APPROVED MINUTES
SAN DIEGO LAFCO REGULAR MEETING
May 4, 2026

1. 8:15 A.M. – CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIR

Item 1a
ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Chair Becker. The Commission Clerk performed the roll call with the following attendance recorded.

Regulars Present:	Paloma Aguirre, County of San Diego Joel Anderson, County of San Diego Kristi Becker, City of Solana Beach (CHAIR) Brigette Browning, Public Jo MacKenzie, Vista Irrigation District Stephen Whitburn, City of San Diego Dane White, City of Escondido Barry Willis, Alpine Fire Protection District (VICE CHAIR)
Alternates Present:	Eileen Delaney, Public David Drake, Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District John McCann, City of Chula Vista (arrived at 8:25 a.m.)
Members Absent:	Monica Montgomery Steppe, County of San Diego (alternate) Marni von Wilpert, City of San Diego (alternate)

The Commission Clerk confirmed a quorum with eight voting members present.

Also present at the time of roll call were the following LAFCO staff members: Executive Officer Keene Simonds, Assistant Executive Officer Priscilla Mumpower, Commission Counsel Aleks Giragosian, Local Government Analyst II Michaela Peters, Local Government Analyst I Joelle Burila, Local Government Analyst I Meghan Traynor, Communications Associate Aiden Velasquez, GIS Analyst Dieu Ngu, and Commission Clerk Erica Sellen.

Commissioner Aguirre left the meeting during the break at 10:09 a.m.

Item 1b
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Becker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. STATEMENT REGARDING REMOTE PARTICIPATION, IF APPLICABLE

None.

3. AGENDA REVIEW

Chair Becker asked Executive Officer Simonds if there were any requests to remove or rearrange items on the agenda. Executive Officer Simonds stated no changes to the agenda were needed while also noting supplemental correspondence has been posted and distributed along the dais involving Agenda Item 6a.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO REQUEST DISCUSSION ON CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Becker invited anyone from the public to address the Commission on a matter not directly related to an agenda item.

The Commission Clerk confirmed there was one online speaker:

- Tedi Jackson, on behalf of Save Rural Escondido

The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no other registered speakers (audience or remote) or live e-mail comments.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

Item 5a
Approval of Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2026
Item presented to approve draft action minutes prepared for the Commission's April 6, 2026 meeting. Recommendation to approve.

Item 5b
Commission Ratification | Recorded Payments for March 2026
Item presented to ratify recorded payments made and received by the Executive Officer for the month of March 2026. Recommendation to ratify.

Item 5c
Budget Update for 2025-2026 |
Third Quarter Actuals with Year-End Projections
Item presented to review a report comparing budgeted and actual transactions through the third quarter of 2025-2026 and related analysis. The Commission finished the second quarter expending 62% of total budgeted expenses while collecting 72% of total budgeted revenues. Recommendation to accept the report.

Item 5d
Progress Report on 2025-2026 Workplan
Item presented to receive an update on the current fiscal year workplan and related staff activities involving all 30 prioritized special projects. Information only.

CONSENT ITEMS CONTINUED…

Item 5e
Report on Applicant Proposals
Item presented to receive a status report on active and anticipated applicant proposals. Information only.

Item 5f
Legislative Report
Item presented to receive an update on active legislation relevant to the Commission's regulatory and planning responsibilities. Information only.

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Commissioner Browning motioned with a second from Commissioner White to approve the consent calendar (Agenda Items 5a–5f) with staff recommendations (Alternative One) as presented.

Roll call requested:

AYES:	Aguirre, Anderson, Becker, Browning, MacKenzie, Whitburn, White, & Willis
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAINING:	None

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 8-0.

Item 5g *This item was heard after Agenda Item 8 (Executive Officer Report)*
Report on Recent Committee Meeting |
Special Districts Advisory Committee's April 17, 2026 Meeting
Item presented to receive a report on the most recent meeting of its Special Districts Advisory Committee held on April 17th. Information only.

Commissioner Willis requested to pull Agenda Item 5g for discussion.

