



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Regular Governing Board Meeting

Agenda

Friday, July 24, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
McLean Hall, Pardee Center, Valley Springs, CA 95252

**Zoom option available (see bottom of page for information)*

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT: When responding to a matter not on the agenda, state law limits a Board member to providing a brief response, asking clarifying questions, and/or referring it to staff.

AUTHORITY BUSINESS:

	<u>Recommended Action</u>
1. Board Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2026	Approve by Motion
2. Treasurer's Report (2nd Quarter FY 2026)	Approve by Motion
3. Approve FY 2026 Budget Amendment	Approve by Motion
4. Phase 1 - Forest Projects Plan Implementation Report	Approve by Motion
5. Phase 2 - MAC Forest Health and Resilience Project Report	Discussion
6. Fiscal Year 2027 Budget	Approve by Motion
7. Consulting Services Agreements with UMRWA Support Personnel	Approve by Motion
8. Biennial Review Conflict of Interest Code	Approve by Motion
9. Legislative Issues Update	Discussion/Possible Action

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

10. Board Member Comments

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT:

11. Executive Officer's Oral Report

ADJOURNMENT:

- Next Regular Board Meeting: October 23, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. (Pardee Center, Valley Springs, CA, 95252)

Join Zoom Meeting*

<https://zoom.us/j/93394977098?pwd=P22e3bj0ndDQc2VcD6sdEdtXa1g2ND.1>

Meeting ID: 933 9497 7098

Passcode: 943799

**If all Board Members are present in person, public participation by Zoom is for convenience only. If the Zoom feed is lost for any reason, the meeting may nevertheless proceed at the discretion of the Chair.*

Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, may be made to Lorna Barfield at 209.772.8286 or lorna.barfield@ebmud.com no later than 48 hours before the meeting.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **1**

Meeting Date: July 24, 2026

Title:

Board Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2026

Recommended Action:

Approve the meeting minutes of April 24, 2026.

Summary:

The summary minutes of the April 24, 2026, Board meeting are included here for Board review and approval.

Friday, April 24, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
Governing Board Meeting
Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority
Pardee Center, Valley Springs, CA 95252

Summary Minutes

ROLL CALL

Directors Terry Woodrow, Chair, Jeff Davidson, Vice Chair, Richard Farrington, Autumn Andahl, Marina Brand, Brian Oneto, Joey Smith and Garrett Hesser (for Richard Blood who was also present but not in a voting position), were present at roll call. Also present were Executive Officer (EO) Richard Sykes, Authority Council Greg Gillott, Authority Treasurer David Glasser, Authority Secretary Lorna Barfield, MAC Project Manager Megan Layhee and 15 other visitors in person and attending via Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

AUTHORITY BUSINESS

1. Regular Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2026

Motion 05-26 to approve the meeting minutes of January 23, 2026, was made by Director Farrington, seconded by Director Smith, and carried by a voice vote: Yea 8 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

2. Treasurer’s Report – 1st Quarter FY 2026

Motion 06-26 to accept the Treasurer’s Report for filing and approve the revised Budget Reserve Policy to address recent changes in annual indirect fee revenues was made by Director Davidson, seconded by Director Farrington, and carried by voice vote: Yea 8 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

3. Phase 1 - Forest Projects Plan Implementation Report

Executive Officer Richard Sykes presented the Phase 1 Implementation Report which included three general services agreements for the Dogwood North and Central projects, a general services agreement with the Buena Vista Rancheria, and two Blue Forest grants and services agreements recommended for Board approval. The EO described UMRWA’s efforts to obtain bids from local contractors but noted that none of the three the recommended general services awards to commercial contractors are for local firms. The EO also shared that the Amador Water Agency (AWA) recently approved a \$10,000 contribution to the Mokelumne Forest Resilience Bond (FRB), subject to a full match by East Bay Municipal Utility District and that UMRWA staff participated in the CA Wildfire Task Force’s March regional meeting in Jamestown by presenting and hosting a tour. The report concluded with an update on the progress being made to fully implement the FPP – Phase 1 program, including an outlook on funding and Table 1 – FPP Phase I Projects Contracted to Date.

During discussions of the general services agreements presented for award, Director Oneto requested that he receive all communications that the EO had with Blue Forest in development of the two Grant and Services agreements. The EO reviewed efforts since 2022 to maximize opportunities and encourage local contractor participation in UMRWA’s forest health work. Director Farrington asked about the higher Buena Vista

Rancheria contract rate and the EO explained tribal government-to-government contracts are exempt from bidding and are encouraged by the State.

The EO noted that Agenda Item 7 will consider changes to UMRWA's Procurement Policy to increase the local contractor preference, but he recommended that the Board approve the recommended contracts which were solicited, reviewed and scored based on the existing Procurement Policy. Authority Counsel stated that not awarding contracts based on the Procurement Policy in place during the time of bid solicitation could lead to a protest or challenge a board decision. The Board agreed to move forward with current recommended contracts and revisit the procurement policy as part of Agenda Item 7 later in the meeting.

Public comment: John Heisnbuttle objected to awarding contracts to non-local firms, noting that two local bidders were below the estimated cost for this work. He also noted the information provided in the meeting agenda package that less than \$1M of \$25M in forest health grant funds went to local contractors. He argued UMRWA should prioritize local economic benefits per the UMRWA's Joint Powers Agreement.

Director Farrington noted Amador Water Agency's \$10k contribution (matched by EBMUD) and urged others to participate before the June 30 deadline. Directors Davidson, Oneto, and Hesser will brief their boards.

