

DRAFT MINUTES



REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, July 16, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

David Gebhard Public Meeting Room, 630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara CA 93101

COMMISSIONERS Lindsay Coony, Arturo Keller, Cora Snyder (9:03 a.m.), and Jeff Young present;
Dave Davis absent

COUNCIL LIAISON Kristen Sneddon absent

CITY STAFF Joshua Haggmark, Water Resources Director
Summers Case, Administrative Assistant and Water Commission Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Keller called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Attendance noted above.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Haggmark noted that Item 5 would likely take approximately one hour to cover, as opposed to the 30 minutes noted on the posted agenda, and this item was addressed first in the administrative items section of the meeting, with Item 4 taken afterwards.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was made.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2026**
- 2. Water Agencies Update: COMB, CCWA, and CCRB**
- 3. Contract for Preconstruction Services during Design for the Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project [Agreement]**

No public comment was made on the consent calendar.

Motion (Coony/Young) to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion carried, with Commissioners Young, Snyder, Keller, and Coony voting in favor and Commissioner Davis absent.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

4. Water Commission Officer Elections

No public comment was made.

Motion (Snyder/Young) to nominate Commissioner Davis as Water Commission Chair and Commissioner Coony as Water Commission Vice Chair, to serve from August 1, 2026 to July 31, 2027. The motion carried, with Commissioners Coony, Keller, Snyder, and Young voting in favor and Commissioner Davis absent.

5. Water Resources Energy Master Plan

Mr. Haggmark introduced Jamie Ferro of Hazen and Sawyer, the City's consultant for the Water Resources Energy Master Plan, or WREMP. Mr. Ferro gave an informational presentation explaining both the process of developing the WREMP and an in-depth discussion of the final plan. Thomas Welche, Wastewater System Manager, head of the Wastewater System Division, presented portions of the WREMP specifically related to wastewater facilities, including El Estero Water Resource Center, and various wastewater systems. Bradley Rahrer, Water Resources Department Principal Project Manager, presented portions of the WREMP related to the City's desalination program and the Charles E. Meyer Desalination Plant.

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Mr. Haggmark summed up the WREMP effort, noting Hazen and Sawyer's work, as well as contributors from Stanford and the National Alliance for Water Innovation.

No public comment was made.

6. Ordinance Amending Title 16 of the Municipal Code Relating to Liquid and Industrial Waste Disposal [Ordinance, Introduction]

Mary Thompson, Laboratory Analyst Coordinator at the El Estero Water Resource Center Laboratory, spoke to the Commission about new developments and improved efficiency in the Pretreatment Program, including a move toward paperless workflows, including digital recordkeeping and reporting. Mr. Haggmark acknowledged Ms. Thompson's work, much of which is unseen by the public.

No public comment was made.

Motion (Snyder/Young) in support of the staff recommendation. The motion carried, with Commissioners Coony, Davis, Keller, and Snyder voting in favor and Commissioner Davis absent.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE

7. Director's Report

Mr. Haggmark updated the Commission on recent Water Resources Department activities, including an upcoming settlement with IDE America, Inc. to address challenges at the Charles E. Meyer Desalination Plant, a future Vic Trace Reservoir Replacement Project presentation for the Commission, work toward more appropriate insurance rates for Department facilities, and plans for next month's Commission special meeting workshop.

Mr. Haggmark recognized Jasmine Showers and Dana Hoffenberg, Water Resources Analysts, for their work to create new data visualizations for the Director's Report. Ms. Showers and Ms. Hoffenberg used Microsoft Power BI to create dashboards, which the Department is working toward making available for viewing by the public. The Commission also commended Ms. Showers and Ms. Hoffenberg on their work.

Mr. Haggmark and Ms. Case recognized Chair Keller, outgoing Water Commission Chair, and all the Commissioners for their dedication to their volunteer commitments on the Commission.

No public comment was made.

ADJOURNMENT Chair Keller adjourned the meeting at 10:41 a.m.

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY Summers Case, Water Commission Secretary