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Commissioner Willis motioned with a second from Commissioner Becker to approve Agenda Item 5g.

Roll call requested:

AYES:	Anderson, Becker, Browning, MacKenzie, Whitburn, White, & Willis
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Aguirre
ABSTAINING:	None

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 7-0.

6. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS | COMMISSIONER DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Item 6a
Draft Report | Municipal Service Review on Wholesale Water Service Providers, Part I: San Diego County Water Authority
Item presented to hold a public hearing on a draft municipal service review (MSR) covering the San Diego County Water Authority (CWA). The study represents Part I of a broader regional MSR evaluating the two primary wholesale water service providers serving San Diego County – the CWA and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) – and is being advanced as part of the Commission's adopted workplan. The report independently assesses CWA's role to plan, fund and deliver wholesale water service to its 22 local member agencies over a 15-year reporting period spanning fiscal years 2009 - 2023. This includes written determinations addressing factors required under statute and local policy as part of the MSR process. The draft report incorporates CWA comments following the completion of the 60-day administrative review period. Staff requested direction on whether to (a) proceed with a formal 45-day public review and comment period ahead of preparing a final version for future consideration, or (b) return with an updated draft before going any further. Item presented for discussion.

Chair Becker requested any disclosures from Commissioners on material ex parte communications. Disclosures from Commissioners Whitburn, Becker, Browning, and Anderson were announced.

Staff presentation provided by Assistant Executive Officer Mumpower and LAFCO Consultants Dr. Michael Hanemann and Patrick Bouteller.

Chair Becker opened the hearing and invited public comments from the following registered speakers:

- Cathy Pieroni
- Lani Lutar

Chair Becker invited comments from the following online speaker:

- Patrick McDonough, San Diego Coastkeeper

The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no other registered speakers (audience or remote) or live e-mail comments.

Chair Becker invited questions and comments from the Commissioners. General discussion ensued, with several Commissioners expressing concerns regarding proceeding with the MSR at this time given the analytical window ending in 2023 and the significant and ongoing developments that have occurred since then. Commissioners also discussed the potential value of revisiting the MSR within the next three to five years.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS CONTINUED…

Item 6a Continued…

Executive Officer Simonds noted Part II of the MSR involving MWD had yet to be heard by the Commission and was tentatively scheduled for August 2026.

Additional discussion followed, culminating in direction from the Commission to discontinue further work on the draft Municipal Service Review of the CWA. The action reflected the Commission's view that the analytical window covering Fiscal Years 2009 through 2023 had become stale relative to more recent and significant events affecting the agency and broader regional water landscape.

In a related action, the Commission directed a similar discontinuance of the in-progress Municipal Service Review involving MWD.

Chair Becker then proceeded to close the hearing.

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Commissioner Whitburn motioned with a second from Commissioner Anderson to discontinue work on the CWA and MWD MSRs and return to the Commission in 4 years.

Roll call requested:

AYES:	Anderson, Becker, Browning, MacKenzie, & Whitburn
NOES:	Aguirre, White, & Willis
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAINING:	None

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 5-3.

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The Commission took a 5-minute break after the vote.

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Item 6b
Annual Workforce Vacancy Report
Item presented to consider an annual workforce vacancy report addressing position vacancies at LAFCO as of May 2026. Recommendation to formally receive and file.

Executive Officer Simonds provided a verbal staff presentation.

Chair Becker opened the hearing and invited public comments.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS CONTINUED…

Item 6b Continued…

The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no registered speakers (audience or remote) or live e-mail comments.

Chair Becker proceeded to close the hearing.

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Commissioner Willis motioned with a second from Commissioner White to approve the staff recommendation (Alternative One) as listed in the agenda report.

Roll call requested:

AYES:	Anderson, Becker, Browning, MacKenzie, Whitburn, White, & Willis
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Aguirre
ABSTAINING:	None

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 7-0.