**Copies of the General Services Agreements with Thompson Land Management, VM West, GTS Forestry, Buena Vista Rancheria and Grants and Services Agreements with Blue Forest Conservation were included in the Supplemental Materials Packet.*

- 1) **Motion 07-26** to (1) approve and authorize the Executive Officer (EO) to sign a General Services Agreement in the amount of \$1,615,565 with Thompson Land Management (TLM) to perform the Dogwood North fuels treatment projects (bid items 1 and 2), (2) approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement in the amount of \$581,427 with VM West to perform the Dogwood Central fuels treatment project (bid item 3), (3) approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement with GTS Forestry in the amount of \$367,225 to perform the Dogwood Central fuels treatment project (bid item 4), (4) approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement with the Buena Vista Rancheria (BVR) in the amount of \$400,000 to perform fuels reduction treatments to approximately 175 acres in the Birch BVR-1 Project, and authorize the EO to issue a change order to BVR for an additional amount up to 30% of the agreement amount to treat additional project acres (5) approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign two Grant and Services Agreements with Blue Forest Conservation in the amounts of \$1,143,708 for completed Arbor, Birch and Hwy 88 East Project treatments, and \$2,007,840 for to-be-completed Dogwood Project treatments was made by Director Davidson, seconded by Director Farrington, and carried by voice vote: Yea 7 – Nay 1 (Oneto) – Abstain 0.

4. Phase 2 - MAC Forest Health and Resilience Project Report

UMRWA Project Manager/MAC (Megan Layhee) provided the Board with a summary of the Mokelumne Amador Calaveras Forest Health and Resilience Project (MAC Project) status and presented the basis for the recommended increase to the Consulting Services Agreement for avian surveys in the Eldorado and Stanislaus National Forests.

MAC Forest Project Status:

The USFS is taking the lead in responding to public comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and completing the Final EIS. Eldorado NF

and Stanislaus NF project decisions are expected to be signed in April or May 2026 and once signed, UMRWA will begin CEQA compliance, anticipated to be completed by Summer 2026. The UMRWA MAC Implementation Work Plan (a 10-year plan identifying and sequencing priority treatment areas and future maintenance, including FPP-1 areas) is anticipated to be developed by Fall 2026.

The ENF and SNF each requested that UMRWA initiate required avian surveys which must precede any thinning and fuels treatment work authorized under the MAC EIS. UMRWA staff conducted a Request for Qualifications process and established a ranked list of best qualified consulting firms. The EO signed an agreement with Summit West Environmental to initiate the surveys and the Board's approval of the additional \$597,447 was requested to compensate SWCA for completion of the avian survey tasks. Funding for this work is fully provided by the USFS through existing UMRWA Stewardship Agreements.

Several board members expressed concern that the required two years of avian surveys will delay MAC project implementation and increase costs. The EO noted that these are required but there is an option for one-year surveys that could be considered by the two forests. The Board discussed potential advocacy efforts regarding the survey requirements, including agency members sending letters to Congress and adding this topic to future meetings with congressional representatives.

**A copy of the Summit West Environmental agreement was included in the Supplemental Materials Packet.*

Motion 08-26 to (1) approve a \$597,447 increase to the March 12, 2026 Summit West Environmental, Inc. Consulting Services Agreement for avian surveys in the Eldorado and Stanislaus National Forests and (2) approve the ranked list of best qualified avian survey consulting firms was made by Director Davidson, seconded by Director Farrington, and carried by a voice vote: Yea 8 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

5. Amador Aspen Restoration Project Approval

The EO shared that UMRWA has been overseeing the planning, design, and permitting of the Amador Aspen Restoration Project, which will restore five clusters of aspen stands, totaling up to 604 acres. The Aspen Restoration Project is categorically exempt from CEQA because it involves minor fuel reduction and vegetation management activities, including prescribed fire applications, with no expansion of use and no removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

Motion 09-26 to (1) approve the Amador Aspen Restoration Project and (2) confirm staff's determination that the Aspen Restoration Project is exempt from CEQA and authorize staff to file a Notice of Exemption with the CA Office of Planning and Research and Amador County, El Dorado County and Calaveras County Clerks, and (3) authorize staff to pursue grants for implementation treatments was made by Director Davidson, by Director Hesser, and carried by voice vote: Yea 8 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

6. Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget

The EO shared the proposed FY 2027 budget information with notable new items, including Authority-funded treatments, reflecting the increased capacity required by UMRWA's forest health program. The total member-supported portion of the proposed budget was \$370,810, an \$8,500 increase over the current fiscal year budget. Also presented were the in-kind Member contributions and a \$158,500 allocation of projected FY 2026 indirect revenues. Program work activities planned for FY 2027, and

the changes in recommended funding over the current budget amounts were summarized.

Director Farrington proposed that the board create an Ad Hoc Committee to work with staff on MAC implementation funding. After discussion, the board agreed that Directors Oneto and Farrington would receive regular updates on the MAC implementation plan progress including the funding strategy.

Motion 10-26 to endorse the proposed FY 2027 UMRWA budget and authorize staff to transmit the proposed budget to Member Agencies for review and comment was made by Director Oneto, seconded by Director Andhal, and carried by a voice vote: Yea 8 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

7. Procurement Policy Amendment

The EO presented the Board with a recommendation to amend the UMRWA's Procurement Policy and Procedure, authorizing a two-step contracting process and to consider increasing the preference applied to the scoring evaluation for Local Service Providers from 5% to 8%.

