

MINUTES

**Tuesday, January 27, 2026
East Bay Municipal Utility District
Board of Directors
375 Eleventh Street
Oakland, California**

Regular Closed Session Meeting

Vice President Valerie D. Lewis called to order the Regular Closed Session Meeting of the Board of Directors at 11:08 a.m. in the Administration Building Boardroom. She announced that President Luz Gómez notified the General Manager and the Secretary of the District of the need to participate in the meeting from a remote location for just cause due to the need to provide caregiving for her child pursuant to Government Code section 54953.8.3(c)(1); and that President Gómez would join the meeting from the remote location in Conference Room 8.

ROLL CALL

Directors April Chan, Andy Katz, Jim Oddie, Joey D. Smith, Marguerite Young, and Vice-President Valerie D. Lewis were present at roll call. President Luz Gómez joined the meeting in Conference Room 8 from a remote location at 11:10 a.m.

Staff participants included General Manager Clifford C. Chan and General Counsel Derek T. McDonald.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

Vice President Lewis announced the closed session agenda, and the Board convened to Administration Building Conference Room 8 for discussion.

Regular Business Meeting

President Luz Gómez called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors at 1:19 p.m. in the Administration Building Boardroom. President Gómez announced that she notified the General Manager and the Secretary of the District of the need to participate in the meeting from a remote location for just cause due to the need to provide caregiving for her child pursuant to Government Code section 54953.8.3(c)(1). She handed the meeting over to Vice President Valerie D. Lewis to preside. President Gómez was advised of the need to keep the audio open and camera on at all times while appearing remotely. President Gómez confirmed that no one over the age of 18 was present in the room.

ROLL CALL

Directors April Chan, Andy Katz, Valerie D. Lewis, Jim Oddie, Joey D. Smith, Marguerite Young, and President Luz Gómez, were present at roll call.

Staff participants included General Manager Clifford C. Chan, General Counsel Derek T. McDonald, and Secretary of the District Rischa S. Cole.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Vice President Lewis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2026 Board Assignment Preferences for Committees, Joint Powers Authorities and Associations

Vice President Lewis announced the proposed 2026 Committee, Joint Powers Authorities, and Association assignments were included in the agenda materials and called for questions or comments from the Board. There were no questions or comments.

- Motion by Director Katz, seconded by Director Young, to approve the 2026 Assignments for Committees, Joint Powers Authorities, and Associations carried (6-0) by the following roll call vote: AYES (Katz, Gómez, Oddie, Smith, Young, Katz, and Lewis); NOES (None); ABSTAIN (Chan); ABSENT (None).

Motion No. 015-26 – Approved the 2026 Assignments for Committees, Joint Powers Authorities, and Associations.

Planning

Director Lewis, Chair
President Gómez
Director Young

2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.
Administration Building

Legislative/Human Resources

Director Smith, Chair
Director Chan
Director Oddie

2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.
Administration Building

Finance/Administration

Director Oddie, Chair
Director Katz
Director Lewis

4th Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.
Administration Building

Sustainability

Director Young, Chair
Director Katz
Director Smith

4th Tuesday, quarterly, time to be determined
Administration Building

**DSRSD/EBMUD Recycled
Water Authority (DERWA)**

Director Chan
President Gómez
Director Smith, Alternate

1st Monday in Feb.;
4th Monday in April and Sept.
2nd Monday in Dec.;
meets at 6:00 p.m.

Freeport Regional Water Authority

Director Lewis
Director Oddie
Director Katz, Alternate

*2nd Thursday, quarterly at 10:00 a.m.,
location to be announced*

Retirement Board

Director Oddie
Director Young

*3rd Thursday odd numbered months at 9:00 a.m.
Administration Building*

Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Director Smith
Director Young, Alternate
Director Katz, Alternate
Director Oddie, Alternate

*4th Friday of January, April, and October; and
third Friday of August, at 10:00 a.m.
McLean Hall, Pardee Center*

EBMUD/EBRPD Liaison

Director Katz
Director Smith
Director Oddie, Alternate

*Meeting dates, times, and location to be
determined*

Business Forum (Ad Hoc)

