

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE  
Orange County Water District  
December 10, 2025 @ 12:00 p.m.

Director Green called the Water Issues Committee meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. in the District Boardroom. Public access was also provided via Zoom webinar. The Secretary called the roll and reported a quorum as follows:

Committee Members

Cathy Green  
Erik Weigand  
Roger Yoh  
Van Tran  
Dina Nguyen

Alternates

Valerie Amezcua  
Fred Jung  
Natalie Meeks  
Steve Sheldon  
Denis Bilodeau (absent)

OCWD

Chris Olsen – Executive Director of Engineering/Water Resources  
Mehul Patel – Executive Director of Operations  
Jason Dadakis – Executive Director of Water Quality & Technical Resources  
Lisa Haney – Executive Director of Planning & Natural Resources  
Randy Fick – Treasurer/CFO  
Adam Hutchinson – Recharge Planning Manager  
Megan Plumlee – Research Director  
Crystal Nettles – Principal Communications Specialist  
Dave Mark – Senior Hydrogeologist  
Alicia Harasty – Legislative Affairs Liaison  
Julio Polanco – Scientist  
Pat Versluis – Director of Water Quality  
Ben Smith – Director of Recharge and Wetland Operations  
Shawn Neville – Principal Planner  
Larry Esguerra – Senior Engineer  
Frank Hernandez – Director of Information Services  
Roy Herndon – Chief of Hydrogeology  
Bill Leever – Principal Hydrogeologist  
Ryan Bouley – Director of Engineering  
Kevin O’Toole – Senior Planner  
Jeremy Jungreis – General Counsel  
Leticia Villarreal – Assistant District Secretary

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Yoh, seconded by Director Weigand and carried [5-0], as follows:

**Ayes: Green, Weigand, Yoh, Tran, Nguyen**

1. Minutes of Water Issues Committee Meeting

**The Minutes of the Water Issues Committee meeting held November 12, 2025, were approved as presented.**

2. Tech Connect Support Agreement with Rockwell Automation for Three-year Support Renewal on Medium Voltage and Low Voltage Drives Equipment and Software Support

**Recommended for approval at December 17 Board meeting: Authorize issuance of a 3-year purchase order agreement to Rockwell Automation for an amount not to exceed \$26,366 per year or \$79,097 over 3 years to provide.**

3. Multipurpose Center Feasibility Study Request for Proposals

**Recommended for approval at December 17 Board meeting: Authorize issuance of Request for Proposals for a Multipurpose Center Feasibility Study.**

4. Westbay Monitoring Well System Winch, Cable, and Counter Display Replacement

**Recommended for approval at December 17 Board meeting: Authorize the issuance of a purchase order in the amount of \$32,509 which includes tax to Mount Sopris Instrument Company, inc. for the purchase of one (1) Mount Sopris MXC-1-0-7-3 1000-meter Winch spooled with 1000 meters of single conductor cable and one (1) 5MDA-1000 Depth-Speed Display (MX Series).**

5. Contract No. SB-2026-1 Santiago Modifications Notice of Inviting Bids

**Recommended for approval at December 17 Board meeting: Authorize publication of Notice Inviting Bids for Contract No. SB-2026-1, Santiago Pump Station Modifications Project.**

6. Request for Proposals: OCWD GAP Reservoir Assessment

**Recommended for approval at December 17 Board meeting: Authorize issuance of a Request for Proposals for the OCWD GAP Reservoir Assessment.**

7. Contract GBM-2024-3 Construction of Shallow Aquifer Piezometers and Talbert Gap Replacement Monitoring Well Cluster Notice of Completion

**Recommended for approval at December 17 Board meeting: Accept completion of the work and authorize filing a Notice of Completion for Contract GBM-2024-3, Construction of Shallow Aquifer Monitoring Wells and Talbert Gap Monitoring Well Cluster.**

8. Authorize Agreement with Jacobs for Engineering and Hydrogeologic Services – Santa Ana River Riverbed Filtration System Feasibility Study

**Recommended for approval at December 17 Board meeting: Authorize an Agreement with Jacobs for an amount not to exceed \$188,750 to provide engineering and hydrogeologic services for the Santa Ana River Riverbed Filtration System Feasibility Study.**

9. City of Orange Well 29 PFAS Treatment Systems Project: Engineer's Report and Categorical Exemption

**Recommended for approval at December 17 Board meeting:**

- 1) **Approve the Engineer's Report for the City of Orange Well 29 PFAS Treatment Systems Project and determine the project feasible, necessary and beneficial to the lands of the District; and**
- 2) **Authorize filing of a Categorical Exemption for the City of Orange Well 29 PFAS Treatment Systems Project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines**

10. Authorize Notice Inviting Bids for Buena Park Linden Well Packer Installation and Authorize Amendment to Agreement with BESST, Inc.

**Recommended for approval at December 17 Board meeting:**

- 1) **Authorize publication of a Notice Inviting Bids for BP-2026-1 Inflatable Packer Installation at Buena Park's Linden Well; and**

- 2) **Authorize issuance of an amendment to the service agreement with BESST, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$173,815 to procure the inflatable packers, oversee packer manufacturing, and provide field oversight of the testing**

**MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION**

11. Preparation of Engineer’s Report for Lower Santiago Creek Recharge Project

Recharge Planning Manager Adam Hutchinson reported that since 1999 the upper portion of Santiago Creek between Santiago Basins and Hart Park have been used for recharge. He stated using the lower portion of Santiago Creek between Hart Park and the Santa Ana River can expand OCWD’s recharge capacity and reduce losses of stormwater to the ocean. He advised that staff would like to review prior studies and prepare an Engineer’s Report to further evaluate conveyance options to supply water to the lower reach below Hart Park and review all aspects of the potential project.

**Upon motion by Director Weigand, seconded by Director Tran and carried [5-0], the Committee recommended for approval at the December 17 Board Meeting: Authorize staff to prepare an Engineer’s Report for the Lower Santiago Creek Project, including updating project costs and reviewing all aspects of the potential project.**  
**Ayes: Green, Weigand, Yoh, Tran, Nguyen**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

12. UCI Master of Engineering Capstone Project: Researching Santa Ana River Sediment Transport by Rail

UC Irvine Chancellor’s Professor Brett F. Sanders introduced how OCWD is partnering with UC Irvine’s Master of Engineering project on a 2026 Capstone project to evaluate the feasibility of transporting inland sediment to coastal beaches by rail. He detailed the project would last five-months providing a Capstone experience for three Master of Engineering students. He advised the project would include weekly meetings with Lisa Haney, Executive Director of Planning and Natural Resources, and two faculty advisors from UCI. He commented the project would include collaboration from OCPW, OC Parks, Supervisor Katrina Foley, OCTA, USACE, USFWS, rail experts and permitting experts. Professor Sanders advised that the project will result in preliminary plans for the loading locations, offloading locations, transfer locations, and necessary rail spurs and an estimate of capital construction costs, operating costs and delivery costs.

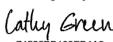
13. Emergency Water Supplies to South Orange County Update

Executive Director of Engineering and Water Resources Chris Olsen shared that Groundwater Producers and South Orange County agencies were given an update by staff from OCWD, City of Santa Ana (City), and Moulton Niguel Water District (MNWD) on developments that have occurred since the July 30, 2025, Stakeholders meeting.

**CHAIR DIRECTION AS TO ITEMS IF ANY TO BE AGENDIZED AS MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE DECEMBER 17 BOARD MEETING**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

DocuSigned by:  
  
Cathy Green, Chair