

EAST BAY DISCHARGERS AUTHORITY

RULES OF THE COMMISSION

March 2024

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EAST BAY DISCHARGERS AUTHORITY COMMISSION

RULES OF THE COMMISSION

The Commission of the East Bay Dischargers Authority (“EBDA”) adopts these Rules pursuant to Section 7(j) of the Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement dated July 1, 2020 (“Amended and Restated JPA”).

The Commission is the legislative body that governs EBDA and is accountable to the member agencies for the following actions:

- Establish policies for EBDA operations;
- Establish and oversee the EBDA's finances and its budgets, programs, and performance; and
- Provide the resources needed by staff to carry out EBDA policy.

These Rules are designed solely to facilitate the Commission’s conduct of its own meetings and proceedings. They are not intended to, and do not, create procedural or substantive rights in any person.

The Rules are subordinate to state and federal law.

RULE I. OFFICERS OF THE COMMISSION

- A. Chair. The Commission shall elect a Chair from among its members annually at the regular meeting in June. Until otherwise determined by the Commission, current Commission policy is to provide for the equitable rotation of the Chair position among members (see Resolution 99-11). The Chair typically will have served as the Vice-Chair the prior year.

The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Commission.

The Chair's duties shall include calling meetings to order, adjourning meetings, announcing the business before the Commission in order in which it is to be acted upon, recognizing members and non-members entitled to the floor, putting to vote all questions moved and seconded, announcing results of votes, maintaining the rules of order, executing documents on behalf of the Commission when duly approved for action, and such other powers and duties as are provided elsewhere in these Rules or delegated by the Commission. Subject to any statutory requirement otherwise, the Chair shall be entitled to exercise his or her full voting rights on all questions before the Commission and need not relinquish the chair to discuss a question before the Commission.

The Chair may appoint members of the Commission to standing and ad hoc committees of the Commission and may designate the chairs of such committees.

The Chair may also appoint members of the Commission to serve as the representative of EBDA to other groups and organizations, unless the law requires such appointments to be made by action of the full Commission.

- B. Vice-Chair. The Commission shall elect a Vice-Chair from among its members annually at the regular meeting in June.

The Vice-Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair in the Chair's absence or incapacity. In the case of a vacancy of the office of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall succeed to that office. In the case of a vacancy of the office of the Vice-Chairperson, an election shall be held at the next regular meeting to fill the vacancy.

- C. General Manager. The General Manager's duties and authority shall be as specified in Section 7(f) of the Amended and Restated JPA.
- D. Treasurer and Auditor. The Treasurer's and Auditor's duties and authority shall be as specified in Section 7(g) of the Amended and Restated JPA.
- E. Term. The term of officers shall be for one year commencing on July 1 of each and every Fiscal Year.

RULE II. MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION

A. Call of Meetings

1. Regular Meetings. The Commission will hold at least six regular meetings each year. The date upon which, and the hour and place at which each such regular meetings will be held, will be fixed by resolution of the Commission. The date and/or time of a particular regular meeting may be changed by the Commission as needed to accommodate scheduling conflicts, subject to the notice requirements in Rule II.B below.
2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Commission may be called by the Chair or by a majority of the members of the Commission¹. The notice of the meeting shall state the particular business to be conducted. The Commission may not consider other business at such meetings.
3. Emergency Meetings. The majority of the members of the Commission may call an emergency meeting in the case of an "emergency situation," as defined in the Brown Act.

- B. Notice of Meetings. A notice stating the time and place of the meeting shall be sent to each Commissioner no later than the time the agenda is required to be

¹ Special meetings may be called in accordance with Government Code Section 54956; weighted voting does not apply.

distributed by Rule II.C. If the date, time or place of a regular meeting is changed, notice of the change shall be sent at least 72 hours in advance of the regular meeting date or the rescheduled date, whichever is earlier, to each member and to all newspapers of general circulation and radio and television stations that have requested notice of meetings pursuant to the Brown Act.

- C. Regular Meeting Location. Unless otherwise specified, the Regular Meeting Location for the Commission shall be the Board Room of Oro Loma Sanitary District at 2655 Grant Ave. San Lorenzo.
- D. Agenda of Meetings. The General Manager shall prepare the agenda of all meeting of the Commission, in consultation with the Chair.

A copy of the agenda shall be posted in a location freely accessible to the public, EBDA's website, and delivered to each member, at least 72 hours before each regular meeting and at least 24 hours before each special meeting.

A copy of the agenda, and of all documents (other than those exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act) distributed to the members with the agenda, shall be available for public inspection at EBDA's office at least 72 hours before each regular meeting and at least 24 hours before each special meeting. A copy of the agenda and such supporting documents shall also be available for public review at the meeting.

