

State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

Minutes of Meeting

12:00 P.M., Weds., April 15, 2026
Regional Water Quality Control Board
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Video recordings of Board meetings (since 2/2019) are available at:

[Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](https://cal-span.org/) (https://cal-span.org/)

Audio recordings of Board meetings (11/2018 and before) are available at:

[Prior Board Meeting Audio recordings](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/)
(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/)

i. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Chair Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ii. **Roll Call and Introductions:**

Board Members present:

Alex Hart, Jake Mackenzie, Hector
Bedolla, Gregory Giusti, Dale
Romanini, Molli Myers

Regional Water Board staff present:

Valerie Quinto, Nathan Jacobsen
Bayley Toft- Dupuy, Claudia
Villacorta, Josh Curtis, Emma
Cianfichi, Deidre Wilkerson,
Jonathan Warmerdam, Kason Grady,
David Kuszmar, Ermias Berhe,
Jeremiah Puget, Adona White, Brian
Fuller, and Katharine Carter

iii. **Board Member Reports:** Board member Mackenzie welcomed Molli Myers to the board. Board member Myers then introduced herself, sharing her background and what inspired her to join the board.

iv. **Board Chair's Report:** No Chair's report was made.

V. **State Board Liaison's and Executive Officer's Reports:**

Dorene D'Adamo, the State Board's liaison to Region 1, provided an update via Zoom. She provided comprehensive updates, including but not limited to the following. She reported that public comments on the Scott and Shasta Range of Baseline Flows Study are due April 30. She also noted that the Agricultural Expert Panel has released its draft report, with comments due April 30. Ms. D'Adamo shared that final documents for the 2026 Integrated Report were released in March. She further indicated that the draft Intended Use Plan for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund is expected to be released in late April. She stated that fee stakeholder meetings are scheduled for June and that, in the interim, efforts are focused on water quality certification fees, including consideration of approaches to more equitably distribute costs among payers. Lastly, she reported that the next meeting on the wastewater needs assessment will be held April 24 and will focus on mapping tools, analysis, and metrics

Vice Chair D'Adamo responded to questions from the Board.

vi. **Public Forum:** Comments were received from the following members of the public:

- Matt Greene

Specific comments can be reviewed on [Cal-Span's Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](http://cal-span.org/) (<http://cal-span.org/>).

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: February

Motion: Board Member Bedolla moved to adopt the February 18-19, 2026 Board Meeting minutes; Vice Chair Mackenzie seconded the motion; Chair Hart initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla	aye
Guisti	aye
Romanini	aye
Myers	aye

Mackenzie aye
Hart aye

Motion passed unanimously

2. Presentation of Executive Officer’s 2025 Water Quality Stewardship Award (*Valerie Quinto*)

Executive Officer Valerie Quinto presented the 2025 Water Quality Stewardship Award to Sustainable Conservation. Erika Lovejoy, Katie Haldeman and Stephanie Falzone, accepted the award for Sustainable Conservation.

Action Items

3. Public Hearing on Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R1-2026-0011 issued to Jorge Sanchez Herrera (*Ermias Berhe, Patrick Lewis, Dominic Moscatello, Kason Grady, Claudia Villacorta*)

After Chair Hart read the Hearing Officer’s Statement, Kason Grady, Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer and Supervisor of the Agriculture and Enforcement Division of the Regional Board, gave the Prosecution’s opening statement and introduced other members of the Prosecution Team. Ermias Berhe, Engineering Geologist, presented evidence and rationale to support the Prosecution Team’s proposed Order. Kason Grady gave the Prosecution Team’s closing statement.

The Respondent did not attend the hearing.

Bayley Toft- Dupuy recommended the inclusion of citations to Water Code section 13323 in the Order.

Motion: Vice Chair Mackenzie moved to adopt Civil Liability Order No. R1-2026-0028 issued to Jorge Sanchez Herrera, including the recommended citations to Water Code section 13323; Board member Romanini seconded the motion; Chair Hart initiated a roll-call vote

Bedolla aye
Guisti aye
Romanini aye
Myers aye
Mackenzie aye
Hart aye

Motion passed unanimously

4. Public Hearing on Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R1-2026-0009 issued to Pedro Martinez Garcia (*Brian Fuller, Heather Jidkov, Makena Miles, Kason Grady, Claudia Villacorta*)

After Chair Hart read the Hearing Officer’s Statement, Kason Grady, Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer and Supervisor of the Agriculture and Enforcement Division of the Regional Board, gave the Prosecution’s opening statement and introduced other members of the Prosecution Team. Brian Fuller, Senior Engineering Geologist Specialist, presented evidence and rationale to support the Prosecution Team’s proposed Order. Kason Grady, gave the Prosecution Team’s closing statement.

The Respondent did not attend the hearing.

Nathan Jacobsen recommended the inclusion of citations to Water Code section 13323.

Motion: Vice Chair Mackenzie moved to adopt Civil Liability Order No. R1-2026-0027 issued to Pedro Martinez Garcia, including the recommended citations to Water Code section 13323; Board member Romanini seconded the motion; Chair Hart initiated a roll-call vote

Bedolla	aye
Guisti	aye
Romanini	aye
Myers	aye
Mackenzie	aye
Hart	aye

Motion passed unanimously

Information Items

5. Executive Officers Report:

Executive Officer Valerie Quinto highlighted the Laguna de Santa Rosa Reconciliation Project Status Update in the written report provided.

Valerie Quinto responded to questions and comments.

6. Board member Requests for Future Agenda Items and Other Items of Interest:

Board Member Bedolla requested a follow-up on the hatcheries permit, as well as an update on sediment releases from Lake Mendocino/Coyote Dam and how the Army

Corps is addressing the issue. Chair Hart requested a presentation explaining what a technical advisory group is and how its members are selected.

7. The Board may meet in closed session to:

- d. Discuss significant exposure to litigation or initiated litigation in the following matters (Gov. Code, § 11126, subd.(e)); (Gov. Code § 11126, subd. (e)(2)(B)(i)):

- vii. Kristi Wrigley v. State of California, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, State Water Board, Department of Forestry, Natural Resources Agency, Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, CalEPA; Complaint for Damages, Declaratory and Injunctive Relief Humboldt County Superior Court ,CV 2500411; Jesse Noell v. State of California, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, State Water Board, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, CalEPA; Complaint for Damages, Declaratory and Injunctive Relief, Humboldt County Superior Court, CV2500414 (February 21, 2025.)

There was no action to report from the closed session.

8. Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment:

9:00 a.m., Thursday, May 7, 2026, and
9:00 a.m., Friday, May 8, 2026
Eureka City Hall, City Council Chambers
531 K Street, Room 208
Eureka, CA 95501

Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.