manager James Derbin and Office Manager Lidia Santos reviewed with the Board the 2025/2026 Operating Budgets for all Enterprise and Governmental funds that are being amended. The amended 2025/2026 Operating Budgets can be viewed on pages 38-53 of the board packet. After some discussion, a motion is made by James Cochran and seconded by Greg MacMillan to approve the amended annual 2025/2026 Operating Budgets for Castroville Zone 1-Water, Sewer and Governmental, Moro Cojo Zone 2-Sewer and Governmental and Moss Landing Zone 3-Sewer. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Update on water and sewer rate study – General Manager James Derbin informed the Board that the water and sewer rate study request for proposals (RFPs) to be submitted is due by April 10, 2026. At the next regularly scheduled board meeting, staff will bring recommendations on which consultant to select.

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2. Update on Street Lighting for Castroville Zone1 and Moro Cojo Zone 2 – General Manager James Derbin stated that he continues to work with PG & E representatives on correcting billing/ownership issues. In addition, the staff continues to have monthly standing meetings with the PG & E street light team. Varnie Electric has completed lighting improvements around the Japanese Schoolhouse and surrounding ballfield buildings for NCRPD. He is also looking at LED conversions for some of the street lighting.
3. Update on Well #6 Project – General Manager James Derbin stated that the construction of Well #6 is complete and further development and water quality sampling is being recommended. With Board approval Pueblo Water Resources will manage the additional pumping and Pacific Coast Well Drilling will provide the pumping equipment for the extended pump test period.

**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 Water meeting (M1W) – President Ron Stefani stated M1W Board provided direction to staff on the proposed wastewater rate structures between fiscal years 2026/27 and 2030/31. At the next meeting the Board plans to direct staff to finalize the Wastewater Rate Study with revenue adjustments for a period of five years with maximum increases of 8% in FY 2027, 8% in FY 2028, 8% in FY 2029, 9% in FY 2030, and 9% FY 2031. In addition, the Board will Consider approval of a Second Amendment to the Outfall Capacity Negotiation, Cooperation & Funding Agreement between Monterey One Water & California-American Water Company. The Board will consider authorizing the Executive Officer to Submit a Coastal Development Permit Amendment Application for Modifications to the Monterey One Water Outfall to the California Coastal Commission Related to the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project.
2. Update on Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) meeting – President Ron Stefani announced SVBGSA must solve the saltwater intrusion; it must solve the lower ground water levels and to do so requires more water to be produced. General Manager James Derbin already mentioned earlier, under Informational Items, that applications are open now for the Water Leadership Institute, a free, multilingual educational program focused on water policy and management put on by the SVBGSA, in partnership with other agencies. It looks to find the next generation of water leaders in the Salinas Valley.
3. Update on meetings or educational classes attended by the Directors – There were no meetings or educational classes attended by the Directors.

## 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 L.A.I.F. Report, Internal Report, Administration Update

*General Operations Reports were accepted as presented*

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**CHECK LIST** – February 2026. A motion was made by Cosme Padilla and seconded by Glenn Oania to pay all bills presented. The motion carried by the following roll call votes:

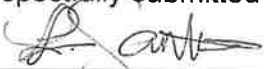
AYES:	5	Directors:	MacMillan, Oania, Cochran, Padilla, and Stefani
NOES:	0	Directors:	
ABSENT/NOT			
PARTICIPATING:	0	Directors:	

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



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Lidia Santos  
Secretary to the Board

Approved by,



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Ron Stefani  
President