

Minutes of the
Casitas Municipal Water District
Board Meeting of
February 25, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Kaiser called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Directors Hajas, Cole, Brennan, Bergen, and Kaiser are present. Also present are GM Flood, EA Vieira, and Counsel McNulty.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Brennan led the pledge.

4. AGENDA CONFIRMATION

Confirmed as submitted.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Presentation on District related items that are not on the agenda – three-minute limit.

None

6. CONSENT AGENDA

6.a Accounts Payable Report.
[Accounts Payable Report.pdf](#)

6.b Minutes of the February 11, 2026 Board Meeting.
[2 11 2026 Min.pdf](#)

The Consent Agenda was offered by Director Brennan, seconded by Director Bergen, and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Hajas, Cole, Brennan, Bergen, Kaiser
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	None

7. HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY BY EMINENT DOMAIN FOR A PORTION OF PARCEL NO. 008-0-160-415.

7.a Open Hearing.
[Board Memo Resolution of Necessity Barnard 20260225.pdf](#)

CMWD - Resolution of Necessity (Barnard).pdf
RON - Exhibit A.pdf
RON - Exhibit B.pdf
RON - Exhibit C.pdf
Barnard Response letter to Public Hearing Notice.pdf

President Kaiser opened the hearing at 5:02 pm

7.b Receive Staff Report and Recommendations.

AGM Aranda provided a presentation on the intertie project which the purpose of which is to protect long term Lake Casitas water supply, mitigate drought risk, diversify water supply sources, and increase regional emergency preparedness. She then discussed the need for the proposed acquisition for the Del Mar Pump Plant. Staff recommend adopting the resolution.

7.c Report of Written Communications.

EA Vieira reported that the district received the Response to the Public Hearing Notice that is in the agenda packet and received a letter this morning from Price, Postel and Parma that is on the board table and available for the public next to the agendas.

7.d Public Comment.

Tyler Whitney who lives on the property, expressed concern with losing valuable trees and livelihood, and added that his attorney would be going over other issues that have not been resolved and added that they are still waiting for their independent appraisal to be completed to get a fair evaluation of things.

Todd Amzpoker, attorney with Price, Postel & Parma expressed concerns that were included in the letter that was submitted this morning. Some of those concerns included access to the plant, access via the Brown property roadway, fencing and lighting, use of chemicals, sound from the plant, removal of trees, relocation of an existing fertilizer station and irrigation system, protection of the current crop, and belief that the district's appraisal is deficient.

During Mr. Amzpoker's comments the Zoom feed was attacked and there is a brief segment of the recording that was silent until the situation was resolved.

7.e Close Hearing.

President Kaiser closed the hearing at 5:41

7.f Discussion by Board of Directors.

AGM Aranda provided a response to the concerns that were raised and the board discussed the concerns that were presented and the need for the acquisition, including the tight deadlines to receive funding for the project. The board expressed desire for further negotiations with the understanding from counsel that we can do so and try to resolve by

stipulation but also understanding the need to continue to this process to acquire the property through eminent domain.

7.g Possible board action to Adopt the Resolution of Necessity to Acquire Property by Eminent Domain for a Portion of Parcel No. 008-0-160-415.

The Resolution was offered by Director Brennan, seconded by Director Cole, and adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Hajas, Cole, Brennan, Bergen, Kaiser
NOES: Directors: None
ABSENT: Directors: None

Resolution is numbered 2026-02.

8. ACTION ITEMS

8.a Set a Hearing Regarding Intent of the Board of Directors of Casitas Municipal Water District to Consider Adoption of Necessity to Acquire Property by Eminent Domain for a Portion of APN 008-0-190-105 for March 25, 2025.
[Board Memo Set Notice of Public Hearing_Morgan 20260225.pdf](#)
[Notice of Hearing 20260225.pdf](#)
[Exhibit A Notice of Public Hearing.pdf](#)

On the motion of Director Hajas, seconded by Director Cole, the above recommendation was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Hajas, Cole, Brennan, Bergen, Kaiser
NOES: Directors: None
ABSENT: Directors: None

8.b Approve Easement Deed from Rincon Del Mar Ranch, LLC.
[Board Memo Easement 20260225 RinconDelMar.pdf](#)
[EasementDeed_RinconDelMarRanch.pdf](#)

On the motion of Director Cole, seconded by Director Brennan, the above recommendation was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Hajas, Cole, Brennan, Bergen, Kaiser
NOES: Directors: None
ABSENT: Directors: None

8.c Approve Easement Deed from Belmonte West, LLC.
[Board Memo Easement 20260225 BelmonteWest.pdf](#)
[Deed easement - owner signed - Belmonte West LLC.pdf](#)

On the motion of Director Brennan, seconded by Director Cole, the above recommendation was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors: Hajas, Cole, Brennan, Bergen, Kaiser
NOES: Directors: None
ABSENT: Directors: None

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 9.a Hydrology Report for January, 2026.
[Hydrology January 2026.pdf](#)

The Information Items were received.

10. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

GM Flood reported that the dam spilled last Monday. We are working on the budget and will provide that to the Finance committee in April. Low water sales are a concern, and we are trimming other projects in anticipation of those low water sales.

11. BOARD OF DIRECTOR REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED

Director Brennan attended AWA Water Issues, AWA Waterwise, and the Ventura Water Commission.

12. BOARD OF DIRECTOR COMMENTS PER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.2(a).

President Kaiser mentioned that VCSDA is a good organization and he is glad to see involvement with them.

President Kaiser moved the meeting to closed session at 6:19 p.m.

13. CLOSED SESSION

- 13.a CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1). Santa Barbara Channelkeeper v. State Water Resources Control Board, City of San Buenaventura, et al, and City of San Buenaventura v. Duncan Abbott, et al, Cross Complaint Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. 19ATCP01176.

- 13.b CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6
Agency Designated Representative: Colin Tanner and Diana Impeartrice
Employee Organization: Supervisory and Professional, General Unit and Recreation Unit.

President Kaiser moved the meeting back into open session at 7:06 p.m. with Mr. McNulty reporting that the board met in closed session and there was no action taken.

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Kaiser adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Brennan", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Brian Brennan, Secretary