- E. Meetings Open to the Public. All meetings of the Commission shall be open and public and conducted in accordance with the Brown Act.
- F. Order of Business. The Order of Business shall generally be as follows:

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Public Forum
- Consent Calendar
- Regular Calendar
- Reports
- Commissioners' Comments and/or Agenda Requests
- Closed Session (if any)
- Adjournment

A member may request that an item be taken out of order. The Chair may take any item out of order in response to a request by a member or on his or her own initiative, subject to the right of a member to appeal.

- G. Procedure.
 - 1. Role of Chair. Authority for conduct of meetings is assigned to the Chair, who shall be responsible for timely, fair and reasonable conduct

of the meeting's business. Decisions of the Chair on questions of procedure are final, except that any ruling may be appealed to a vote of the Commission.

In the event both the Chair and Vice-Chair are absent from a meeting which otherwise would constitute a quorum and a Chair pro tem was not designated by the Chair at the last regular meeting, any member may call the meeting to order and a chair pro tem may be elected by majority vote, as set forth in Section 7(c)(1) of the Amended and Restated JPA, to serve until the Chair or Vice-Chair is present. In such case, the Chair pro tem is authorized only to conduct meetings of the Commission pursuant to these Rules and is not authorized to add items to the Agenda for any meeting of the Commission or exercise any other duties of the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Commission.

2. Convening the Meeting and Quorum. A majority of the full Commission (or, in the absence of a member, that member's alternate) constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business. The Chair shall be responsible for ascertaining and announcing the presence of a quorum and the due convening of the meeting. In the event a majority of the Commission is not also a majority of the Commissioner and weighted voting calculations pursuant to Section 7(c)(1) of the Amended and Restated JPA, the Commission may convene and hold a meeting to receive reports and information, but it may not take action to approve any item.
3. Consent Calendar. Matters to be included on the Consent Calendar are those that are regularly presented to the Commission and are routine in nature, such as approval of minutes. All matters on the Consent Calendar may be acted upon by a single vote. Any Commission member may request that a matter on the Consent Calendar be removed for comment only, prior to a single vote on the entire Consent Calendar. If any member requests that a matter on the Consent Calendar be considered and acted upon separately, the matter shall be removed from the Consent Calendar. In the event a member of the public requests that a matter on the Consent Calendar be considered and acted upon separately, the Chair has full discretion to determine whether or not such matter shall be removed from the Consent Calendar. Such matters shall be separately considered immediately after approval of the remainder of the Consent Calendar, subject to the Chair's authority to take up the matter later in the meeting.
4. General Principles for Discussion or Debate. Discussion of any issue is subject to regulation by the Chair to assure adequate consideration of relevant points of view in the best interests of EBDA. The objectives of discussion are to:

- Determine the will of the Commission.
 - Assure sufficient discussion and consideration of issues so that all pertinent points of view are considered.
 - Maintain the dignity and decorum of the meeting so that each recognized speaker's views are made known to the members and to ensure that appropriate respect is accorded all members and the public.
 - Present the consideration of business in a manner understood by all participants.
5. Motions. The Commission prefers a flexible format for meetings and does not insist that its meetings be conducted strictly in accordance with formal rules of procedure. The conduct of the Commission's meetings will be informed by Robert's Rules of Order, but the Commission will not be obligated to strictly comply with Robert's Rules.

The following rules of motion practice are to be applied as a guide to the Chair in disposition of motions. If a member believes that adequate order is not being maintained or that the procedures being followed do not allow for adequate and orderly discussion of an item, the member may raise a point of order to the Chair. If the member is not satisfied with the ruling of the Chair, the member may appeal to the full Commission.

All matters requiring Commission action must be presented in the form of a motion. In order for a vote to be taken on a motion, the motion must be seconded by another member. When a motion has been made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Chair for consideration by the Commissioners.

In general, every agenda item requiring action will be presented with a written staff report and clear recommendation; however, action may be by motion and reflected in the minutes. In certain circumstances, statutory law requires Commission action by written resolution, such as matters related to CalPERS. Furthermore, in practice, the Commission may choose to adopt significant governing policies, such as a Reserve Policy and Procurement Policy, by written resolution. In each case, the Chair will call for a motion to adopt such action.

Under these Rules, motions should be limited to those set forth on the Chart of Motion Practice (Attachment 1). Motions on Attachment 1 are listed in order of precedence. When a motion is pending, any motion listed above it on the chart is in order, but those below it are out of order.

6. Voting. The affirmative vote of (a) three or more commissioners; and (b) greater than fifty percent of the weighted votes based on Maximum Flow Rate Capacity is required to adopt any action, including passing a main motion, except for unanimous or other special voting protocols as set forth in Sections 7(c)(2) and 7(c)(3) of the Amended and Restated JPA. A voice vote shall be taken first on all motions subject to weighted voting. If the voice vote is not unanimous, a roll call vote shall be taken.

A roll call shall be taken on the vote on all main motions associated with an ordinance or resolution and on any other motion when requested by a member. All votes will be recorded.

The number of votes assigned to each member for purposes of weighted voting is shown on Attachment 2.