Item 6c
Proposed Final Workplan and Budget for 2026-2027 and Related Actions
Item presented to consider recommendations to adopt a final workplan and budget for 2026-2027. Both items return substantively intact following draft adoption in March and subsequent public review – including presentations to LAFCO's Cities and Special Districts Advisory Committees. The proposed workplan continues to list 30 special projects. Revisions are limited to six material changes as detailed in the report. The final budget is identical to the adopted draft in setting overall expenditures at $2.904 million, with operating expenses increasing by 3.3%, or $90,379. Recommendation to adopt both items with any revisions by resolution along with related actions as specified.

Chair Becker requested any disclosures from Commissioners on material ex parte communications. No disclosures were reported.

Staff presentation provided by Executive Officer Simonds.

Chair Becker opened the hearing and invited public comments from the following registered speakers:

- Alisha Morrison
- Doyle Morrison

The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no other registered speakers (audience or remote) or live e-mail comments.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS CONTINUED…

Item 6c Continued…

Chair Becker invited questions and comments from the Commissioners. General discussion ensued about reordering the proposed workplan given the Commission's action to discontinue work on Priority No. 1 involving the CWA and MWD MSRs.

Chair Becker proceeded to close the hearing.

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Commissioner MacKenzie motioned with a second from Commissioner Anderson to approve the staff recommendation (Alternative One) as listed in the agenda report with an amendment to move the proposed City of San Diego MSR from the bullpen list to a Medium Priority Project No. 11.

Roll call requested:

AYES:	Anderson, MacKenzie, White, & Willis
NOES:	Becker, Browning, & Whitburn
ABSENT:	Aguirre
ABSTAINING:	None

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 4-3.

Commissioner Whitburn noted Commissioner Aguirre was absent for the roll call and requested the Commission revisit the action at its next meeting in June and relative to placement of the City of San Diego MSR within the adopted workplan.

7. BUSINESS ITEMS

Item 7a
Proposed "3144 Roadrunner Road Out-of-Agency Wastewater Services" | Buena Sanitation District (OAS26-05)
Item presented to consider a request by the Buena Sanitation District (Buena SD) for authorization to provide extended out-of-agency wastewater services to a 0.53-acre parcel located within the City of San Marcos. The affected territory at 3144 Roadrunner Road (APN 217-232-32) is currently developed with a single-family residence (SFR) built in 2016. The purpose of the request is to redirect the existing authorization directly between Buena SD and the landowner involving the developed SRF as well as extend authorization to facilitate and serve a planned accessory dwelling unit. Recommendation to approve with standard terms. It was also recommended the Commission waive its customary practice of conditioning approval on the landowner filing a future annexation proposal with LAFCO, given local conditions as detailed in the report. Additional recommendations find the request qualifies as a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) but is exempt from further review under State CEQA Guidelines Section 15319(b).

BUSINESS ITEMS CONTINUED…

Item 7a Continued…

Local Government Analyst II Peters provided the staff presentation.

Chair Becker invited public comments.

The Commission Clerk confirmed there were no registered speakers (audience or remote) or live e-mail comments.

Chair Becker proceeded to invite questions and comments from the Commissioners. No discussion.

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Commissioner Becker motioned with a second from Commissioner Willis to approve the staff recommendation (Alternative One) as listed in the agenda report.

Roll call requested:

AYES:	Anderson, Becker, Browning, MacKenzie, Whitburn, White, & Willis
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	Aguirre
ABSTAINING:	None

The Commission Clerk confirmed the motion was approved 7-0.

8. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Executive Officer Simonds noted the following:

- The June 1st regular meeting has been cancelled and a special meeting has been scheduled for June 15th. Notable items anticipated for consideration at the June 15th meeting include the Carlsbad Municipal Service Review, the Fiscal Year 2025 audit, and, consistent with direction provided under Agenda Item No. 6c (Final Workplan & Budget), a revisiting of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Workplan and Budget.

9. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS & REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT TO NEXT MEETING

With no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.

I hereby attest the minutes above accurately reflect the deliberations of the Commission at its May 4, 2026 meeting.

ATTEST,

Erica Sellen
Commission Clerk

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