

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, April 2, 2026**

1. OPEN SESSION

President Bradford opened the regularly scheduled Board meeting at 1:00 PM at the Big Bear Municipal Water District located at 40524 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315 on Thursday April 2, 2026.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Craig Brewster, Director
Steve Ludecke, Vice President
Tom Bradford, President
Mark Lee, Director
Craig Peterson, Director

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tom Bradford, President

3. PUBLIC FORUM

None.

4. REPORTS

- A. General Manager Jared Cheek reported that the lake level is currently down 6 feet 7 inches, which is approximately 5 inches lower compared to the same time last year. The surface water temperature was reported at 52 degrees. He noted that the Marina Task Force meeting held the previous week was productive.

Director Brewster suggested that the Marina Task Force be conducted as a Full Board Special Workshop in the future. The Board agreed with this approach. President Bradford said that he was happy with how the meeting went.

General Manager Cheek reported that the new multi-purpose boat has arrived. He also attended the US Rowing press conference with Director Peterson. Director Peterson shared that US Rowing and Hueco Tanks expressed appreciation for the District's support and confirmed that activities are expected to begin in May and continue through Memorial Day. Vice President Ludecke noted that he has received positive feedback from the community regarding the US Rowing event.

General Manager Cheek reported that boat launch ramps opened yesterday, April 1st, and that launching activity has already begun. He stated that the earliest seasonal decontamination has been completed. Maintenance staff prepared the facilities, including installation of the patrol dock, which was helped by favorable winter weather conditions.

Director Brewster inquired whether final buoy placement for the season had been completed. Staff responded yes, with adjustments made throughout the season as needed.

General Manager Cheek reported that the Watermaster Report has been finalized and submitted to the court. He said that the Watermaster Committee was happy with communication efforts this year. Counsel confirmed that the Watermaster change filing has been submitted to the court. General Manager Cheek stated that he met with the former Watermaster, Peter, who provided procedural assistance during his transition period.

- B. Vice President Ludecke reported that the Budget and Finance had its monthly overview for February, there was nothing to report.
- C. Director Brewster reported that the Administrative Committee completed the General Manager evaluation process and selected proposed dates, which will be brought forward to the full Board. The Committee also discussed the DSOD application related to the Bear Valley Downstream Dam repairs.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

PUBLIC FORUM

N/A

- A. Minutes of a Special Meeting on March 3, 2026.
- B. Minutes of a Regular Meeting on March 5, 2026.
- C. Warrant List dated 03/13/2026 in the amount of \$9,403.70

Discussion: No comments were made.

With a motion made by Vice President Ludecke and seconded by Director Brewster, the consent calendar was approved unanimously:

AYES: Bradford, Brewster, Ludecke, Lee, Peterson

NO: -

ABSTAIN: -

6. BUSINESS

- A. **RESOLUTION 2026-04 PROPOSED SPECIAL USE AREA EAST OF EAGLE POINT – RESTRICTION ON TOWING AND WAKE-ENHANCING ACTIVITIES**

PUBLIC FORUM

Jeff Cooper agrees it's a good idea to back off this item. He said a special use area will depend on lake level as it fluctuates.

DISCUSSION

- a. General Manager Cheek provided background on ongoing discussions regarding potential impacts from ballast boats and explained that the item was re-agendized due to changes in language and title during prior discussions. The proposal would restrict

towing activities and ballast use east of Eagle Point to reduce potential lakebed disturbance. Staff noted that, if approved, the proposal would require a public hearing and an amendment to Ordinance No. 51, with implementation no earlier than May.

Director Brewster stated that, after consideration, he did not support moving forward with the proposal at this time, noting limited observed ballast boat activity in the area and concern that the restriction would not achieve its intended effect. Director Ludecke expressed similar concerns, citing the lack of formal studies regarding lake bottom and shoreline impacts and a desire to avoid premature action.

Staff reported that boat activity will be tracked during the upcoming season to collect additional data. President Bradford emphasized the importance of identifying specific data needed to support future decision-making, referencing prior outreach to other lakes and expressing concern over declining water quality.

Following discussion, the Board reached consensus to table the item until next fall to gather additional information. Data to be collected will include: ballast boat activity levels east of Eagle Point, registered complaints, water clarity measurements, and boat type at launch. Staff will also evaluate whether registration systems can be updated to capture ballast boat information. The item will return for consideration prior to the next boating season.

With a motion made by Vice President Ludecke and seconded by Director Brewster, the motion to table this item, and return before the upcoming season with requested data was approved:
AYES: Peterson, Brewster, Ludecke
NO: Bradford, Lee
ABSTAIN: -

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

N/A

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

General Manager, Jared Cheek announced that the public launch ramps are now open!

9. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

10. CLOSED SESSION

N/A

11. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:57 PM.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

Date: 04/16/2026
Location: 40524 Lakeview Drive
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315
Time: 1:00 PM



Elsa Donoho, Office Manager
Secretary to the Board of
Big Bear Municipal Water District



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