



MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT & GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

920 SECOND AVENUE, MARINA, CA 93933-6009
Home Page: www.mcwd.org
TEL: (831) 384-6131 FAX: (831) 883-5995

DIRECTORS

GAIL MORTON
President

JAN SHRINER
Vice President

BRAD IMAMURA
THOMAS P. MOORE
STACEY SMITH

Agenda

**Special Board Meeting, Board of Directors
Marina Coast Water District
and
Special Board Meeting, Board of Directors
Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

920 2nd Avenue, Marina, California 93933

Tuesday, March 24, 2026, 6:00 p.m. PST

Members of the public may attend the Board meeting in person or can attend remotely via Zoom conference.

Members of the public participating by Zoom will be placed on mute during the proceedings and will be acknowledged only when public comment is allowed, after requesting and receiving recognition from the Board President. Persons who are participating via telephone will need to press *9 to be acknowledged for comments. Public comment on the action item can also be submitted in writing to Paula Riso at priso@mcwd.org by 9:00 am on Tuesday, March 24, 2026; such comments will be distributed to the MCWD Board before the meeting.

This meeting may be accessed remotely using the following Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83856642167?pwd=af5mlmHju1RTNYXZxEjV43Mvpb2bJk.1>

Passcode: 118600

To participate via phone: 1-669-900-9128; Meeting ID: 838 5664 2167 Passcode: 118600

Our Mission: Marina Coast Water District delivers safe and environmentally sustainable water, recycled water, and wastewater services that meet community needs.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Action Item

- A. Provide Direction to the Board President Regarding Voting for Election of One Special District Alternate Member to the Local Agency Formation Commission

This agenda is subject to revision and may be amended prior to the scheduled meeting. Pursuant to Government Code section 54954.2(a)(1), the agenda for each meeting of the Board shall be posted at the District offices at 920 2nd Avenue, Marina. A complete Board packet containing all enclosures and staff materials will be available for public review on the District website, Monday, March 23, 2026. Information about items on this agenda or persons requesting disability related modifications and/or accommodations should contact the Board Clerk 48 hours prior to the meeting at: 831-883-5931.

4. Public Comment on Closed Session Items *Anyone wishing to address the Board on matters appearing in Closed Session may do so at this time. Please limit your comment to four minutes. The public may comment on any other items listed on the agenda at the time they are considered by the Board. Disruptive behavior may result in the removal of the individual responsible.*

5. Closed Session

- A. Pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(d)(2)
Conference with Legal Counsel – Threat of Potential Litigation
Two Potential Cases
- B. City of Marina vs. RMC Lonestar [CEMEX], California-America Water Company, Marina Coast WD, et al Defendants, Monterey County Superior Court Case No. 20CV001387 (Complaint for Breach of Contract, Declaratory Relief under the Agency Act, and Tortious Interference with Existing Contract)

Reconvene Open Session

6. Reportable Actions Taken During Closed Session *The Board will announce any reportable action taken during closed session and the vote or abstention on that action of every director present, and may take additional action in open session as appropriate. Any closed session items not completed may be continued to after the end of all open session items.*

7. Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items

8. Director's Comments *Director reports on meetings with other agencies, organizations and individuals on behalf of the District and on official District matters.*

9. Adjournment *Set or Announce Next Meeting(s), date(s), and time(s):*

Regular Meeting: Monday, April 20, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

**Marina Coast Water District
Agenda Transmittal**

Agenda Item: 3-A

Meeting Date: March 24, 2026

Prepared By: Paula Riso

Approved By: Remleh Scherzinger, PE

Agenda Title: Consider Providing Direction to the Board President Regarding Voting for Election of One Special District Alternate Member to the Local Agency Formation Commission

Staff Recommendation: The Board of Directors provide direction to the Board President regarding voting for election of one Special District alternate member to the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County (LAFCO).

Background: *Strategic Plan, Mission Statement – Marina Coast Water District delivers safe and environmentally sustainable water, recycled water, and wastewater services that meet community needs.*

Discussion/Analysis: On March 9, 2026, LAFCO sent a ballot for election of a Special District representative alternate member seat with a term that will expire in May 2030. Two Special District representatives have agreed to run for the alternate seat position: David Kong, Greenfield Public Recreation District and Greenfield Cemetery District (Incumbent); and, Bill Lipe, Resource Conservation District of Monterey County.

