BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, August 20, 2026
1:30 p.m.
(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors was called to order in person, by teleconference, and remotely - Conference Access Information: Phone Number: (669) 444-9171, Code: 84349446215#, https://dcdca-org.zoom.us/j/84349446215?from=addon at 1:30 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Board members in attendance from the DCA Boardroom were President Martin Milobar, Director Juan Garza, Director Sarah Palmer and Director Robert Cheng. Director Tony Estremera, Director Gary Martin, and Director Adnan Anabtawi, participated from remote meeting locations.

Alternate Directors in attendance remotely were Dennis Lamoreaux, Royce Fast, Shiloh Ballard, and John Weed. Alternate Directors in attendance from the DCA Boardroom were Philip Paule and Michael Plinski; the Board Clerk captured their attendance for the record.

DCA staff members in attendance were Graham Bradner, Josh Nelson, and Adrian Brown.

Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff members in attendance were Janet Barbieri and Katherine Marquez.

3. CLOSED SESSIONS

No public comment requests were received for this item.

4. OPEN REGULAR MEETING & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Milobar opened the regular session at approximately 2:18 p.m. and asked Josh Nelson, DCA General Counsel, to report out on the closed session.

There were no reportable actions.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment requests were received for this item. President Milobar closed the public comment item.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 18, 2026, Regular Board Meeting

Recommendation: Approve the June 18, 2026, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes from June 18, 2026, as

Noted:	Estremera
Second:	Palmer
Yeas:	Milobar, Martin, Garza, Estremera, Anabtawi, Palmer
Nays:	None
Abstains:	Cheng
Recusals:	None
Absent:	None
Summary:	6 Yeas; 0 Nays; 1 Abstain; 0 Absent. (Motion passed as MO 26-08-01).

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a) August Monthly Board Report

Informational Item

DCA Executive Director, Graham Bradner, presented the Monthly Report for July 2026 activities to the Board. Mr. Bradner stated that DCA continues the development of performance baseline to support program implementation to be released in mid-2027. The team is also conducting field studies for further advancement of ground characterization along the project alignment, as well as working on the development of internal management plans, procedures, and workflows for transitioning to the delivery phase in 2027.

Regarding the budget overview, the Board of Directors approved the Fiscal Year (FY) 26/27 budget of $65M. DCA has committed a total of $58.6M through task orders and contracts, leaving approximately $2.8M in uncommitted funds. To date, the DCA has incurred $744K and the Estimate at Completion (EAC) is $65M. Currently, the incurred-to-date only has a few items, such as rent, utilities and a few invoices that go out early. The work progress for vendors that have deliverables is eight (8) percent complete with seven (7) percent of the estimated budget spent – some of this variance is attributable to the prior preliminary fieldwork injunction.

He then informed the Board on the closeout of FY25/26 financials, stating that the underrun in the budget is due to multiple considerations including slower than planned expenditures on geotechnical and survey work, property access delays, and release of the remaining unallocated reserve. FY25/26 has an approved budget of $65M with an incurred at $51M and an EAC of $58.2M. He explained that DCA is continuing to close invoices that will need to be reconciled and finalized.

Director Garza asked for the timeline of the closeout process.

Mr. Bradner explained that the closeout process began in July and noted that the contract terms require all the costs to be invoiced within 90 days of expenditure. The closeout process cannot be completed until all final invoices have been received. However, in previous years, the closeout process was completed in October.

No further comments or questions were received from the Board, nor were any public comment requests received.

b) DCA Boad Appointments for Office of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer

Appoint Board Officers by Motion

General Counsel, Josh Nelson, reported that the written update was included in the meeting packet. Staff recommended that the Board of Director's appoint a President, Vice President, and Secretary for Fiscal Years 2026-27-2027/28 by motion. He also noted that the DCA contracts with Metropolitan Water District (MWD) for treasury services and recommends Katano Kasaine to be reappointed as the Treasurer.

