MINUTES OF A MEETING
of the
CACHUMA CONSERVATION RELEASE BOARD
Held at the Goleta Water District Board Conference Room

June 4, 2026, 2:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 pm by President Kristen Sneddon. Those attending the meeting were:

Directors Present:

Kristen Sneddon	City of Santa Barbara
Tobe Plough	Montecito Water District
Lauren Hanson	Goleta Water District

Also Present:

Ryan Drake	Dakota Corey
Alejandro Robles	Peter Cantle
Scott Shapiro	Joel Mulder
Ali Taghavi	

PUBLIC COMMENT

One member of the general public attended the meeting, but did not seek to comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Director Plough moved, and Director Hanson seconded approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 3-0 by roll call vote.

REGULAR AGENDA

RA-1, Audit Services for FY2025-2026 and FY2026-2027. Director Cantle stated that Nasif Hicks Harris & Co. LLP has offered engagement letters for two years of auditing services at a price of $14,000 per year (not to exceed without prior authorization), consistent with their most recent audit effort. Cantle recommended the board authorize him to execute the engagement letters. Director Plough asked when the firm's partner with audit responsibility had last changed, citing a five-year best practice standard. Mr. Robles stated that the audit partner had changed in the last two years (FY2024). President Sneddon called for public comment; there was none. Director Hanson then moved, and Director Plough seconded, authorization of the engagement letters to secure auditing services for FY2025-2026 and FY2026-2027. The motion passed 3-0 by roll call vote.

RA-2, Executive Director's Report. In response to a question received prior to the board meeting, Cantle updated the board regarding the California Endangered Species Act status of southern California steelhead, noting that the species' endangered classification was codified in state law (CCR Title 14, Sec. 670) as of May 8, 2025.

CLOSED SESSION

The board went into closed session at 2:15 pm. The board came out of closed session at 3:19 pm with no reportable actions

REGULAR AGENDA – CONT.

RA-3, Employment Agreement for Executive Director. With the current employment agreement expiring June 30, 2026, the board offered, and executive director Cantle accepted, a two-year contract extension, with additional language to be developed by counsel to initiate "renew or recruit" efforts three months prior to the June 30, 2028 expiration date. Compensation for the new agreement was set at $207,000 per annum with the board considering an adjustment after one year. Director Plough moved, and Director Hanson seconded, approval of the new employment agreement, including edits and additions to be provided by counsel. The motion passed 3-0 by roll call vote.

RA-4, Items for Future Board Meetings. Director Plough requested timely updates on the ongoing Consultation process; Cantle noted that these would be provided as a matter of course.

RA-5, Confirm Next Meeting(s) and Adjourn. The next meeting of the CCRB board was set for 3 pm Thursday, July 2, 2026 at the City of Santa Barbara Water Resources Conference Room.

President Sneddon then adjourned the meeting at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary to the Board