MINUTES
BORREGO SPRINGS WATERMASTER SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
Conducted Virtually via GoToMeeting
Wednesday, June 3, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

The following individuals were present at the meeting:

Directors Present	Chair Tyler Bilyk – Agricultural Sector
	Vice Chair Jim Bennett – County of San Diego
	Treasurer Shannon Smith – Recreational Sector
	Secretary Gina Moran – Borrego Water District (BWD)
	Mark Jorgensen – Community Representative
Watermaster Staff Present	James M. Markman, Legal Counsel
	Samantha Adams, Executive Director, West Yost
	Lauren Salberg, Staff Geologist, West Yost
Others Present	Geoff Poole, BWD General Manager
	George Peraza, DWR
	Jessica Clabaugh, BWD Finance Office
	Lee Alan Scharf
	Marisa Earll, Intera
	Rich Pinel, Board Alternate ‑ Recreational Sector
	Stephanie and Thomas DiPalma
	Steve Anderson, BB&K, representing BWD
	Tammy Baker, BWD Board Member and Board Alternate - BWD
	Travis Huxman, UCI
	Trey Driscoll, Intera, TAC Member representing BWD
	Yara Pasner, Intera

Please visit the Watermaster's Website[1] to access the Agenda Packet, recording, and presentation for the June 3, 2026 Meeting. The following meeting minutes identify the start time each agenda item discussion (hours, minutes, seconds: 00:00:00), which can be used as a reference to find and listen to the details of each topic discussed in the meeting recording for specifics and context.

I. **Opening Procedures**

A. Chair Bilyk called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM at which time the meeting recording was started. 00:00:00

B. Chair Bilyk led the meeting participants in the Pledge of Allegiance. 00:00:20

C. Samantha Adams, Executive Director (ED) called roll and confirmed that a quorum of all members of the Board were present. 00:00:38

D. Approval of Agenda. The Board discussed the agenda topics for the June 3, 2026 Board meeting. 00:01:19

Motion: Motioned by Director Jorgensen, seconded by Director Moran to approve the Agenda. *Motion carried unanimously by voice vote (5-0-0).* 00:01:39

[1] https://borregospringswatermaster.com/past-watermaster-meetings/

II. **Public Correspondence**

A. *Correspondence Received*. Chair Bilyk referenced the correspondence included in the agenda package. 00:02:05

B. *Public Comments*. Chair Bilyk called for public comments. There were no public comments. 00:02:41

III. **Items for Board Consideration and Possible Action**

A. *Consideration of Approval of Changes to the 5-Year Assessment Report and 2026 GMP Update.* ED Adams gave a summary of the memo included in the agenda package. 00:03:37

- There were no public comments.
- Board discussion ensued, and the Board directed Staff to respond to public comments as proposed in the staff memo and to prepare and notice the draft final 5-Year Assessment Report and 2026 GMP Update.

B. *Consideration of Approval of the WY 2027 Budget.* ED Adams summarized the draft WY 2027 budget included in the agenda package. 00:33:03

- Public comment was made by Rich Pinel.
- Board discussion ensued to determine action.

Motion: Motioned by Director Smith, seconded by Director Moran, to approve WY 2027 Budget as defined in the Staff memo, with a revision to the scope of work on the Groundwater Monitoring Program line-item which would include: i) preparation of a Groundwater Optimization Memo at a cost not to exceed $20,000 and ii) reduction in monitoring events for Spring 2027 to provide that the budget for this line-item would not exceed $119,742. 01:04:44

Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote (5-0-0).

C. *Next Steps on Requested Public Outreach Efforts.* ED Adams provided a summary of the memo included in the agenda package. 01:11:34

- Public comment was made by Stephanie Di Palma.
- Board discussion ensued and the Board directed Staff to: i) provide examples of public outreach materials by West Yost to the Board ahead of the June 24, 2026 Board Meeting and ii) develop a draft public outreach product, focused on communicating results from the Spring 2026 Semi-Annual Monitoring Report for Board review at its August 2026 meeting.

IV. **Reports.**

A. *Legal Counsel Report.* Mr. Markman had no topics to report on. 01:26:44

- The Board asked Mr. Markman to provide an update on the schedule for the preparation of a legal opinion on SGMA and groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs).

B. *Chairperson's Report.* Chair Bilyk had no report. 01:26:50

V. **Approval of Agenda Items for June 24, 2026 Special Board Meeting**

ED Adams reviewed the list of potential agenda items for the next several Board meetings listed in the agenda package. 01:27:58

- There were not public comments.
- Board discussion ensued to determine action.

<u>Motion</u>: Motioned by Director Moran seconded by Chair Bilyk, to approve the following agenda for the June 24, 2026 Special Board Meeting: 01:31:33

- Consideration of Approval of the 5-Yr Assessment Report and 2026 GMP Update, as follows:
  - Finalize the 5-Yr Assessment Report and 2026 GMP Update, with any final recommended changes
  - Submit the reports to DWR by June 25, 2026
  - File a motion with the Court to amend the Judgment to replace Exhibit 1 with the 2026 GMP Update, with notice to all Parties
  - Schedule a Court hearing on the Motion, as soon as a Court Date is available
- Technical Review of Water Rights Transfers
- Status update on public outreach efforts

Motion carried unanimously by roll-call vote (5-0-0).

VI. **Board Member Comments**

Chair Bilyk called for comments. The Board discussed the following topics: 01:32:27

- Director Moran discussed the timeline for the Board to make a determination if the UCI GDE Study is “best available science” that can be relied upon for setting policy and adapting management actions.
- Directors Smith and Jorgensen provided a status update on the effort to contact private landowners about access for potential irrigation of mesquite trees on their property.

VII. **Next Meetings of the Borrego Springs Watermaster**

Chair Bilyk reviewed the meetings listed in the agenda package. 01:39:47

VIII. **Adjournment**

Chair Bilyk adjourned the meeting at 11:40 AM. 01:40:23

Lauren Salberg

Recorded by:
Lauren Salberg, Staff Geologist, West Yost

Gina Moran

Attest:
Gina Moran, Secretary of the Board