Ballots must be received by LAFCO by April 20, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

Environmental Review Compliance: None required.

Climate Adaptation: Not applicable.

Financial Impact: Yes X No **Funding Source/Recap:** None

Other Considerations: The Board can decide not to vote for any nominee running for office.

Material Included for Information/Consideration: LAFCO Memorandum regarding Ballot for Election of LAFCO Commissioner – Special District Alternate Member; and nominees' statements.

Action Required: Resolution X Motion Review

Board Action

Motion By _____ Seconded By _____ No Action Taken _____

Ayes _____ Abstained _____

Noes _____ Absent _____

2026 Commissioners

Chair
Wendy Root Askew
County Member

Vice Chair
Mary Ann Leffel
Special District Member

Mike Bikle
Public Member, Alternate

Kate Daniels
County Member

Dennis Donohue
City Member

Matt Gourley
Public Member

David Kong
Special District Member, Alternate

Chad Lindley
Special District Member

Chris Lopez
County Member, Alternate

Ian Oglesby
City Member

Anna Velazquez
City Member, Alternate

Counsel

Reed Gallogly
General Counsel

Executive Officer

Kate McKenna, AICP

132 W. Gabilan Street, #102
Salinas, CA 93901

P. O. Box 1369
Salinas, CA 93902

Voice: 831-754-5838

www.monterey.lafco.ca.gov

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 9, 2026

TO: Independent Special District Presiding Officers c/o Clerks of the Districts, General Managers, Fire Chiefs, and Presidents/CEOs

FROM: Kate McKenna, AICP, Executive Officer



SUBJECT: Election of LAFCO Commissioners:
(1) First Ballot Results – Special District Regular Member
(2) Second Ballot For Your Action – Special District Alternate Member (Due April 20, 2026)

I am writing with results of the first ballot election that concluded on March 6, and to request your help in conducting a second election for Special District representation on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County.

Special District Regular Member Election Results

Mary Ann Leffel, Board Member of the Monterey Peninsula Airport District, has been re-elected to a Special District Regular Member seat on LAFCO. She will be sworn in on April 27 to a term that will expire in May 2030. For your information, Chad Lindley, Board Member of the Monterey County Regional Fire Protection District, also serves as a Special District Regular Member in a seat that will expire in May 2028.

Special District Alternate Member Ballot (Due Monday, April 20, 2026)

A second election is now underway to fill the Special District Alternate Member seat for a four-year term that will expire in May 2030. This seat is currently held by David Kong, Board Member of the Greenfield Cemetery District and the Greenfield Public Recreation District. Enclosed are a ballot and voting instructions for the second round of voting between two candidates including David Kong and Bill Lipe, Board Member of the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County.

This sequential ballot process is intended to ensure diversity in representation. By policy, all three Special District LAFCO representatives should reflect a broad cross-section of services and geography, and no two Commissioners can be from agencies that provide like services. For this reason, Jonathan Ahmadi, Board Member of the Monterey Peninsula Airport District who ran in our initial Regular Member ballot, is unable to participate as a candidate for the Alternate Member position.

The two remaining candidates on the second ballot were also on the first ballot for the Regular Member position, and both agreed to run again for the Alternate Member position.

Thank you for participating in the election process. Please contact Associate Analyst Jeff Condit if you have any questions about the election process. He can be reached at (831) 754-5838 or by email at conditj@monterey.lafco.ca.gov.

Enclosures:
Ballot and Voting Instructions

LAFCO *of Monterey County*

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY

March 9, 2026

OFFICIAL BALLOT OF THE
INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE

FOR ELECTION OF ONE ALTERNATE SPECIAL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE TO LAFCO

Voting Instructions:

1. The presiding officer of the legislative body of the District or the legislative body's alternate officer is authorized to vote. Please vote for one candidate. A majority of Districts must return ballots in order to conclude the election. The candidate receiving the most votes will be elected to an Alternate Member seat.
2. Please return this ballot to LAFCO of Monterey County at P.O. Box 1369, Salinas, CA 93902 or at 132 W. Gabilan Street, Suite 102, Salinas, CA 93901 or by email to mckennak@monterey.lafco.ca.gov.
3. **Deadline** - Ballots must be received by **Monday, April 20, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.** LAFCO may extend this deadline if more time is needed to obtain ballots from a majority of Districts.