Director Lewis

*Meeting dates, times, and location to be
determined*

*Board Representatives to be determined as
needed*

Oakland Chamber of Commerce

Director Young
Director Lewis, Alternate
President Oddie, Alternate

Special Districts Association of Alameda County/Special Districts

Selection Committee

Director Katz
Director Lewis, Alternate

Special Districts Association of Contra Costa County

Director Smith, Member
Director Young, Alternate
President Gómez, Alternate

PRESENTATIONS

Employee Service Awards October – December 2025

Senior Human Resources Analyst Chad R. Thigpen highlighted the employees that reached service award milestones ranging from 5 to 35 years during this period. These employees were also recognized by their organizational leadership through the Employee Recognition and Service Award Program and received a service award on behalf of the District. Mr. Thigpen read the names of the recipients including the following in attendance: Senior Public Information Representative Andrea Pook; Senior Administrative Clerk Tonya Bowman; Paving Crew Foreman John Briceno; Manager of Maintenance and Construction/Water Operations Roberto Cortez; Assistant to the General Manager Janetta Johnson; Senior Electrical Engineer Christopher Farajian; Senior Software Engineer Navneet Virk; Associate Civil Engineer I-Pei Hsiu; Senior Civil Engineer Roberts McMullin; Senior Civil Engineer Lilian Leung; Senior Software Engineer Brenda Nickelson; Network Analyst III Arnulfo Orogo; Manager of Planning & Analysis Gordon Williams; and Senior Software Engineer Joshua Eisenberg.

Recognizing Black History Month and the District's Black Employee Network Affinity Group

Director Joey D. Smith announced EBMUD is recognizing Black History Month and the District's Black Employee Network (BEN) Affinity Group. BEN, formerly known as the Black History Committee, was established in 1994. BEN's mission is to celebrate African American heritage, foster inclusion and visibility, and support the advancement of employees who identify as Black, African American, or are of African descent. Director Smith highlighted upcoming events centered around the 2026 National Black History Month Theme, "A Century of Black History Commemorations" which are scheduled to kick off on February 3. On behalf of the Board, Director Smith extended gratitude to BEN and encouraged support and participation in the celebration of Black History Month at the District.

EBMUD Art Committee Artist Exhibit – African American Quilt Guild of Oakland (AAQGO)

Vice President Lewis announced the District's Art Committee was established in 1993 and hosts six to seven exhibitions per year, featuring works by local emerging to mid-career artists. EBMUD showcases works by artists in the 2nd floor art gallery. She introduced AAQGO member Ora Clay to highlight the current exhibit, "AAQGO 25th Year Anniversary" which is on display through early March. Ms. Clay highlighted the history of the AAQGO and said this show honors the guild's 25-year milestone. Quilters were challenged to create quilts that measure 25 inches by 25 inches and incorporate anniversary symbols such as silver or the iris, and a piece of unity cloth. An artist reception will be held on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 in the 2nd floor lobby starting at 11:30 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CLOSED SESSION

There were no announcements required from closed session.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Addressing the Board was Michelle from Fairview who commented on a claim filed with the District to repair damage resulting from a hydrant on Uvas Court that has been hit multiple times. She asked for Board assistance and was referred to the Office of the Secretary for follow-up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Filed with the Board were the Minutes for the January 13, 2026 Planning Committee and Legislative/Human Resources Committee Meetings.
- Vice President Lewis reported the Finance/Administration Committee met this morning and received updates on the Monthly Investment Transactions Reports, Quarterly Financial Reports, External Auditor Recommendation and Customer Assistance Program Initiatives.
- Vice President Lewis also reported the Board met this morning for the Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and Water Shortage Contingency Plan Workshop where staff presented on the District's water resources planning, including updates on projects, studies, and recycled water and conservation programs undertaken since the last UWMP update in 2020.

Vice President Lewis read the 2026 Committee, Joint Powers Authorities, and Association assignments approved by the Board.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Motion by Director Young, seconded by Director Smith, to approve the recommended actions for Items 1-13 on the Consent Calendar carried (7-0) by the following roll call vote: AYES (Chan, Gómez, Katz, Oddie, Smith, Young, and Lewis); NOES (None); ABSTAIN (None); ABSENT (None).
1. **Motion No. 016-26** – Approved the Regular meeting minutes of January 13, 2026.
 2. The following correspondence was filed with the Board: 1) Presentation entitled, "Service Award Recipients October – December 2025," dated January 27, 2026; and 2) Presentation entitled, "Water Supply Update," dated January 27, 2026.
 3. **Motion No. 017-26** – Authorized an agreement beginning on or after January 27, 2026 with Strada U.S. Professional Services, LLC, for \$2,948,842 for five years, with five options to renew for additional one-year periods for a total amount, including option years, not to exceed \$4,766,584 for implementation, training, support, and software licensing for Workday's Payroll System (including Lite Human Capital Management, Absence and Payroll).
 4. **Motion No. 018-26** – Authorized an agreement on or after January 27, 2026, with the United States Geological Survey in an amount not to exceed \$588,317 to plan, develop, and analyze a long-term research project investigating the influence of Delta hydrodynamics on key factors affecting out-migrating juvenile Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) in the Mokelumne River.