President Milobar asked if the Board could proceed with the historical process of nominating the from Vice President to serve as President.

Mr. Nelson informed the Board that the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and bylaws do not outline a process for the appointment or require a transition between President and Vice President. He also noted that Vice President Estremera will not be seeking another term for Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water). Therefore, the Board may consider appointing Mr. Estremera to serve through the end of his current term or consider an alternative option.

Director Estremera clarified that his current term with Valley Water will conclude at end of this calendar year. He proposed nominating a MWD representative to become the President, noting that his suggestion is based on the MWD's substantial involvement and decisions on investments over the next two (2) years and the importance for MWD to provide leadership. He also proposed nominating his alternate, Alternate Director Shiloh Ballard, as Vice President.

Director Palmer commented that she would like to see members that are currently on the Board nominated, particularly someone who has demonstrated strong leadership.

Mr. Nelson clarified that JPA specifies that all Officers, with the exception of the Treasurer, need to be regular Board members. One option to consider is that Director Estremera continues as Vice President, once Director Ballard assumes the role of Director, the Board can nominate her as Vice President.

Director Estremera stated that Valley Water will be announcing the switch at the September Valley Water Board meeting.

Director Palmer proposed that the Board move forward with nominating Director Garza as President. She also proposed to the Board to nominate Director Cheng as the Vice President.

Director Garza thanked Director Estremera and Director Palmer and expressed his honor to serve as the Vice President.

Director Cheng thanked Director Palmer for the nomination and respectfully declined the nomination due to the understanding of the north and south balance for board officers.

Director Estremera agreed with Director Cheng and reiterated that the balance between the north and south representation is important. He proposed that Board continue the discussion and proceed with the actual appointment of Vice President role in the October Board meeting.

Mr. Nelson confirmed the substitute motion defers the motion to the next meeting and clarified that the current Vice President would remain in place until a decision is made.

Director Anabtawi added that, while he understands the challenges with identifying a slate for officership, he suggested a committee or ad hoc to discuss potential officers that are willing to service in that capacity and then present a list of candidates to the Board for a streamlined process.

Mr. Nelson confirmed that in advance of appointing Board officers, the Board can consider appointing an ad hoc and agendizing this item for future consideration. However, for this year, the Board needs to proceed with appointing the remaining Board officers.

Director Palmer asked if the Board could be reminded of the Secretary role.

Mr. Nelson explained that the Secretary oversees noticing and minute preparation. In addition, the Secretary serves in place of the Vice President if the Vice President is unable to serve. If both the President and Vice President are absent, the Secretary chairs the meeting. He reminded the Board that Director Martin currently serves as the Secretary.

Director Estremera proposed nomination to Director Anabtawi to serve as the Secretary.

Director Anabtawi thanked Director Estremera and expressed his honor to serve as the Secretary.

No further comments or questions were received from the Board, nor were any public comment requests received.

Recommendation: Appoint Board Officers by Motion

Motion to Appoint President to Juan Garza, as

Noted:	Palmer
Second:	Cheng
Yeas:	Milobar, Martin, Garza, Estremera, Cheng, Anabtawi, Palmer
Nays:	None
Abstains:	None
Recusals:	None
Absent:	None
Summary:	7 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent. (Motion passed as MO 26-08-02).

Motion to Defer Appointment of Vice President, as

Noted:	Estremera
Second:	Milobar
Yeas:	Milobar, Martin, Garza, Estremera, Cheng, Anabtawi
Nays:	Palmer
Abstains:	None
Recusals:	None
Absent:	None
Summary:	6 Yeas; 1 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent. (Motion passed as MO 26-08-03).

Motion to Appoint Treasurer to Kasaine Katano, as

Noted:	Anabtawi
Second:	Estremera
Yeas:	Milobar, Martin, Garza, Estremera, Cheng, Anabtawi, Palmer
Nays:	None
Abstains:	None
Recusals:	None
Absent:	None
Summary:	7 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent. (Motion passed as MO 26-08-04).