The Board discussed the possibilities of local and small business preferences and alternative approaches. UMRWA's procurement policies are based on the laws of its member agencies, which currently offer limited flexibility for small and local business categories. Authority Counsel shared the complexity of this matter and recommended leaving it within the proposed percentage increase. The EO reviewed the history of actions taken to try to support local businesses and reaffirmed that UMRWA staff share the goal of the Board to support local contractors and are working to find new ways to accommodate.

Public Comment: John Heisnbuttle recommended UMRWA look hard at its procurement policies and stated this is more complicated than the percentage rate.

Motion 11-26 to (1) approve the amended Procurement Policy and Procedure (Policy 4) to authorize the practice of a two-step contracting process and to change the five percent local preference percentage to eight percent with a maximum benefit cap of \$250,000, and (2) continue working on the procurement policy with the intention of supporting local contractors was made by Director Farrington, seconded by Director Smith, and carried by a voice vote: Yea 8 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

8. Substitute Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Project

The Authority was notified in December 2025 that the Calaveras Public Utility District could not complete the Jeff Davis Water Treatment Plant Backwash Recycle Project with the grant funding available. CPUD has proposed a replacement project, the Rich Gulch Waterline Replacement Project, which will replace a failing segment of the primary potable water transmission line located in the Rich Gulch area. CPUD Director Hesser provided a brief summary of CPUD's projects and encouraged adoption of the resolution.

Motion 12-26 to adopt Resolution No. 2026-01 requesting the substitution of the Rich Gulch Waterline Replacement Project for funding under the CA Department of Water Resources (DWR) IRWM grant agreement number 4600014982 and authorize the Executive Officer, or designee, to execute the DWR grant agreement amendment, and perform any and all work required to fulfill the grant requirements was made by Director Farrington, seconded by Director Oneto, and carried by voice vote: Yea 8 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

9. Audited Financials – FY 2025 and FY 2024

East Bay Municipal Utility District, whose Controller serves as the Authority's Treasurer, maintains the Authority's financial records. The Authority's financial records for the years ending September 30, 2025 and 2024 have been audited by the independent accounting firm Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP. This year's audit was presented in the document titled Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority Basic Financial Statements - Fiscal Years Ending September 30, 2025 and 2024.

Authority Controller David Glasser shared that an RFP has been processed, and a new auditor will be used for the next audit session.

**A copy of the Basic Financial Statements report was included in the Supplemental Materials Packet.*

Motion 13-26 to accept the Financial Statements for the years ending September 30, 2025, and 2024 as submitted was made by Director Garamendi, seconded by Director Hesser and carried by a voice vote: Yea 8 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

Legislative Issues Update

The EO's report included brief summaries of three bills including AB 35, Alvarez, which provides an administrative fix to allow Proposition 4 (2024) grant programs to fully proceed, and HR 582 and SB 3609 with are identical House of Representatives and Senate bills titled the *Community Protection and Wildfire Resilience Act*.

Board Member Comments:

Director Andahl thanked staff for the CA Wildfire Task Force field tour on March 20.

Executive Officer (EO) Comments:

The EO announced that Megan Layhee will assume the role of Administrative Officer in FY27, with Rob Alcott transitioning to a Planning Manager position. He reminded the Board of the upcoming Amador County Community Wildfire Protection Plan tour at the end of the month and reported that Cal Fire is conducting an audit of the Dogwood project, with staff beginning support work in May. Cal Fire also plans to produce promotional videos showcasing the forest health program along the Highway 88 corridor.

ADJOURNMENT: Director Woodrow adjourned the meeting at 12:14 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on July 24, 2026, at McLean Hall, Pardee Center, Valley Springs.

SUBMITTED BY:

Lorna Barfield, Authority Secretary

Terry Woodrow, Chair of the Board
APPROVED: July 24, 2026



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **2**

Meeting Date: July 24, 2026

Title:

Treasurer's Report (2nd Quarter FY 2026)

Recommended Actions:

Accept Treasurer's Report for filing.

Summary:

A copy of the Treasurer's Report for the 2nd Quarter of fiscal year 2026, which ended March 31, 2026, will be presented at the Board meeting.

UPPER MOKELUMNE RIVER WATERSHED AUTHORITY
TREASURER'S REPORT
STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 2026