PLEASE VOTE FOR 1 CANDIDATE (ALTERNATE MEMBER SEAT):

David Kong (Greenfield Public Recreation District and Greenfield Cemetery District)

Bill Lipe (Resource Conservation District of Monterey County)

VOTING MEMBER SIGNATURE: _____

INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT: _____

DATE: _____

LAFCO of Monterey County

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY

INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE

NOMINATION FORM TO DECLARE CANDIDACY AND REQUEST NAME AND STATEMENT ON BALLOTS FOR ONE REGULAR POSITION AND ONE ALTERNATE POSITION ON THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY

Due Date: January 20, 2026

Nominations will be considered to fill the four-year term for one Regular seat (expiring May 2030) and the four-year term for one Alternate seat (expiring May 2030) for Independent Special District Commissioners on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County.

By policy, all three Special District LAFCO representatives should reflect a broad cross-section of services and geography, and no two Commissioners shall be from agencies that provide like services. Therefore, candidates for this election shall not be from a Fire District.

Nomination Deadline and Process:

Nominations must be received in the LAFCO Office by Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Qualified persons may submit their own nominations using this form (no Board action is needed). You may email the completed form to mckennak@monterey.lafco.ca.gov OR mail it to P.O. Box 1369, Salinas, CA 93902 OR hand-deliver it to 132 W. Gabilan Street, Suite 102 in Salinas.

Nomination Statement:

"I, DAVID KONG hereby declare myself a candidate for the election to the position of Regular or Alternate Commissioner of the LAFCO of Monterey County. I am an elected or appointed Monterey County Independent Special District board member or trustee residing within the county and not a member of a legislative body of a city or county. I request my name be placed on the official ballot and, if elected, I will qualify and accept the office of Regular or Alternate LAFCO Commissioner for which I am selected and serve to the best of my ability."

Nominee Information:

Name: DAVID KONG

Address: _____

Phone and e-mail: _____

District represented: GREENFIELD PUBLIC RECREATION DISTRICT AND

Your position with the District: GREENFIELD CEMETERY DISTRICT

Number of years as a District Board Member or Trustee: RECREATION DISTRICT 6 YEARS

I AM TRUSTEE FOR BOTH DISTRICTS CEMETERY DISTRICT 4 YEARS

Candidate Statement for the Ballot:

Please give reasons for wanting to be an elected LAFCO Commissioner and briefly summarize qualifications and background:

I AM A RETIRED EDUCATOR AFTER WORKING 35 YEARS IN EDUCATION IN VARIOUS ROLES. MY LAST ASSIGNMENT

WAS WORKING AT THE MONTEREY COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION FOR 23 YEARS IN THE I.T. AND BUSINESS
SERVICES. I AM ALSO A SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER AT
THE GREENFIELD UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT. I ~~WAS~~ AM
ALSO A MEMBER OF THE GREENFIELD ROTARY CLUB. I ATTEND
CONFERENCES TO MAKE ME A MORE INFORMED LAFCO BOARD
MEMBER. I WISH TO CONTINUE TO GIVE BACK TO MY COMMUNITY.

Signed:

David Kong

Name (Print):

DAVID KONG

Date:

1/19/2026

Thank you for your interest in serving on LAFCO of Monterey County.

LAFCO of Monterey County

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY

INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT SELECTION COMMITTEE

NOMINATION FORM TO DECLARE CANDIDACY AND REQUEST NAME AND STATEMENT ON BALLOTS FOR ONE REGULAR POSITION AND ONE ALTERNATE POSITION ON THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION OF MONTEREY COUNTY

Due Date: January 20, 2026

Nominations will be considered to fill the four-year term for one Regular seat (expiring May 2030) and the four-year term for one Alternate seat (expiring May 2030) for Independent Special District Commissioners on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County.

By policy, all three Special District LAFCO representatives should reflect a broad cross-section of services and geography, and no two Commissioners shall be from agencies that provide like services. Therefore, candidates for this election shall not be from a Fire District.