Motion to Appoint Secretary to Adnan Anabtawi, as

Noted:	Estremera
Second:	Garza
Yeas:	Milobar, Martin, Garza, Estremera, Cheng, Anabtawi, Palmer
Nays:	None

Abstains: None
Recusals: None
Absent: None
Summary: 7 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent. (Motion passed as MO 26-08-05).

c) Consider Passing Resolution Approving Agreement for Programmatic Geotechnical and Fieldwork Services to the AECOM Technical Services, Inc

Adopt Resolution

DCA's Contracting Chief, Adrian Brown, reported that his written memo and presentation were included in the meeting packet. After completing a competitive solicitation via a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and evaluation process, staff recommends that the Board authorize the Executive Director to negotiate and execute a professional services agreement with AECOM Technical Services, Inc., to provide Programmatic Geotechnical Exploration & Reporting for a term of five (5) years with a maximum amount payable of $205,766,000 with the right to extend the contract according to the DCA's Purchasing and Procurement Policy.

Director Cheng asked if the agreement for the next five (5) years is subject to annual appropriations.

Mr. Brown explained that their budget is controlled through task orders and approval for budget would be presented to the Board each fiscal year as usual standard procedure.

Mr. Bradner further explained that the contract capacity is established by this approval and it sets a ceiling for the maximum contract value. Specific scope and budget for execution will be developed through annual issuance of task orders. There was a need to re-compete this contract to allow for the ability to support the delivery phase and future needs of the program.

Director Palmer asked how long AECOM has been working on the program.

Mr. Brown clarified that AECOM's contract began in 2022.

President Garza expressed his appreciation for the comprehensive and in-depth report and inquired about if AECOM's meets the requirements for Small Business Enterprise (SBE) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE).

Mr. Brown noted that AECOM has various subconsultants that meet the requirements, but AECOM itself does not. In terms of required percentages, while DCA acknowledges the goal for SBE and DVBE, it does not require it. He indicated he can provide the percentages in the future.

President Garza asked whether the program only received one (1) bid and if there were any other interested parties that attend a non-mandatory pre-Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) conference.

Mr. Brown reported that DCA hosted a pre-bid conference with about 15 attendees. Based on the system, there were roughly 60 vendors that indicated interest while only 15 vendors marked the box that they intended to bid. At the time of closure, there was only one (1) SOQ. Staff has reached out to prospective bidders via a survey to allow them to provide feedback. One of the bidders indicated that additional time was needed to allow them to partner with other firms.

President Garza stated that it would be beneficial to know if there is any room for improvement to ensure the program receives a robust pool of candidates as competition is in the best interest of the program.

Mr. Bradner explained that the vendor in this position would be conflicted out of future design opportunities on the program. There is a need for an independent data provider to be utilized by the Engineer of Records (EOR) teams, to avoid any potential conflicts by having a vendor working on both sides of that arrangement. This could have discouraged some vendors from completing submission. Additionally, AECOM can scale up the maximum needs of the program, supported by its prime firm and large network of subcontractors. This requirement could have limited different sized vendors. Considering the evaluation and the procurement process, the program feels comfortable with presenting it to the Board for recommendation.

President Garza thanked Mr. Bradner for the background information and requested the feedback.

No further comments or questions were received from the Board, nor were any public comment requests received.

