



CalDesal Special Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

10:30 a.m.- 10:45 a.m.

Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/2629510972>

Agenda

- Call to Order by Chair Mark Donovan
- Executive Director Glenn Farrel reports:

Governance

- Ratification of CalDesal Board of Directors “Straw Votes” from December 4, 2024:
 - Board of Directors’ meeting minutes from May 8, 2024
 - Election of CalDesal Executive Committee membership for 2025-26
 - Election of CalDesal Board Officers for 2025-26

CalDesal Policy Issues

- Crowfoot meeting update

Next Executive Committee meeting: January 27, 2025 – 11:00 AM



CalDesal Board of Directors Meeting Notes

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM

Hyatt Regency – Sacramento, CA

Board of Directors present:

Mark Donovan, GHD (Chair)

Marice DePasquale, Mesa Water District (Vice-Chair)

Ed Stevenson, Alameda County Water District

Lacy Carothers, California American Water

Joshua Haggmark, City of Santa Barbara

Jeff Quimby, Contra Costa Water District

Debbie Neev, Laguna Beach County Water District

Floyd Wicks, Montecito Water District

Karl Seckel, Municipal Water District of Orange County

Stephan Tucker, Water Replenishment District of Southern California

Guests:

Paul Hermann, GHD

Paul Shoenberger, Mesa Water District

David Horne, Laguna Beach County Water District

Nicholas Turner, Montecito Water District

Tobe Plough, Montecito Water District

Marwan Khalifa, Mesa Water District

Kevin Tilden, California American Water

Glenn Farrel, CalDesal

Agenda

WELCOME and CALL TO ORDER by Chair Mark Donovan, GHD

Members Roll Call by Executive Director Glenn Farrel

CONSENT ITEMS:

1. **Approve minutes of Board of Directors' Meeting held November 29, 2023.** A motion to approve the prior Board meeting minutes was deferred due to lack of a quorum.

REPORT AND PRESENTATION ITEMS:

1. **Events Update** – Glenn reminded the Board that the Mixer was scheduled for later that evening in the Capitol View Room at the Hyatt Regency from 6:00-7:00 p.m. He thanked the sponsors of the event and included the list of sponsors with their logos in the board packet. He also noted that there would be prominent signage identifying the sponsors strategically placed at the event.

Glenn provided an update on the CalDesal 2025 Annual Conference, indicating that a SAVE THE DATE notice will soon be distributed for the upcoming 2025 CalDesal Annual Conference in February 2025 at the Pechanga Resort in Temecula. Glenn indicated that the CalDesal Events Planning Committee will soon reconvene to work shaping the conference theme, content, and program. Glenn also encouraged Board members and their organizations to consider annual conference sponsorship opportunities and options in the coming months.

2. **Membership Report** – Glenn provided an overview of the CalDesal membership profile, which includes 57 members between Regular and Associate memberships. Additionally, Glenn provided information regarding the two new members that have joined CalDesal since the beginning of the new fiscal year. Several Board members discussed the opportunities to continue making advancements in CalDesal membership, and Mr. Shoenberger indicated his appreciation of the work that is being focused in the area of membership growth.
3. **Communications Report** – Executive Director Farrel provided an overview of the CalDesal communications report that was included in the Board packet. The communications report highlighted social media metrics, and spotlighted the continued substantial growth in engagement by CalDesal in its external communications, particularly through the LinkedIn platform.

Glenn also provided an update on the ongoing CalDesal website improvement and update activities to ensure meaningful and timely content available through the website

to CalDesal members and external parties. Several Board members offered their perspectives and observations regarding CalDesal's ongoing efforts to improve external communications.