<i>Fiscal Year 2026 (beginning Oct. 1, 2025)</i>	Assessment, Grants & USFS	Budget FY 2026	Actual		
			Current Quarter	YTD	YTD %
<u>General Assessments & Operating Revenue</u>					
Amador Agencies Funding	35,963	35,963	-	35,963	100%
Calaveras Agencies Funding	42,461	42,461	-	42,461	100%
EBMUD Funding	77,076	77,076	-	77,076	100%
Member Agencies Contribution	155,500	155,500	-	155,500	100%
Interest/Misc income	-	-	29,675	73,504	
Applied Operating Reserve (Adjusted FY2026 Reserves Bal. \$1,359,672)	150,000	150,000	-	-	0%
Misc Revenue	150,000	150,000	29,675	73,504	49%
Total Assessments & Operations Funding	305,500	305,500	29,675	229,004	75%
<u>IRWM Grant Funding</u>					
CPUD - Jeff Davis WTP	563,934	563,934	-	-	0%
<u>Forestry/Watershed Funding</u>					
Sierra Nevada Conservancy - RFFCP #1701	168,696	168,696	25,088	25,088	15%
Sierra Nevada Conservancy - #1636 (FPP1 - Birch & Hwy 88 East Projects)	1,942,735	1,942,735	46,219	332,370	17%
Sierra Nevada Conservancy - #1646 (FPP2 - MAC Forest Plan)	171,605	171,605	13,952	18,629	11%
CalFire Grant #1 (8GG21607) - Hwy 88 Project	26,490	26,490	26,490	26,490	100%
CalFire Grant #2 (8GG22614) - Arbor Project	3,962,367	3,962,367	853,673	853,673	22%
CalFire Grant #3 (8GT24607) - Dogwood Project	4,164,440	4,164,440	60,837	60,837	1%
Wildlife Conservation Board #1 (WC2262CR) - Aspen Project	159,298	159,298	67,928	38,936	24%
Wildlife Conservation Board #2 (WC2517JS) - Cedar Project w/MAC Support)	3,635,310	3,635,310	213,365	213,365	6%
USFS Eldorado NF Stewardship Agreement (24-SA-11050300-018)	850,000	850,000	-	-	0%
USFS Stanislaus NF MSA Supplemental Project Agreement (21-SA-11051600-003)	135,000	135,000	94,442	94,442	70%
USFS Stanislaus NF Stewardship Agreement (25-SA-11051600-008)	450,000	450,000	1,208	1,208	0%
Total Grants and Other Funding	16,229,875	16,229,875	1,307,552	1,569,388	10%
TOTAL REVENUES & FUNDING	16,535,375	16,535,375	1,337,227	1,798,392	11%
<u>ASSESSMENT EXPENDITURES</u>					
<u>General Assessment (Administration)</u>					
Executive Officer		75,000	14,401	21,723	29%
Administrative Officer		75,000	29,667	43,107	57%
Project Manager (Includes \$10,000 carry-forward)		20,000	4,629	6,785	34%
Streamline Website (\$1,680) & GoogleDocs (\$820 est)		2,500	1,176	1,202	48%
SDRMA Insurance (\$5,600 est) & CSDA Membership (\$1,398)		7,000	-	1,398	20%
Mountain Counties Water Resources Assn.		2,000	-	-	0%
<u>General Assessment (Operations)</u>					
MLLT - STE Watershed Program CY 2024		16,500	4,584	4,584	28%
Inter-agency Liaison & Board Support (LEI, Inc)		10,000	-	280	3%
Forest Project Development, Grant Applications & Procurement (LEI, Inc)		60,000	-	70	0%
Forest Projects & MAC Plan Support (LEI, Inc)		40,000	2,187	2,187	5%
CHIPS (BF grant) Project Support (LEI, Inc) (All carry-forward FY 2025)		8,722	1,394	2,604	30%
CHIPS (BF grant) Cedar Fuels Treatment Project (All carry-forward FY 2025)		61,325	146	61,471	100%
ACCG Administration/Support (Includes \$12,500 carry-forward)		20,000	-	-	0%
TOTAL ASSESSMENT EXPENDITURES (Includes \$92,547 total carry-forward)		398,047	58,184	145,411	37%
<u>GRANT and FORESTRY/WATERSHED FUNDING EXPENDITURES</u>					
<u>DWR Prop 1 Grant - Round 2</u>					
CPUD - Jeff Davis WTP		566,225	-	-	0%
Woodard & Curran - invoicing & reporting		7,550	1,155	1,155	15%
<u>WCB - Aspen Restoration Project</u>					
Landmark Environmental Inc.		95,405	32,366	32,366	34%
Institute For Bird Populations		23,453	9,347	9,347	40%
Stringer Biological Consulting, Inc		910	-	910	100%
Other - TBD		29,089	-	-	0%
<u>CalFire Grant #1 (8GG21607 - Hwy 88)</u>					
Landmark Environmental Inc.		150,000	8,329	23,052	15%
BurnBot - Dell'Orto		29,600	4,800	(24,800)	-84%
<u>CalFire Grant #2 (8GG22614 - Arbor)</u>					
Landmark Environmental		300,000	66,325	85,808	29%
Markit! (Arbor 1)		1,234,643	-	65,469	5%
GTS Forestry (Arbor 2)		1,403,369	-	506,183	36%
GTS Forestry (Arbor 3)		594,754	-	23,963	4%
Uncommitted - Cal Fire #2		381,071	-	-	0%
Megan Layhee (MAC Forest Plan)		14,625	-	-	0%
Executive Officer (MAC Forest Plan)		14,461	-	-	0%
<u>SNC - #1701 (Capacity/ACCG Support)</u>					
Char Sarkis (ACCG Admin)		8,615	4,791	6,613	77%
Liam Walsh (Tribal Liaison)		54,017	11,095	17,465	32%
Ty McCarthy (Monitoring Coordinator)		61,989	5,397	11,171	18%
Megan Layhee (Project Management)		5,814	181	3,726	64%
Landmark Environmental (FPP1 Ground Truth & Project Portfolio)		1,499	3,452	3,601	240%