- 5.1. – **Motion No. 019-26** – Authorized the District to become a participating agency of the Sacramento
5.2. Water Forum; and authorized staff to enter into the following related agreements: 1) the Water Forum 2050 Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); 2) the Third Interagency Agreement for the Administration and Management of the Water Forum, and 3) annual funding agreements providing for the District’s contribution of its negotiated 2 percent cost share of the Water Forum budget.
- 6.1. – **Motion No. 020-26** – Authorized agreements beginning on or after January 27, 2026 with ASK
6.2. Equipment Rentals; Cal-West Rentals, Inc.; Coast Counties Peterbilt PacLease; Darrah Trucking & Excavating, Inc.; Doc Bailey Construction Equipment Inc.; Escano & Associates, Inc.; Harris Blade Rental; Herc Rentals Inc.; Ibarra Team Construction Services, Inc.; Inder Trucking, Inc.; Jack Doheny Companies, Inc.; JS Cole Company; Monticello Trucking LLC; Nor Cal Rental Group dba Cresco Equipment Rentals; Owen Equipment Sales; Pape Machinery Inc.; S&L Transport, LLC; Saba Holding Company LLC dba Volvo Construction Equipment and Services; Sky Rock Inc.; Tri Valley Water Trucks, Inc.; and Western Pacific Crane & Equipment LLC for three years with two options to renew for additional one-year periods, in an aggregate amount, including option years, not to exceed \$35,000,000 for equipment rentals; and authorized additional agreements for equipment rentals on an as-needed basis and subject to the total aggregate amount authorized by the Board for such services on January 27, 2026, with service providers that meet District standards and offer pricing at or below the range in the proposed agreements with the service providers above to increase flexibility and ensure service provider availability. The Board of Directors will be notified of additional qualified service providers by means of the General Manager’s monthly report.
- 7.1. – **Motion No. 021-26** – Ratified the extension of the agreement with Everbridge Inc. authorized
7.2. under Board Motion No. 199-15 to January 26, 2026 and the total payment of \$82,492 to Everbridge for supplying emergency notification services rendered between January 19, 2023 to January 26, 2026; and authorized an amendment to the agreement originally authorized under Board Motion No. 199-15 with Everbridge to increase the agreement amount by \$114,219, which incorporates the ratified amount from the action above, to a total amount not to exceed \$311,219 and extend the agreement term to January 18, 2027 for supplying emergency notification services.
8. **Motion No. 022-26** – Authorized an amendment to the agreement originally authorized under Board Motion No. 206-22 with Schneider Electric Systems USA Inc., to increase the agreement amount by \$79,999 to a total amount not to exceed \$639,984 and extend the agreement term to October 31, 2026 for technical support services for the District’s Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system.
- 9.1. – **Motion No. 023-26** – Authorized amendments to the agreements originally authorized under
9.2. Board Motion No. 022-21, with D.P. Nicoli, Inc. and National Trench Safety, Inc., to extend the terms of the agreements to January 26, 2030 for shoring and trench plate rental services; and authorized additional agreements for shoring and trench plate rental services, on an as needed basis and subject to the total aggregate amount authorized by the Board for such services on January 26, 2021, with the service providers that meet District standards and offer pricing at or below the range in the proposed agreements with the service providers above to increase flexibility and ensure service provider availability. The Board of Directors will be notified of additional qualified service providers by means of the General Manager’s monthly report.

10. **Motion No. 024-26** – Authorized the Office of General Counsel to continue the employment of the firm of Best Best & Krieger LLP for specialized legal services related to federal and state water law, rates, charges, taxes, liens, real estate, bankruptcy and progressive design-build procurements, and litigation involving such matters in an additional amount not to exceed \$150,000.
11. **Motion No. 025-26** – Approved the November and December 2025 Monthly Investment Transactions Reports.
12. **Resolution No. 35473-26** – Appointing Representative And Reaffirming Alternate Representative to the Association Of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority Board Of Directors.
13. **Resolution No. 35474-26** – Confirming Appointment Of Standby Officers For The East Bay Municipal Utility District Board Of Directors Under The Emergency Succession Plan For The Board Of Directors.

