



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

January 22, 20206

## 2026 ELECTION OF OFFICERS



Liz Silva President	Glenn Church Vice President	Gloria de la Rosa Alt. Vice President
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The preceding officers were re-elected to a second one-year term. The three officers compose the Executive Committee, which meets the Thursday two weeks prior to the regular Board of Directors meetings.

## SELECTION OF THE CANDIDATE FOR GENERAL MANAGER/CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR OFFICE

Following a comprehensive recruitment and evaluation process, the Board of Directors announced the selection of **CESAR ZUÑIGA** as its candidate for General Manager/Chief Administrative Officer position. Mr. Zuñiga brings more than 30 years of experience in the solid waste industry, including over 24 years of dedicated service to the Authority. His deep institutional knowledge, proven leadership, and strong commitment to public service positions him well to lead the Authority into its next chapter. The Board has authorized legal counsel to begin employment agreement negotiations with Mr. Zuñiga. Final appointment is expected to be considered at the Board of Directors meeting on February 19, 2026, contingent upon successful completion of negotiations.

## EDIBLE FOOD RECOVERY GRANT AWARD

The fifth cycle of funding for the Countywide Edible Food Recovery grant awards were presented. The Edible Food Recovery program is a requirement of SB 1383 and the grant program awards funds to local food recovery programs to assist in expanding capacity. The applications for funding were scored based on; a cost-effective and reasonable budget, ability to serve more than one community, and percent of increased capacity. A total of \$95,171.33 was awarded, with the Authority contribution just over \$50,000. Congratulations to the seven awardees.



- CSUMB Basic Needs
- All In Monterey County
- CSC St. Mary's
- Meals on Wheels Monterey Peninsula
- YWCA Monterey County
- Veteran's Transition Center
- Gathering for Women

## 2025 EMPLOYEE SURVEY



The results of the 2025 Annual Employee Survey were presented to the Board. The presentation included a three-year comparison measuring morale, job attitude, general attitude, and employee engagement. The report showed improvements in both morale and engagement. Survey feedback was reviewed, and the actions to be taken to address the challenges identified were discussed.

## PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

The preliminary budget for the fiscal year 2026-27 was presented to the Board with no major changes in operations expected. The presentation highlighted proposed budget increases, which include the request for two new staff positions: Equipment Maintenance Worker and Diversion Systems Maintenance Worker. The proposed rate increases necessary to fully fund the proposed budget and the projected impacts to ratepayers were detailed. The Board expressed their support directing staff to schedule a rate hearing for the February 19, 2026, Board meeting.

### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MONTH ENDED NOVEMBER 2025 (47.7% OF THE FISCAL YEAR)

Revenue collected	\$ 12,564,185 (44.2% of Estimated Revenue of \$28,810,000)
Expenditures for operations	\$ 10,930,717 (44.1% of Operating Budget of \$24,985,000)
Cash balance	\$ 38,181,673

**REDUCE                      REUSE                      RECYCLE**

"To manage Salinas Valley solid waste as a resource, promoting sustainable, environmentally sound and cost-effective practices through an integrated system of waste reduction, reuse, recycling, innovative technology, customer service, and education."