SNC - #1636 (Birch & Hwy 88 East)					
Stewardship West		234,570	11,420	19,964	9%
Landmark Environmental		64,000	-	-	0%
Pyramid - Botanical ((Hwy 88 E contract - \$19,525)		8,129	-	-	0%
Redding Tree Growers (Birch 1)		92,364	-	314,568	341%
GTS Forestry (Birch 2)		213,052	-	-	0%
Washoe Tribe (Hwy 88 East)		46,500	-	-	0%
SNC - #1646 (MAC Forest Project)					
Megan Layhee (MAC Forest Plan)		21,500	10,609	17,687	82%
Landmark Environmental		1,000	167	240	24%
WCB #2 - WC2517JS (Cedar Project w/MAC Plan Support)					
Landmark Environmental		250,052	16,036	28,661	11%
Stantec		162,991	100,232	100,232	61%
Executive Officer (MAC Forest Project)		19,893	-	7,403	37%
Megan Layhee (Task 1 - Project Management)		19,310	492	1,138	6%
Megan Layhee (Task 4 - MAC Forest Project)		28,741	2,070	2,070	7%
Chuck Loffland - Biologist		16,531	11,245	12,505	76%
Pyramid - Botanical (Contract \$39,725)		7,000	-	-	0%
Washoe - Cedar		80,175	-	80,175	
Thompson Land Management (Cedar North)		1,394,073	-	-	
GTS Forestry (Cedar South)		1,346,510	-	-	0%
CalFire #3 (8GT24607 - Dogwood)					
SW/LEI, et al (Tasks 1 & 2)		565,666	20,007	53,150	9%
Megan Layhee (Project Management)		29,534	1,610	2,326	8%
Pyramid - Botanical (Contract \$33,616)		33,616	-	-	0%
Treatments		2,797,300	-	-	0%
MAC Project		359,790	-	-	0%
Eldorado NF Stewardship Agreement					
Project Management - ENF Bird Survey		85,000	1,409	1,409	2%
Consultant for ENF Bird Survey		765,000	-	-	0%
Stanislaus NF MSA Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA)					
Project Management (R. Sykes)		15,000	12,308	12,308	82%
Consultant Services (incl Stantec Cultural Resources)		120,000	85,075	85,075	71%
Stanislaus NF Stewardship Agreement					
Project Management - SNF Bird Survey		45,000	1,208	1,208	3%
Consultant for SNF Bird Survey		405,000	-	-	0%
TOTAL GRANT EXPENDITURES		14,709,013	421,126	1,506,148	10%
Total Project Expenses		15,107,060	479,310	1,651,559	11%

Prepared by _____
Johnny Wong

Date

-

-

Reviewed by _____
Matt Houck

Date

Approved by _____
David Glasser

Date



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **3**

Meeting Date: July 24, 2026

Title:

Approve FY 2026 Budget Amendment

Recommended Actions:

1) Approve an amendment to the FY 2026 Budget to add \$60,000 to the Authority Administration budget, and authorize transfer of \$60,000 from Reserves (current balance is \$1,359,672) to fund the budget amendment.

Summary:

This agenda item recommends acceptance of the one budget-related action, which is to amend the current year budget to add \$60,000 from the UMRWA Reserve fund to fund unplanned costs for additional staff labor required by various activities related to MAC planning. Staff costs to complete planning for MAC and prepare the Implementation Work Plan have been greater than anticipated over the past year.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **4**

Meeting Date: July 24, 2026

Title:

Phase 1 - Forest Projects Plan Implementation Report

Recommended Actions:

- 1) Approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement in the amount of \$630,433 with GTS Forestry to perform Dogwood West (bid item 5) fuels treatment project.
- 2) Approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement in the amount of \$860,992 with Krisman Enterprises to perform Dogwood West (bid item 6) fuels treatment project.

Summary:

This Phase 1 Implementation Report presents two general services agreements for two fuels treatment projects. Also presented is a brief update on the progress being made to implement the Phase 1 - Forest Projects Plan (FPP-1) program.

Fuels Treatment Contracts for Dogwood West Project:

Two general services agreements are recommended for Board approval. The \$630,433 GTS agreement will execute prescribed treatments in the 309.8-acre Dogwood West (bid item 5) Project. The \$860,992 Krisman Enterprises agreement will accomplish fuels treatments to the 305.1-acre Dogwood West (bid item 6) Project. Both projects are fully funded by Cal Fire grant agreement #3.

The two recommended contractors were among the most highly qualified group of eight contractors as determined by the UMRWA RFQ process completed in 2025. Five of those eight short-listed contractors submitted cost and schedule proposals for the two subject Dogwood West Project bid items. GTS and Krisman Enterprises were the best qualified contractors to perform the Dogwood West treatments based on qualification and price. The determination of best qualified contractors was made as described below.

- a. A Qualifications score was calculated based on an average of the evaluation scores the Contractor received on the non-price criteria (qualifications and experience, equipment, and references) considered in UMRWA's evaluation of Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) submitted in response to the Authority's July 2025 Request for Qualifications (RFQ). The sum of the non-price evaluation scores was divided by three to calculate an average Qualifications score. The Qualifications score had a weight of 50%; and
- b. A Price score was calculated by dividing the lowest submitted Extended Price by the Proposer's Extended Price, multiplied by 100. The Price score had a weight of 50%.
- c. Local Contractors received an 8% preference applied to their total score.

For the Dogwood West (bid item 6) Project, Krisman Enterprises and Thompson Land Management had equal scores. The recommendation for award to Krisman Enterprises was made to spread the work out to more contractors as Thompson Land Management is already under agreement with UMRWA to perform fuels treatments for the Dogwood North and Cedar North Projects.

Copies of the recommended Agreements for GTS Forestry and Krisman Enterprises are included in the July 24, 2026 Agenda Supplemental Materials Packet.

Mokelumne Forest Resilience Bond Update:

Blue Forest, UMRWA and USFS staff will be hosting a tour for current and prospective participants in the Upper Mokelumne Forest Resilience Bond (FRB) on the afternoon of July 24, 2026 following the UMRWA Board Meeting. With an anticipated tightening in available state grant funding for forest health projects, continuing financial support from the Upper Mokelumne FRB will have an increasingly significant impact on the Authority's FPP-1 implementation efforts.