DETERMINATION AND DISCUSSION

- 14.1.- **Adopt the EBMUD Facility and Program Naming Guidelines as the District’s process for**
- 14.2. **considering proposals to name or rename District facilities and programs and reaffirm renaming the EBMUD Boardroom in honor of former Director William “Bill” Patterson as approved by the Board of Directors on December 9, 2025 under Motion No. 259-25.**

General Manager Clifford C. Chan reported the Ad Hoc Committee, comprised of Directors Lewis, Oddie, and Smith met with staff to draft the naming guidelines and consider additional options to honor former Director Patterson. Special Assistant to the General Manager Derry L. Moten reviewed key elements in the draft guidelines noting they were developed to ensure decisions reflect the District's mission, values, history, and long-term interests, while maintaining transparency, fairness, and trust. There was considerable Board discussion regarding the draft guidelines and concerns expressed about scoring proposals and requiring proposals to be unanimously approved by the Board. Staff was asked to amend the guidelines to clarify that proposals will be reviewed by an Ad Hoc Committee and not a standing Board Committee; change the review timing from a fixed interval to “as needed”; replace the term “scored” with “evaluated” and remove numeric scoring references; change posthumous recognition language from “recommended” to “suggested” regarding the waiting period, in all applicable sections; and remove reference to unanimous Board approval and retain general “Board approval” language.

Next, there was considerable Board discussion on whether reaffirmation was needed for the prior action renaming the Boardroom in honor of former Director Patterson. The Board had already approved the action in December and directed staff to proceed. Several Directors expressed concern that a reaffirmation could set an unnecessary precedent by requiring the Board to revisit decisions already taken, while acknowledging continued support for the original action. Board members clarified there is no additional recognition being considered at this time. The Board concurred that no further action was required.

- Motion by Director Young, seconded by President Gómez, to approve the recommended actions for Item 14.1. as amended, carried (7-0) by the following roll call vote: AYES (Chan, Gómez, Katz, Oddie, Smith, Young, and Lewis); NOES (None); ABSTAIN (None); ABSENT (None).

Motion No. 026-26 – Adopted the EBMUD Facility and Program Naming Guidelines as the District’s process for considering proposals to name or rename District facilities and programs (*as amended*).

15. **General Manager’s Report.**

Water Supply Update

Manager of Maintenance and Construction/Water Operations Roberto C. Cortez presented the update on Water Year 2026 and the following data as of January 21, 2026: gross water production; precipitation in the East Bay (12.12 inches) and in the Mokelumne (25.29 inches); snow conditions at Caples Lake, including snow depth (38 inches) and snow water content (10.1 inches); and the District’s total system storage (604,280 acre-feet, representing 107% of average and 78% of capacity). He reviewed snowpack levels and snow water equivalent in the Sierras, the seasonal precipitation outlook for February through April 2026, projected Mokelumne precipitation rainfall for Rainfall Year 2026, and 2026 total system storage projections. Mr. Cortez responded to Board questions regarding water supply conditions and projections. The Board requested that future graphs for Mokelumne precipitation rainfall and end of season storage include a 95th percentile.

Speakers Bureau Topics for 2026 and Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 Biennial Report

General Manager Clifford C. Chan announced the memos regarding these topics were provided in the agenda materials. He reviewed 2025 Speaker Bureau community outreach efforts and noted that 2026 outreach will focus on infrastructure investment, emergency preparedness, and high-quality drinking water. Staff is seeking Board feedback on the 2026 plan by February 10. Community Affairs Representatives will coordinate with Board members scheduled to host ward events, and Senior Community Affairs Representative Mona L. Favorite-Hill responded to questions regarding Board member participation in events in areas with overlapping representation. Mr. Chan also provided an overview of the 2025 Biennial Report, “Rooted in Community,” a digital story map highlighting District accomplishments across four service pillars: investment in infrastructure, innovation, sustainability, and community. A new feature includes a map showing significant capital investments over the past two fiscal years. The report will be distributed electronically to customers, key stakeholders, and officials and shared on social media. He acknowledged key contributors from the Budget and Performance Division, Graphic Design, Engineering Administration, Pipeline Infrastructure, and Public Affairs.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS

16. **Other Items for Future Consideration.**

None.

17. **Director Comments.**

- Director Lewis reported attending the reopening of the Henry J. Kaiser Center in Oakland on January 24.
- Director Smith reported attending the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority Board meeting at Pardee on January 23.
- Director Young reported attending the Siesta Valley Foundation Board meeting in Orinda on January 14. She commented on providing updates regarding the monthly meetings going forward.
- President Gómez reported attending the Leadership San Ramon Valley session and presenting at the American Association of the University Women's San Ramon Chapter on January 15.
- Directors Chan, Katz and Oddie had no reports.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Lewis adjourned the Regular Business Meeting at 2:43 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:



Rischa S. Cole, Secretary of the District

APPROVED: February 10, 2026



Valerie D. Lewis, Vice President of the Board