4. **Treasurer's Report** – Executive Director Farrel provided an overview of the CalDesal financial report and fiscal condition that was included in the Board packet. Notably, the financial trends for CalDesal have been positive over the past several cycles, and the association remains in good financial condition. Glenn supplemented the Treasurer's report by also highlighting the ongoing CalDesal budget performance monitoring. Several Board members shared positive feedback regarding the fiscal health of the association.
5. **Legislative/Regulatory Update** – Executive Director Farrel provided an overview of the legislative report and update prepared by Cruz Strategies on behalf of CalDesal, and which was included in the Board packet. Glenn updated the Board regarding CalDesal's engagement on state and federal legislative issues, and identified a series of legislative measures that CalDesal is actively tracking and engaging on during 2024. Glenn also provided an overview of CalDesal's engagement in the resources and climate resilience bond development process, including CalDesal's participation in coalition efforts to advance robust desalination funding through the resources and climate resilience bond package. Paul Schoenberger provided positive comments regarding the association's legislative engagement, and encouraged a continued focus to participate actively in legislative and regulatory arenas to advance important objectives for the association.
6. **Coming Attractions** – Executive Director Farrel provided a preview of the opportunities that CalDesal members will have in the coming weeks to participate more actively in CalDesal working committees. Notably, Glenn shared that CalDesal will focus considerable priority and attention during 2024 on growing the CalDesal membership, developing an approach and gameplan for engagement in the Ocean Plan amendment process, expand CalDesal education and outreach efforts, and begin an evaluation of the CalDesal by-laws.
7. **Project Updates** – Several attendees provides updates on a variety of desalination projects under consideration and development throughout the state.

Glenn concluded the meeting by once again thanking the many sponsors of the CalDesal Spring Mixer in Sacramento, thanking the Board members and Committee chairs for participation and engagement, and thanking the Board Officers and Executive Committee for their ongoing leadership of CalDesal. Finally, Glenn also expressed appreciation for the work being undertaken by Smith-Moore Associates team to help guide and assist CalDesal.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Donovan at 8:00 AM.



To: CalDesal Board of Directors

From: CalDesal Nominating Committee
Bill Green, South Coast Water District
Michelle Peters, Channelside Water Resources
Ed Stevenson, Alameda County Water District

Date: December 4, 2024

Subject: Nominating Committee Recommended Slate of Candidates for Executive Committee and Board Officer Election

Recommendations:

Approve recommended slate of candidates established by CalDesal Nominating Committee.

Discussion:

CalDesal Nominating Committee Slate of Candidates for 2025-26 Two-Year Term

Chair – Mark Donovan, GHD

Vice-Chair – Marice DePasquale, Mesa Water District

Secretary – Michelle Peters, Channelside Water Resources

Treasurer – Jeremy Crutchfield, San Diego County Water Authority

Jeff Armstrong, Eastern Municipal Water District

Lacy Carothers, California American Water

Bill Green, South Coast Water District

Mark Lambert, Kiewit Infrastructure

Scott Maloni, Black & Veatch

Jackie McCloud, Alameda County Water District

Jeff Quimby, Contra Costa Water District

Bradley Rahrer, City of Santa Barbara

Warren Teitz, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California



Meeting with CA Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot Monday, December 16 – 1:00 PM

Agenda

- **Update on California desalination projects**
 - Projects in operation
 - Projects in planning/permitting/construction stages
- **Overview of January 2024 brine discharge study from Carlsbad Desalination Plant**
 - Results and conclusions
- **Upcoming Ocean Plan Amendment Process**
 - Inter-Agency siting criteria report
 - Subsurface intake report
 - Anticipated proposed amendments to the Ocean Plan raise concerns about the viability of desalination in California going forward
 - De facto prohibition on open ocean intakes
 - Improving timing and mechanisms for mitigation
 - Determination of “need” for desalination
 - Improving streamlined opportunities for pilot seawater desalination projects to proceed expeditiously
- **Ensuring that seawater desalination remains a viable resource strategy – including through new innovations and emerging approaches – for California. What needs to be done and how can CalDesal partner with the Newsom Administration to achieve these objectives?**
 - “Big-picture” targeted, large-scale desalination project to address ongoing CA water crises
 - Addressing Colorado River challenges for benefit of southern CA and southwestern U.S.
- **Next steps and future discussions**