FPP – Phase 1 Implementation Status:

The Board's January 2023 approval of the 26,000-acre Forest Projects Plan - Phase 1 (FPP-1) marked the beginning of UMRWA's FPP-1 fuels treatment program. Shortly thereafter UMRWA and Eldorado NF staff worked collaboratively to develop the FPP-1 Implementation Work Plan (IWP). The IWP ranks and sequences mechanical and hand fuels reduction treatment projects across the Phase 1 footprint. The IWP was updated in March 2025 to recognize treatment projects then underway and to reflect UMRWA having secured funding to treat nearly half of the total FPP-1 project area. [See Table 4-2 – FPP Phase 1 Projects Contracted to Date]

In the program's first two full years (through the end of the 2025 work season), UMRWA contractors have treated more than 6,600 of those acres, with 4,588 acres treated in 2025. In November 2025, UMRWA completed the 2,348-acre Hwy 88 project. This was the first implementation project initiated under the FPP-1 Implementation Work Plan.

For the current 2026 season, UMRWA has the following projects under contract. The acre amounts shown in Table 4-1 are the number of project acres remaining to be treated (rather than the total contracted acres).

Table 4-1 – Project Acres Remaining to Be Treated

Project	Contractor	Acres	Status
Arbor 1	Markit!	655	Contracted
Arbor 2	GTS Forestry	913	"
Birch 2	GTS Forestry	144	Contracted
Birch – Hwy 88 E	Washoe Tribe	9	"
Birch BVR-1	Buena Vista Rancheria	175	"
Cedar North	Thompson Land	614	Contracted
Cedar South	GTS Forestry	744	"
Dogwood North 1&2	Thompson Land	1,042	Contracted
Dogwood Central 3	VM West	361	"
Dogwood Central 4	GTS Forestry	338	"
Dogwood West 5	TBD	309	Award Today
Dogwood West 6	TBD	301	"
		5,605	

Table 4-2 -FPP-1 Projects Contracted to Date

Project	Contractor	Contract (or Grant budget) Amount	Contract Expires	Total Acres	Funding (Expires)	Total Grant Award
Hwy 88	Burnbot	\$3,672,000	10/31/2025	2,348.7	Cal Fire #1 (3/31/26)	\$4,999,967
Arbor 1	Markit!	\$1,341,429	11/15/2027	812.8	Cal Fire #2 (3/30/29)	\$6,999,934
Arbor 2	GTS Forestry	\$2,860,158	11/15/2027	1,483.1	Cal Fire #2 (3/30/29)	"
Arbor 3	GTS Forestry	\$682,541	11/15/2027	766.9	Cal Fire #2 (3/30/29)	"
Birch 1	Redding Tree	\$940,959	11/15/2027	1,117.6	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)	\$4,739,056
Birch 2	GTS Forestry	\$718,551	11/15/2027	486	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)	"
Hwy 88 East	Redding Tree	\$1,578,677	12/15/2026	1,446.6	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)	"
Hwy 88 East	Washoe Tribe	\$46,500	12/15/2026	9.3	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)	"
Birch BVR-1	Buena Vista Rancheria	\$398,130	11/15/2026	175.8	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)	
Cedar - Washoe	Washoe Tribe	\$80,175	12/15/2026	10.5	WCB #2 (3/31/28)	\$3,986,000
Cedar - North	Thompson Land	\$1,394,073	11/15/2027	614.4	WCB #2 (3/31/28)	"
Cedar - South	GTS Forestry	\$1,346,510	11/15/2027	734	WCB #2 (3/31/28)	"
Cedar - Chips	CHIPS	\$85,250	12/15/2026	15.5	Blue Forest	\$100,000
Dogwood N 1&2	Thompson Land	\$1,615,565	11/15/2027	1042.3	Blue Forest	\$2,089,275
Dogwood C 4	GTS Forestry	\$377,225	11/15/2027	338.3	Blue Forest	"
Dogwood C 3	VM West	\$581,427	11/15/2027	361.8	Cal Fire #3 (3/31/30)	\$4,293,399
Dogwood W 5	TBD	\$998,950	11/15/2027	309.8	Cal Fire #3 (3/31/30)	"
Dogwood W 6	TBD	\$983,795	11/15/2027	305.1	Cal Fire #3 (3/31/30)	"
		\$19,701,915		12378.5		\$27,207,631



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **5**

Meeting Date: July 24, 2026

Title:

Phase 2 - MAC Forest Health and Resilience Project Report

Recommended Actions:

None

Summary:

The Mokelumne Amador Calaveras Forest Health and Resilience Project (MAC Project) Records of Decision were signed by the Stanislaus and Eldorado National Forests on April 16, 2026. UMRWA is currently in the process of developing the MAC CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) and Implementation Work Plan, and both are anticipated to be completed by the end of 2026. The project status is summarized below. UMRWA anticipates applying for grant funds to initiate MAC Project implementation late this year or early next year.

MAC Forest Project Status:

The MAC Project proposed actions include approximately 67,000 acres of forest thinning, 50,000 acres of fuels reduction, 22,000 acres of fuel break construction and prescribed fire proposed across the 247,000-acre project area. The USFS used new NEPA regulations that allowed for analyzing just the proposed action and no-action alternatives, and no additional alternatives, and also authorized a more streamlined comment opportunity for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) instead of the previous standard formal 45-day public comment period. There were substantial comments received during this comment period, including significant support for the project, but also concerns over environmental issues related to the scale of the project and potential for impacts to some sensitive species and habitats. The USFS led the effort to respond to comments on the DEIS and subsequently signed and published the Eldorado and Stanislaus NF Records of Decisions and Final EIS on April 16, 2026.

