



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MALAGA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
3580 SOUTH FRANK AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93725
Tuesday, January 13, 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: 6:00pm

2. Roll Call: President Charles Garabedian, Jr.; Vice President Salvador Cerrillo; Director Irma Castaneda; Director Frank Cerrillo, Jr.; Director Carlos Tovar, Jr.

Not present during roll-call: Director Tovar, Jr.

Also Present: Norma Melendez and Michael Slater

3. Certification: Certification was made that the Board Meeting Agenda was posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

4. Closed Session: Personnel evaluation; all positions (Government Code§ 54957(b)).

Closed session began at 6:01pm. The board reconvened at the time of 6:37pm and continued with the rest of the agenda during open session. Director Tovar, Jr. arrived at 6:07pm.

5. Old Business:

- a. **Resolution No. 01-13-2026.** A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Malaga County Water District approving an updated salary schedule. The Board previously approved updated job descriptions for non-exempt full-time employees. This proposed salary schedule is updated to reflect the approved job descriptions.

It is anticipated that the new salary schedule will increase compensation between 3.5% and 8.5% depending on incentive pay and classification of vacant position(s) when filled. For comparison purposes, District employees did not receive a COLA in 2024 or 2025, which were 2.5 and 3.2 percent respectively. With the updated job descriptions, organizational chart, and revised rates, the District has sufficient cash flow to cover the projected costs of the proposed salary schedule.

Recommended Action. Approve Resolution No. 01-13-2026.

Item number four (4) in the resolution was added indicating “The General Manager may advance an employee in years of service column based on experience or training received outside the District. Motion by Vice President Cerrillo; Second by Director Castaneda and by a 5-0 vote to approve Resolution 01-13-2026.

6. New Business: None for this meeting.

7. Recreation Reports: Director Castaneda reported a good turn-out for Recreation Bingo. Participation is high on all fronts, from guests to recreation committee volunteers. The next recreation bingo is scheduled for February 4. Also scheduled for February is the Valentine's Dance on the 14th. President Garabedian, Jr. suggests bringing an elevated dining experience as the dance is scheduled for Valentines Day. The entry fee can be increased to help cover the cost of bringing a full dinner experience.

Director Tovar, Jr. reported he will once again be donating baskets for the Easter program. The recreation department would just have to cover for costs of baskets that will be raffled during the program.

8. Engineer Reports:

a. District Engineer Report. See consent agenda items. **Nothing to report.**

b. CDBG Engineer Report:

i. Progress Payment Reports No. 4 and No. 5.

ii. CDBG Project No. 21451, WWTP Nitrogen Reduction Project Request of Payment No. 6.

For information. Nothing to report.

9. General Manager's Report:

a. **Solar Project.** The solar project at the community center passed inspection and the PG&E intertie made on December 30, 2025. The solar project is now substantially complete. The District has extended its RCAC and Department of Energy loans pending final invoices.

10. President's Report: President Garabedian, Jr. hope everyone had a good start to the new year.

11. Vice President's Report: Vice President Cerrillo received a report from the Lead Water Operator, Robert Herrero, providing an update on recent progress and status in the Water Department. The VP also received a report from the WWTF CPO, Burt Siverling,

12. Director's Reports: None for this meeting.

13. Legal Counsel Report: None for this meeting.

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.*

15. 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 December 9, 2025.
- b. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of December 30, 2025.
- c. AB 2523 Biennial Report Scope.
- d. 2462 E. Central Avenue - Southern Tire Mart Will Serve Letter
- e. e3525 S. Golden State Boulevard - Security Paving Will Serve Letter
- f. 4225 E. North Avenue - New Private Domestic Well and Well Destruction. Fresno County Environmental Health submitted private domestic well construction and destruction applications for comments. There is no water main existing in North Avenue between Peach and Minnewawa Avenues at this time. A response letter is provided for the Board's review and comment.
- g. SPR 7689-R, SAIA Fresno 4556 S. Chestnut Avenue. Fresno County Public Works has submitted the Site Plan Review for comments. A response letter is provided for the Board's review and comment.
- h. Accounts Payable Report.

Recommended action: To approve the Consent Agenda as presented or amended.

Motion by Vice President Cerrillo; Second by Director Cerrillo, Jr. and by a 5-0 vote to approve the consent agenda as presented.

16. Closed Session: 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.

The board went into closed session at the time of 7:00pm.

17. Adjournment:

Motion by Vice President Cerrillo; Second by Director Cerrillo, Jr. and by a 5-0 vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm with no reportable actions.

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 13, 2026, was posted for public view on the front window of the MCWD office at 3580 S. Frank Street, Fresno Ca 93725, on 01/28/2026.

Norma Melendez, District Clerk