



**Final Minutes  
Public Outreach Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.  
Meeting Location: Zoom**

**Call to Order / Roll Call**

Chair Lindor called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Committee Members Present**

Rebecca Lindor, Chair  
Alvin Edwards  
Marianne Gawain

**Committee Members Absent**

None

**District Staff Members Present**

Dave Stoldt, General Manager  
Mike McCullough, Assistant General Manager  
Stephanie Locke, Water Demand Manager  
Sara Reyes, Board Clerk

**District Staff Members Absent**

None

**District Counsel Present**

Michael Laredo, De Lay & Laredo

**Additions and Corrections to the Agenda**

None

**Comments from the Public**

None; no members of the public were present.

**Action Items**

**1. Consider Adoption of Committee Meeting Minutes from November 24, 2025**

On a motion by Edwards and seconded by Lindor, the minutes of the November 24, 2025, committee meeting were approved on a roll call vote of 3 Ayes (Edwards, Gawain and Lindor), and 0 Noes.

**2. Adopt 2026 Meeting Schedule**

On a motion by Gawain and seconded by Edwards, the 2026 Public Outreach Committee meeting schedule was adopted on a roll call vote of 3 Ayes (Gawain, Edwards and Lindor), and 0 Noes.

**Discussion Items**

**3. Status of Public Outreach Projects**

Phil Wellman, Public Outreach Consultant with WellmanAd, presented a slide-deck titled, "MPWMD Public Outreach Report/November 25 to February 24." A copy of the presentation is available at the District office and can be found on the District website. Mr. Wellman highlighted the following:

Dec

- Newsletter and Brand Ad highlighting the Pure Water Monterey project and water saving rebates

Jan

- Brand Ad, Newsletter and social media highlighting: 2025 in review, CalAm rate increase public hearings, CalAm opposing modification of the Cease & Desist Order, and healthy steelhead in the Carmel River

#### 4. Status of Annual Report

General Manager Dave Stoldt reported that draft Annual Report language was provided to the Public Outreach Consultant in mid-February and that staff discussed the production schedule. A draft may be ready for Board consideration at the March Board meeting, with approval possibly deferred to April to ensure the best final product.

Staff plans to continue distributing the report through the *Monterey County Weekly* rather than inserting it in *The Pine Cone*, citing cost effectiveness, readership overlap, and electronic availability. The proposed distribution approach will be brought to the full Board for consideration. The report will highlight key District accomplishments from the prior year, including the water amnesty program, jurisdictional water allocations, and the petition to modify the Cease & Desist Order.

#### 5. Update on Formation of Citizens' Water Panel

Assistant General Manager Mike McCullough reported on the proposed formation of a Citizens' Water Panel, developed following staff discussion and Board direction. He explained that the proposal is intended as a pilot project to evaluate its effectiveness before considering modifications or expansion.

The pilot would consist of a small, low-key group of up to 10 participants to avoid Brown Act requirements, with members solicited from Board nominations and selected stakeholder or government affairs groups. Planned topics include an overview of District projects and operations, with the potential for site visits to enhance participant understanding. Staff incorporated Board feedback into the proposal and intends to begin with this limited pilot before considering broader participation in the future.

#### Suggest Items to Be Placed on a Future Agenda

Director Edwards suggested the Cease & Desist Order be added as a regular agenda item to allow for updates and discussion.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Lindor adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.

/s/ Sara Reyes

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Sara Reyes, Board Clerk to the  
MPWMD Public Outreach Committee

Approved by the MPWMD Public Outreach Committee on April 27, 2026.

Received by the MPWMD Board of Director's on May 18, 2026.