UMRWA had begun CEQA compliance for the MAC Project proposed actions. MAC CEQA will use the same exemption process that was used for the FPP-1 however, the exemption documentation may impose additional management actions beyond those included in the MAC Records of Decision. These management actions will aim to moderate short-term impacts to sensitive species such as spotted owls with no significant reduction in high-severity risk reduction at the landscape scale. The CEQA exemption is planned for UMRWA Board consideration at the October 23 Board Meeting. Development of the UMRWA MAC Implementation Work Plan is in progress and intended to identify and sequence the first approximately 20,000 acres of priority treatment areas and future maintenance (including for the FPP-1 area). UMRWA expects its team to conduct the prioritization analysis. The plan is also intended to identify pre-implementation layout and ground-truthing needs, resource survey requirements, and outline a funding strategy for the implementation work. The plan is anticipated to be developed by late 2026 or early 2027.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **6**

Meeting Date: July 24, 2026

Title:

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget

Recommended Actions:

Approve the Fiscal Year 2027 UMRWA budget and authorize staff to transmit invoices to Member Agencies requesting payment of FY 2027 assessments by October 31, 2026.

Summary:

This proposed FY 2027 budget, with notable new items including Authority funded treatments, reflects the increased capacity required by UMRWA's forest health program.

Background:

In July 2023 the Board approved the FPP-1 implementation strategy and set 4,000 acres as UMRWA's annual forest treatments goal. Since then, the Authority has secured more than \$25M in grant funding and awarded contracts to operators to treat a total 11,598 acres. The implications of UMRWA's intensified forest stewardship efforts are evident in the Authority's financial condition. UMRWA's recent revenue and expenditure profile has grown nearly ten-fold, and the Reserves balance, which is up three-fold, will continue to grow for as long as UMRWA collects indirect fee revenues from grants it is awarded.

Table 6-1 – Revenue And Expenditures

End of Fiscal Year	Total Revenues	Total Expenditures	Reserves Balance
2022	\$1,046,556	\$906,793	\$453,826
2023	\$1,004,728	\$1,177,720	\$428,217
2024	\$3,368,955	\$3,215,676	\$311,027
2025	\$9,678,118	\$9,390,160	\$482,799
2026	Tbd	Tbd	\$1,359,672

Further implications for UMRWA's budget result from \$3,151,548 in contributions to the UMRWA FPP-1 program made available from Blue Forest's agreements with Amazon to partially offset its water resource demands.

Future funding will largely influence UMRWA and the USFS seeing the MAC Project realized. The State will hopefully continue to provide funding for organizations like UMRWA to serve as the front-line expeditors of forest restoration. To effectively compete for these grant and other funding opportunities UMRWA and the USFS must continue having a broadly supported strategic program with prioritized shovel-ready projects. This will require continued collaboration with the ACCG, tribes and other stakeholders as well as UMRWA maintaining the tactical and technical expertise to conduct a large landscape forest health program. The fiscal year 2027 budget presented below has been developed with the intention of maintaining the Authority's investment-ready status and achieving the highest level of competitiveness for future funding.

Proposed FY 2027 Budget:

The proposed FY 2027 budget is presented in Table 6-2 below. The total member-supported portion of the proposed budget is \$386,462, which is a \$24,152 increase (including increased in-kind costs for Accounting and Authority Secretary support contributions) over to the current fiscal year budget. Presented in Table 2 are member funding offsets. These are in-kind Member contributions and a \$170,000 allocation from Unrestricted Reserves (an \$8,500 increase over the current year). Resulting Member Agency funding allocations and assessment amounts, which are almost unchanged from the current fiscal year, are shown in Table 3.

The budget is organized into the Authority's four primary Member funded program areas. Program work activities planned for FY 2027, and the changes in recommended funding over current budget amounts, are summarized below.

- a. Increase funding to Board and Authority administration by \$5,000 to \$174,000.
- b. Increase funding support for the local school watershed education program by \$3,500 to \$20,000.
- c. Reduce from \$120,000 to \$100,000 the Member Fund contribution to costs associated with the forest health grant proposals, plus funding for UMRWA's Forest Projects Plan – Phase 2 activities not covered by grants.
- d. Add \$1,110,000 of Restricted Reserves to fund treatment projects, and program-related support positions (Forest Program Manager, Tribal Liaison, ACCG Administrator, Monitoring Coordinator, Contracts Specialist, GIS Support, and Biologist).
- e. Maintain at \$0 the funding for IRWM-related tasks requiring Member funding. (Note: The next IRWA funding round of \$96 million from Prop 4 is expected in FY 2028).

Table 6-2 – Member Agency Budget – Fiscal Year 2027 (begins Oct. 1, 2026)

Programs	Categories	Member & Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Reserve Fund	Program Total
Board and Authority Administration	Executive Officer	72,000		174,000
	Administrative Officer	25,000		
	Planning Officer	60,000		
	Website and On-line Doc System	6,500		
	CSDA and SDRMA Insurance	7,500		
	MCWRA membership and other			
	Direct Expenses	3,000		
Watershed Education	Public school program (STE)	20,000		20,000
Forest Health	Grant Applications	60,000		1,230,000
	MAC Implementation	60,000		
	UMRWA Treatment Projects		\$900,000	
	Forest Program Manager		\$75,000	
	GIS Support (AP)		\$25,000	
	Contract Specialist (PF)		\$10,000	
	Partnership Coordinator (RM)		\$20,000	
	Monitoring Coordinator (TM)		\$20,000	
	Tribal Liaison (LW)		\$20,000	
	Biologist (CL)		\$20,000	
	ACCG Administrator (CS)		\$20,000	
IRWM	No member funded FY27 activity	0		0
TOTAL BUDGET		\$314,000	\$1,110,000	\$1,424,000