Recommendation: Approve Resolution Authorizing a Programmatic Geotechnical Explorations & Reporting Services Agreement to AECOM Technical Services

Motion to Approve Passing Resolution Authorizing a Programmatic Geotechnical Exploration & Reporting Services Agreement to AECOM Technical Services, as

Noted:	Palmer
Second:	Anabtawi
Yeas:	Milobar, Martin, Garza, Estremera, Cheng, Anabtawi, Palmer
Nays:	None
Abstains:	None
Recusals:	None
Absent:	None

Summary: 7 Yeas; 0 Nays; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent. (Motion passed as Resolution 26-12).

d) DCP Community Outreach Update

Informational Only

DWR's Communication Manager, Janet Barbieri, provided an update on the Community Outreach program, noting that the program offers different elements to the Community Benefit Program. She reported that the Delta Community Fund provides grants for community projects such as targeted hiring, job training and business participation. In addition, the program has community benefits agreements with local organizations for specific projects. To date, there are seven (7) signed agreements and two (2) in progress. The program is currently working on potential agreements to include conservation support, emergency response infrastructure and pool facilities and more. She also highlighted multiple public outreach efforts.

Lastly, Ms. Barbieri noted that the primary takeaway is the program's need to solicit ideas, encourage participation, and collaborate opportunities with the local community.

Director Cheng inquired about the outreach plans for the rest of the year.

Ms. Barbieri responded that DWR will continue the tabling events and the electronic notifications to notify people with updates and new fact sheets. The team will close out with a progress report that demonstrates the beginning of 2019 to date.

No further comments or questions were received from the Board, nor were any public comment requests received.

8. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Milobar mentioned that members of the public may address the Authority on matters pertaining to the Staff Reports at this time.

No public comment requests were received for any of the staff reports.

a. General Counsel's Report

Mr. Nelson reported that his written update was included in the meeting packet.

No comments or questions were received from the Board.

b. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Adam Benson presented the Monthly Treasurer's Report for June 2026 on behalf of Treasurer Katano Kasaine. Mr. Benson informed the Board that the written report was

included in the meeting packet. The DCA received a total of $4.2M in contributions and had disbursements totaling $3.7M, resulting in an ending cash balance of $1.2M as of June 30, 2026.

No comments or questions were received from the Board.

c. DCP Communications Report

Ms. Sheehan provided an update on recent and ongoing communication activities to the Board. She announced the featured interview with DCA's Executive Director on California Insider, allowing statewide audience an opportunity to deep dive into the project. The team is focusing on opportunities at events and conferences, including industry events for procurement prospects, and is working in collaboration with DWR on e-blasts and e-newsletters. She reported participation in the SoCal Building Industry Association Conference, where Director Anabtawi also attended, and listed the next couple of events.

President Garza thanked Ms. Sheehan for her comprehensive report and suggested the development of integrating information and messaging about how the project would benefit a scenario such as Super El Niño.

Ms. Sheehan thanked him for his feedback and agreed that the team can integrate messaging and purpose of the project for future reference.

No further comments or questions were received from the Board.

d. DWR Environmental Report

DWR Environmental Manager, Katherine Marquez, provided an update on ongoing planning and permitting activities to the Board. A written report was included in the Board Packet covering updates regarding the Water Rights, Delta Plan Consistency, CEQA, and the California Endangered Species Act (ESA).

President Garza inquired on the timeline for the ESA permitting efforts and any impacts to the project.

Mr. Bradner responded that the team is currently working on updating the overall program schedule in support of an updated cost estimate. This includes incorporating the requirements of the incidental take permits, pre-construction reports, and surveys. The primary focus is to ensure the impacts are minimized, maximize efficiently, and organize the project sequence.

President Garza asked whether the implementation of requirements from the April 2026 addendum are still in progress.

Ms. Marquez explained that it is a part of the as submittals are required at different times – it is an iterative process.

No further comments or questions were received from the Board.

e. Verbal Reports, if any

President Garza thanked the Board for their support and leadership and the opportunity to serve as DCA's President.

Director Palmer thanked the staff for providing materials for her presentation at the rotary club in the Bay Area.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

President Milobar referenced the motion to nominate Vice President will occur at the October's meeting.

Mr. Nelson mentioned the future discussion for the Board election process.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

President Milobar adjourned the meeting at 3:38 p.m., remotely-Conference Access Information: Phone Number: (669) 444-9171, Code: 84349446215#, https://dcdca-org.zoom.us/j/ 84349446215?from=addon.