



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MALAGA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
3580 SOUTH FRANK AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93725
Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 6:00PM

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in a District Board Meeting, please contact the District Office at 559-485-7353 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to ensure that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

Please submit all written correspondence for the Board of Directors by 12:00 pm the Friday prior to the meeting. Please deliver or mail to the District Clerk.

1. **Call to Order:6:00 p.m.**
2. **Roll Call:** President Charles Garabedian, Jr.; Vice President Salvador Cerrillo; Director Irma Castaneda; Director Frank Cerrillo, Jr.; Director Carlos Tovar, Jr.
Director Tovar Arrived 6:02
Also In Attendance; Michael Slater, Adrianna Castaneda, Esther O. Prado.
3. **Certification:** Certification was made that the Board Meeting Agenda was posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting.
4. **Consent Agenda.** The items listed below in the Consent Agenda are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to any action by the Board of Directors, any Board member may remove an item from the consent agenda for further discussion. Items removed from the Consent Agenda may be heard immediately following approval of the Consent Agenda or set aside for discussion and action after Regular Business.
 - a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 13, 2026.
 - b. Backflow Full Tester Course 2026.
 - c. CDBG No. 21-451 Change Order No. 3

Recommended action: To approve the Consent Agenda as presented or amended. **Brief Discussion Held. No Items Pulled For Separate Consideration. No Public Comment.**

Motion By: V.P. Cerrillo; Second By: Director Cerrillo 4-0 Vote Director Tovar Absent.

5. **Old Business: None for this meeting.**
6. **New Business:**
 - a. **Resolution 01-27-2026; Fowler Scholarship.** The District confirmed participation in the Fowler HS Scholarships. There is a need to change the essay criteria. A draft for the scholarship essay topic is presented to the board for review. Fowler HS also needs the number of scholarships the District will provide, along with the amounts. In the 2024-2025 school year, the district provided three \$500 scholarships.

Recommended action: To approve essay criteria and scholarship amount. **Brief Discussion Held, No Public Comment.**

Motion By: V.P. Cerrillo; Second By: Director Tovar and by a 5-0 vote to approve Resolution 01-27-2026.

- b. **Resolution 01-27-2026A.** The work for the Nitrogen Reduction Project was completed in accordance with the plans, specifications and contract documents, and to the satisfaction of the CDBG Project Engineer. With all contract work and all approved change orders, the final contract value is \$454,254.00. All costs were covered by CDBG funding.

Recommended action: Staff recommends that the Board adopt the attached Resolution to accept the work for the WWTP Nitrogen Reduction Project – CDBG Project No. 21451 in the amount of \$451,254.00; and Authorize recordation of the Notice of Completion with the Fresno County Recorder.

Brief discussion held. Manager explained that the notice of completion had to be recorded for thirty days before we can close the project. The project deadline is March 1 and there are only 28 days in February so we may need to request a one-week extension: no public comment.

Motion to approve and to authorize President Garabedian to sign the notice of completion.

Motion by Vice President Cerrillo; Second by Director Tovar, Jr. and by a 5-0 vote to authorize the President to sign the notice of completion.

7. Recreation Reports:

- a. Discussion for potential rental of park for soccer and car show. For discussion and direction. **V.P. Cerrillo reported that the district had been approached regarding the potential use of the fields and potentially other facilities for soccer on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. V.P. Cerrillo also commented that the district had also been approached regarding a car show using the paved area and potentially other facilities on August 23, 2026. Resident Esther Prado asked questions regarding security for the park and recreation center. V.P. Cerrillo explained that each event/use of the facilities is evaluated for the need to have security and that all events that have alcohol require security, but that unfortunately the district cannot guarantee that no issues would arise at the park or community center whether there was an event being held or otherwise. Resident Prado also asked about staffing at events. V.P. Cerrillo reported that staff were present at all events to monitor the restrooms, empty trash and monitor the event to make sure district rules were followed and that staffing levels depended on the event. Director Castaneda reported on the recreation committee meeting, the valentines' dance preparations, which would include lasagna and a soda for \$6, and that the next meeting would be February 5th.**

8. Engineer Reports:

- a. District Engineer Report.
- i. **Infrastructure Master Plan.** The District directed P&P to update the Infrastructure Master Plan. The Infrastructure Master Plan is provided for the District's review.