Table 6-3 – FY 2027 MEMBER AGENCY FUNDING OFFSETS

Member assessments	As required by the above Proposed Fiscal Year Budget	\$314,000
In-kind contributions (Per FY 2025 \$\$ amounts)	Authority Legal Counsel \$6,500 (Amador County) Accounting (\$30,997), annual audit (\$5,886) and Authority Secretary (\$29,079) (EBMUD)	\$72,462
	TOTAL MEMBER SUPPORTED BUDGET =	\$386,462
Indirect Fee Allocation	Apply portion of Unrestricted Reserves as supplemental operating revenue	(\$170,000)
	REQUIRED FY27 MEMBER ASSESSMENT FUNDING =	\$216,462

Table 6-4 – FY 2027 MEMBER FUNDING ALLOCATIONS & ASSESSMENTS

Formula % Share	Member Agency %	Proposed FY 2027 Allocation	In-Kind Credit	Proposed FY 2027 Assessment	Actual FY 2026 Assessment
Amador Entities 20%	Amador County – 9.2%	19,915	(6,500)	13,415	13,033
	Amador Water Agency – 9.2%	19,915	0	19,915	19,533
	Jackson Valley ID – 1.6%	3,463	0	3,463	3,397
Calaveras Entities 20%	Calaveras County – 6.0%	12,988	0	12,988	12,738
	Calaveras County WD – 9.6%	20,780	0	20,780	20,381
	Calaveras PUD – 4.4%	9,524	0	9,524	9,342
EBMUD	EBMUD – 60%	129,877	(65,962)	63,915	77,076
TOTAL		\$216,462	(\$72,462)	\$144,000	\$155,500



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: 7

Meeting Date: July 24, 2026

Title:

Consulting Services Agreements with UMRWA Support Personnel

Recommended Actions:

1. Approve an agreement with Richard Sykes to serve as the Authority's Executive Officer for the period October 1, 2026 through October 31, 2028, and authorize the Board Chair to sign the agreement.
2. Approve an agreement with Megan Layhee to serve as Authority Administrative Officer for the period October 1, 2026 through October 31, 2028, and authorize the Executive Officer to sign the agreement.
3. Approve an agreement with Rob Alcott to serve as Authority Planning Officer for the period October 1, 2026 through October 31, 2028, and authorize the Executive Officer to sign the agreement.
4. Approve the consulting services agreement with Landmark Environmental Inc. to provide support services for the period October 1, 2026 through October 31, 2028, and authorize the Executive Officer to sign the agreement.

Discussion:

The recommended two-year agreements with Richard Sykes, Megan Layhee, and Rob Alcott provide for Executive Officer, Administrative Officer, and Planning Officer services for the two years coinciding with the Authority's next two fiscal years beginning October 1, 2026. The agreements specify that Member Funded compensation shall not exceed funding allocated in the annual UMRWA budget. Also, as in past years, grant-funded compensation is to be paid by grant funds specifically allocated for grant-funded work tasks.

The recommended consulting services agreement with Landmark Environmental Inc. (LEI) will continue LEI's professional and administrative support to UMRWA's forestry program for another two years. Karen Quidachay and her complement of professional staff have been responsible for completing much of UMRWA's forestry work over recent years. The recommended agreement with LEI will make available the firm's continued support of UMRWA's forestry-related projects and programs. As in the current agreement, LEI's Member-funded costs are not to exceed the Board approved Member budget with all work to be authorized by Task Order issued by the Executive Officer. As in the prior agreements, grant-related work costs will not exceed the funding budgeted and available to LEI under applicable grants, nor exceed the amount authorized by the Authority's Executive Officer.

The recommended contracts exclude the provision that requires contractors to add UMRWA as an additional insured to the contractor's automobile policy. This requirement has previously been waived by the Board when approving these agreements in July 2022 and July 2024. This waiver has been granted because insurance carriers do not, as an established business practice, provide additional insured endorsements to personal automobile policies.

Copies of the recommended Agreements for Richard Sykes, Megan Layhee, Rob Alcott and Landmark Environmental Inc. are included in the July 24, 2026 Agenda Supplemental Materials Packet.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **8**

Meeting Date: July 24, 2026

Title:

Biennial Review Conflict of Interest Code

Recommendation:

Authorize the Authority Secretary to file the Biennial Notice with the Fair Political Practices Commission indicating one amendment to the UMRWA Conflict-of-Interest Code is required.

Summary:

The Authority's Conflict of Interest Code was approved by the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) on March 7, 2022 and became effective April 6, 2022. The California Political Reform Act requires every multi-county agency to review its conflict-of-interest code biennially and submit a Biennial Notice to the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) by October 1 that indicates whether the agency's code is accurate or whether it needs to be amended.

Review of UMRWA's adopted Conflict-of-Interest Code indicates one amendment is necessary; add the Planning Officer position to the Code's list of Designated Positions.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **9**

Meeting Date: July 24, 2026

Title:

Legislative Issues Update

Recommendation:

For discussion and possible action – legislative matters discussed by the Board

Summary:

No specific legislative matters are included in this staff report. At the Board meeting the EO may orally summarize any relevant legislative information that may be obtained prior to the Board meeting. Additionally, Board directors and/or agency staff may have legislation of interest and this agenda item is intended to facilitate discussion of it.