CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIA HYBRID OCTOBER 28, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Chair Birney reminded the Board that amendments should go through the committee process before reaching the full Board and suggested discussing the timing of information and amendments at a retreat in the new year. Mr. Warren noted that under the new committee structure not every committee sees every item and supported that discussion.

2. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: City of Bellevue (Hamilton), City of Issaquah (Mullet), City of Kirkland (Pascal), City of Redmond (Birney), Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District (Warren), Skyway Water and Sewer District (Ault)
Board Member Absent: City of Tukwila (McLeod)
Board Alternates Present: City of Redmond (Nuevacamina), Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District (Hooshangi)

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Hamilton and second by Mr. Mullet to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

John Taylor reviewed the Chief Executive Officer's Report that was included in the Board Packet. He noted the State Auditor's audit had no findings and Cascade's bonds sold the previous day at a favorable interest rate. He also reported he has been meeting with the City

of Seattle and the Veolia operating agreement for Lake Tapps is expected to come to the Board in November.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Board Meeting Minutes for September 23, 2026.

B. Motion to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to renew contracts for engineering, vendor, and consulting services as shown in the Board Packet totaling $3,259,307, and in accordance with the adopted 2027 – 2028 Cascade budget.

Motion by Mr. Hamilton and second by Mr. Mullet to approve Consent Action Items A-B as presented. Motion carried unanimously (6-0).

8. OTHER ACTION ITEMS

A. Motion to approve the Board Oversight Strategy document outlining the oversight objectives for the Cascade Supply Program.

Motion by Mr. Mullet and second by Mr. Pascal to approve the Board Oversight Strategy.

Brian Bartle, Program Executive, explained that the Strategy was revised with member staff at the Board's direction, restructured into eight sections, and now includes a section on reporting to the Board. The Supply Program Oversight Committee recommended approval. Mr. Pascal explained that Kirkland's amendment reflects the Board's growing focus on how Phase 1 decisions affect Phase 2, and Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Warren expressed support for the revisions.

Motion by Mr. Pascal and second by Mr. Hamilton to amend the Risk Criterion in Table B on page 9 of the Board Oversight Strategy by adding "including how Phase 1 decisions influence risks in Phases 2 and 3 through their effects on project sequencing, flexibility for future choices, interdependencies, and the opportunities or constraints they create."

Chair Birney supported the amendment but asked that future amendments come through the committee process. Mr. Taylor said staff view it as a friendly amendment.

At the question, motion carried unanimously (6-0) to amend the Board Oversight Strategy.

At the question, motion carried unanimously (6-0) to approve the Board Oversight Strategy, as amended.

B. Motion to approve a letter to King County regarding reclaimed water policy options.

Motion by Mr. Ault and second by Mr. Mullet to approve the letter to King County.

Andy Baker, Economist, explained that King County is accepting comments on its reclaimed water policy options as part of the Regional Wastewater Services Plan update. The letter supports reclaimed water as a potential future supply while protecting existing uses, asks for a true status quo option based on Cascade's existing agreement with the County, recommends monitoring, cost studies, pilots, and a state regulatory framework, and does not support regional expansion until that work is done. Cascade's main concerns are cost shifts to other customers and PFAS reaching groundwater sources. The revised Board Packet included an updated letter and a redlined version.
Board Members thanked staff for a concise letter. At Chair Birney's request, staff will make a scrivener's correction to clarify that the County must obtain consent from the water purveyor.

At the question, motion carried unanimously (6-0).

9. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

A. Cascade Supply Program Quarterly Update

Mr. Bartle and Cascade staff provided the quarterly update. Spending is under budget while deliverables remain on track. Staff will bring three corridor alternatives and tank sites to the Board in January for direction, followed by a February workshop, with a decision on alignment and tank site expected in early 2028. Chair Birney asked staff to advise the Board on what can be discussed publicly versus in executive session regarding corridors and property.

B. Cascade Supply Program Land Acquisition Strategy

Mr. Bartle explained that staff are no longer seeking Board action on the Land Acquisition Strategy. Future annual work plans will include requests to purchase land, delegated settlement authority for the Chief Executive Officer, and condemnation authority. Board Members supported settlement authority of $150,000 and 50 percent over the initial offer and asked for a January discussion on which documents the Board should adopt.

C. Bond Update

Mr. Baker reported S&P and Moody's maintained Cascade's AAA and Aa1 ratings. Cascade sold $40,730,000 in 25-year bonds on October 27, closing November 17, with an all-in true interest cost of 4.577 percent compared to 5.02 percent in the budget, saving about $4.5 million over the life of the bonds. The next issuance is targeted for late 2028 or early 2029.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee – No meeting held.

B. Finance & Intergovernmental Committee – Meeting held October 20, 2026. The meeting recap was included in the Board Packet.

C. Resource Management Committee – Meeting held October 8, 2026. The meeting recap was included in the Board Packet. Mr. Warren noted that Seattle Public Utilities will give its water supply report at the next meeting.

D. Supply Program Oversight Committee – Meeting held October 14, 2026. The meeting recap was included in the Board Packet.

11. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was brought before the Board.

12. NEXT SPECIAL MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 16, 2026 at 3:30 p.m. at Cascade's office or via Zoom.

13. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Angela Birney, Chair

Tom McLeod, Vice-Chair