Information Only: The Infrastructure Master Plan is available for review at www.malagacwd.org/infrastructure-master-plan. **Nothing to report.**

b. CDBG Engineer Report:

9. General Manager's Report:

- a. **Lifeguard Positions.** A notice was received indicating dates for lifeguard training, which begin in April. Direction is needed to begin posting the Lifeguard position to enroll potential applicants for training. Board Pleasure.

V.P. Cerrillo reported that the training for lifeguards was available and the board consensus was to issue a flyer to potential lifeguards as soon as possible.

V.P. Cerrillo and President Garabedian also reported on the boil order that was issued. A random test on January 20 had a positive result for E.coli. Follow-up tests on January 21 were negative for E.coli but positive for bacti. District staff increased chlorine levels and flushed the system over the weekend. On January 26, 16 additional samples were collected, and one had a positive result. Staff are continuing to elevate chlorine levels and performing additional tests. President Garabedian commented that it is believed that the positive results were likely due to contamination of the tests rather than contamination of the water supply but that the district would continue additional testing and chlorination. V.P. Cerrillo stated that the district was providing bottled water to Malaga residents, including Malaga school. Resident Prado asked if the district was delivering drinking water, how often the water was tested and whether the water was safe. V.P. Cerrillo responded that the district had not received and was not aware of any requests to have water delivered. The board further commented that the district was not required to provide drinking water. Water quality testing was done in accordance with state standards, and that the district would continue to monitor the situation and notify the public when the boil order is rescinded. V.P. Cerrillo also reported that staff is working with the district engineer to construct dedicated testing stations throughout the district which would decrease the potential for contaminated samples.

10. President's Report: NONE

11. Vice President's Report: NONE

12. Director's Reports: NONE

13. Legal Counsel Report: NONE

14. Communications:

- a. Written Communications:

b. Public Comment: *The Public may address the Malaga County Water District Board on item(s) of interest within the jurisdiction of the Board, not appearing on the agenda. The Board will listen to comments presented; however, in compliance with the Brown Act, the Board cannot take action on items that are not on the agenda. The public should address the Board on agenda items at the time they are addressed by the Board. All speakers are requested to wait until recognized by the Board President. All Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes or less per individual/group per item per meeting, with a fifteen (15) minutes maximum.*

Resident Prado commented that she would like more streetlights in the Malaga area. President Garabedian explained that part of the Malaga area has streetlights which are part of a county service area. Malaga County Water District does not have the authority to maintain those lights or install any new streetlights. Resident Adrianna Castaneda thanked the board for the district's transparent response to the positive water samples and providing bottled water to the residents and school. Resident Castaneda further commented that Fowler Unified sent out a message regarding the water the districts communication app.

15. Closed Session: Closed Session Item (A) Removed. Meeting Adjourned to Closed Session At 6:44 P.M.

- a. Pending Litigation (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1).) two cases: Ortiz v. Malaga County Water District, et. al. 1 :25-CV-01803-JTL-BAM; Malaga v. CSJ Construction, Fresno County Superior Court Case 23CECG03476.
- b. Personnel (Government Code Section 54957 (b)(1).) Employee evaluation; Environmental Compliance Inspector position.

The board reconvened at 6:59pm, no reportable action.

16. Adjournment:

Motion by Vice President Cerrillo, Second by Director Tovar, Jr. and by a 5-0 vote to adjourn the meeting at 6:59pm.

Certification of Posting

I, Norma Melendez, District Clerk of the Malaga County Water District, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of January 27, 2026 was posted for public view on the front window of the MCWD office at 3580 S. Frank Street, Fresno Ca 93725, at 5:00P.M. On 02/11/2026.

Norma Melendez, District Clerk