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Nomination Statement:

"I, Bill Lipe, hereby declare myself a candidate for the election to the position of Regular or Alternate Commissioner of the LAFCO of Monterey County. I am an elected or appointed Monterey County Independent Special District board member or trustee residing within the county and not a member of a legislative body of a city or county. I request my name be placed on the official ballot and, if elected, I will qualify and accept the office of Regular or Alternate LAFCO Commissioner for which I am selected and serve to the best of my ability."

Nominee Information:

Name: Bill Lipe
Address: [REDACTED]
Phone and e-mail: _____
District represented: Resource Conservation District of Monterey County
Your position with the District: Director
Number of years as a District Board Member or Trustee: 8+

Candidate Statement for the Ballot:

Please give reasons for wanting to be an elected LAFCO Commissioner and briefly summarize qualifications and background:

See attached for qualifications.

Signed: William O. Lipe

Name (Print): William O. Lipe

Date: 1/12/2026

Thank you for your interest in serving on LAFCO of Monterey County.

COVER LETTER

Bill Lipe

Salinas, California



Re: Candidacy for Independent Special District Alternate Seat – LAFCO of Monterey County

Dear Selection Committee Members,

I am submitting my candidacy for the Independent Special District Alternate seat on the Local Agency Formation Commission of Monterey County, with a public-service background centered on land-use decision-making, agency authority, and the long-term governance of shared resources.

Much of my public service has involved advising and governing at the intersection of land use, water systems, and agricultural activity—areas where jurisdictional clarity and institutional coordination are essential. As a Director of the Resource Conservation District of Monterey County, I participate in governance decisions affecting conservation programs, land stewardship priorities, and partnerships that directly shape how land and water resources are managed across jurisdictional boundaries.

Over the past fifteen years, I have also served on the Monterey County Agriculture Advisory Committee and on advisory committees of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, including the Basin Management Advisory Committee and the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee. In these roles, I have worked with County staff and policymakers on issues where land use, infrastructure operations, and regulatory authority converge—often requiring careful alignment between agency mandates and on-the-ground realities.

Across these appointments, my focus has been on ensuring that decisions are grounded in statutory authority, transparent governance processes, and a clear understanding of how service responsibilities affect communities over time. LAFCO's mandate—to oversee agency boundaries, service extensions, and orderly growth—directly reflects this same responsibility.

I would welcome the opportunity to support LAFCO's land-use and agency-formation mission as an Alternate Commissioner and to contribute disciplined, independent judgment to its deliberations.

Respectfully,

Bill Lipe

CV / RESUME

BILL LIPE

Salinas, California
[REDACTED]

PUBLIC SERVICE & LAND-USE GOVERNANCE EXPERIENCE

Resource Conservation District of Monterey County (RCDMC)

Director, Board of Directors | 2020–Present

- Provide governance oversight for a special district whose work directly intersects land use, watershed management, and agricultural conservation.
- Review and guide policies affecting conservation planning, land stewardship priorities, and inter-agency coordination.
- Support alignment between district authority, partner agencies, and landowners across multiple jurisdictions.
- Participate in long-range planning and policy discussions shaping how conservation services are delivered geographically.

Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA)

Director, Upper Valley (Elected) | 2017–2021

- Participated in governance of basin-wide groundwater management affecting land use, pumping allocations, and long-term development constraints.
- Reviewed groundwater sustainability plans with direct implications for agricultural land use and regional planning.
- Helped balance statutory requirements with practical impacts on communities and landowners.

Monterey County Agriculture Advisory Committee

Committee Member / Chair (Various Periods) | Past 15 Years

- Advised the County on agricultural land-use policy, zoning considerations, and related regulatory impacts.
- Worked with County departments to evaluate how land-use decisions affect agricultural operations and rural communities.

Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA)

Basin Management Advisory Committee — Member | Various Periods, Past 15 Years

- Contributed to advisory discussions on basin management strategies influencing land use, water availability, and agency coordination.
- Helped frame technical water-management issues in policy terms relevant to land-use and service planning.

Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA)

Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee — Member | Various Periods, Past 15 Years

- Advised on reservoir operations and flood-management considerations with direct land-use and public-safety implications.
- Supported coordination between operational authority, regulatory requirements, and downstream land uses.

PUBLIC-SERVICE FOCUS AREAS

- Land-use governance and policy oversight
- Agency authority and jurisdictional coordination
- Special district governance
- Water-related land-use constraints
- Public-safety considerations in infrastructure planning
- Long-range service and boundary implications