



MEETING MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
VIA HYBRID
MARCH 25, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 3:30 p.m. Chair Birney called the meeting to order.

2. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: City of Issaquah (Mullet), City of Kirkland (Pascal), City of Redmond (Birney), Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District (Warren¹), Skyway Water and Sewer District (Ault), City of Tukwila (McLeod)

Board Member Absent: City of Bellevue (Hamilton)

Board Alternates Present: City of Bellevue (Bhargava), City of Kirkland (Curtis), City of Redmond (Nuevacamina), Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District (Hooshangi), City of Tukwila (Martinez)

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Bhargava and second by Mr. Ault to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Ms. Thung reviewed the Chief Executive Officer's Report that was included in the Board Packet and responded to questions from Board Members.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Board Meeting Minutes for February 25, 2026.
- B. Special Board Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2026.

Motion by Mr. Pascal and second by Mr. Bhargava to approve Consent Action Items A-B as

¹ Arrived at 3:45 p.m.

presented. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

7. ACTION ITEM

- A. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026 - 06 amending the bylaws and the Cascade Water Alliance Code to modify the standing committees, scope and procedures of committee meetings, participation by non-committee members, and the regular meeting schedule for the standing committees of the Cascade Water Alliance Board of Directors.

Resolution No. 2026-06 amends the Cascade Water Alliance bylaws and code to update how the Board's standing committees are structured and operated. This item was presented and explained by Alison Bennett during the meeting. The resolution establishes a revised committee framework by creating new committees—most notably the Supply Program Oversight Committee (SPOC)—and consolidating existing ones, such as merging finance and public affairs into a combined Finance and Intergovernmental Committee, while retaining the Resource Management Committee. It also clarifies and formalizes committee procedures, including meeting schedules, roles, and expectations, and explicitly allows participation by non-committee Board Members. Additionally, the resolution ensures that all committee meetings comply with the Open Public Meetings Act by requiring appropriate notice and enabling public access and comment. Overall, the changes are intended to improve governance, transparency, coordination, and oversight—especially in light of upcoming major decisions related to Cascade's supply program.

Motion by Mr. Mullet and second by Mr. Ault to adopt Resolution No. 2026-06 to appoint Board Standing Committee Chairs and Membership. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

- B. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026 - 07 to appoint Board Standing Committee Chairs and Membership.

The motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-07—appointing Board Standing Committee Chairs and membership—was primarily introduced and explained by Alison Bennett and Melina Thung. They noted the Board needed to formally designate committee chairs and members following the restructuring approved earlier and highlighted that three Board Members had volunteered to serve as chairs. Ms. Bennett also presented the list of committee assignments and confirmed that most members had responded and each committee had at least three participants.

There was a brief discussion about whether the Supply Program Oversight Committee (SPOC) might be too large compared to other committees like the Resource Management Committee, which had fewer members. In response, staff explained that the larger size of SPOC was intentional because many significant decisions related to the supply program would flow through that committee and broader participation would be beneficial.

Motion by Mr. McLeod and second by Mr. Pascal to adopt Resolution No. 2026-07 to appoint Board Standing Committee Chairs and Membership. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

A. Capital Funding Plan: Background & Fiscal Policy Overview

The Capital Funding Plan: Background & Fiscal Policy Overview was presented by Andy Baker, Economist, and served as an introductory briefing on Cascade's first-ever capital funding plan for the Cascade Supply Program. He explained that the plan is required by Cascade code and will establish a long-term funding strategy—particularly rate-setting—for Phase 1 of the program, with adoption targeted for September. The presentation outlined three key policy decisions the Board will need to make: the level of financial conservatism in setting rates, approaches to rate smoothing over time, and whether to prioritize pursuing external funding sources such as state and federal support. Mr. Baker also emphasized the plan must balance financial stability, rate equity, and flexibility, while avoiding over-reliance on debt (capped at 80%) and ensuring sufficient cash funding. A major focus was the significant uncertainty in project costs, which have increased from earlier estimates to a current range of approximately \$1.13B–\$1.35B (with potential for higher), and how sensitivity analysis can help guide decisions despite that uncertainty.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Executive Committee – No meetings held since the last Board meeting.
- B. Finance & Management Committee – Meeting held March 17, 2026. The meeting recap was included in the Board Packet.
- C. Public Affairs Committee – No meetings held since the last Board meeting.
- D. Resource & Management Committee – Meeting held March 12, 2026. The meeting recap was included in the Board Packet.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:25 p.m., Chair Birney announced there would be an executive session to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment. The executive session was expected to last 35 minutes.

At 5:00 p.m., the Executive Session was extended an additional 10 minutes.

At 5:10 p.m., the Executive Session was extended an additional 10 minutes.

At 5:20 p.m., the Executive Session was extended an additional 5 minutes.

At 5:25 p.m., the Executive Session was extended an additional 2 minutes.

The Executive Session adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

11. NEW BUSINESS

None.

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on April 22, 2026 at 3:30 p.m.

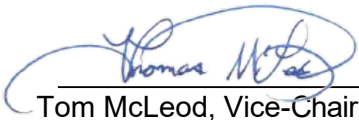
13. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



Angela Birney, Chair



Tom McLeod, Vice-Chair