7. Time Limit on Meetings. When a meeting of the Commission has lasted two and one quarter hours or more, no new item of business may be taken up for discussion or action unless the Commission votes to extend the meeting. This provision may be invoked by the Chair or any member. However, it has no effect on the validity of any action taken by the Commission unless and until it is invoked. Upon motion, items which were not completed within the allotted time may be continued as a future agenda item.
8. Adjournment. Upon completion of the meeting's agenda, or upon conclusion of a meeting pursuant to Rule II.G.7, the Chair shall adjourn the meeting. Adjournment may be accomplished by a motion or announcement of the Chair.
9. Minutes. The General Manager shall prepare minutes of each Commission meeting, which shall be submitted for action at a subsequent meeting. Minutes shall record the ayes and nays on roll call votes. Minutes should not include the text of ordinances and resolutions, which shall be maintained by the General Manager in separate volumes. Minutes are intended to be a record of Commission action and a brief summary of discussion; they should not be an exhaustive record of deliberation.

RULE III. COMMITTEES OF THE COMMISSION

- A. Standing Committees. The Commission may establish standing committees that have continuing jurisdiction over a particular subject matter, or a set meeting schedule pursuant to the Brown Act. Rules II.B, C, D, and E shall apply to all meetings of a standing committee. Until otherwise determined by the Commission, the current policy is that the physical presence at the Regular Meeting Location of a single Standing Committee member is sufficient to constitute a quorum (see Resolution 05-13). The Regular Meeting Location for

Committees shall be the EBDA Conference Room at 2651 Grant Ave. San Lorenzo.

Standing committees may include, but shall not be limited to the following:

1. Financial Management Committee. The Financial Management Committee advises the Commission and General Manager regarding financial matters applicable to EBDA and its related budget and expenses.
 2. Operations and Maintenance Committee. The Operations and Maintenance Committee advises the Commission and General Manager on long range objectives of EBDA and the operation and maintenance of its facilities.
 3. Personnel Committee. The Personnel Committee advises the Commission and General Manager regarding personnel matters before the Commission.
 4. Regulatory Affairs Committee. The Regulatory Affairs Committee advises the Commission and General Manager on regulations and legislation at the local, State and Federal level which may affect EBDA, requirements of regulatory agencies, coordination with environmental and water quality organizations in and about San Francisco Bay, and other EBDA policy decisions.
- B. Ad Hoc Committees. The Commission, or the Chair on his or her own initiative, may establish ad hoc advisory committees to undertake special, specific or limited assignments on behalf of the Commission pursuant to the Brown Act.
- C. Committee Members and Alternates. Following the submission of each member's preference, the Chair may appoint members to standing and ad hoc committees of the Commission and may designate the chairs of such committees. Such appointments are effective on July 1 of each and every Fiscal Year. In the event of an absence of a Committee member, including the designated chair, that Commissioner's agency-appointed alternate will represent the Committee member, including serving as chair, if designated. In the event of a vacancy of a designated chair of a committee, the Commission Chair will designate a new committee chair.

RULE IV. REMOTE PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS

- A. Quorum in Person. For a Commission or Committee meeting to proceed as scheduled, a quorum must be present in-person at the designated physical meeting location, which must be open to the public and within the boundaries of the Authority.

B. Remote Participation Pursuant to AB 2449. A Commissioner may participate in a Commission or Committee Meeting via teleconference or web-conferencing platform pursuant to AB 2449, provided that the following conditions are met:

- The Authority has also provided to the public a two-way audiovisual platform or two-way telephonic service, allowing the public to remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and remotely address the Commission; and
- The Commissioner has not invoked the provisions of AB 2449 more than three consecutive months or 20% of the regular meetings within a calendar year; and
- A quorum is present at the Regular Meeting Location; and
- Either “just cause” or “emergency circumstances” exists as defined by AB 2449 (See Govt. Code § 54953(i)).

(a) "Just cause" is defined as either:

(i) a childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely;

(ii) a contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person;

(iii) a need related to a physical or mental disability as defined by statute; or

(iv) travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.

(b) "Emergency circumstances" means a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person. Members shall not be required to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information.

- The Commission must take action to approve a request to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances. No action is required to approve a request for just cause. If a request does not allow sufficient time to place proposed action on such a request on the posted agenda for the meeting for which the request is made, the Commission may take action at the beginning of the meeting in accordance with paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) of Section 54954.2.

C. Remote Participation under the Brown Act. A Commissioner may participate in a Commission or Committee meeting remotely via teleconference or web-conferencing platform without invoking AB 2449 if the Commissioner has

provided notice in the agenda of the physical location from which they intend to participate. The public must also have access to address the Commission from that location.

RULE V. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COMMISSION

- A. General. Members of the public should address comments and questions to the Chair.
1. Agenda Items. Members of the public may speak on any item on the agenda, after receiving recognition from the Chair.
 2. Non-Agenda Items. Members of the public may speak on matters not on the agenda during Public Forum. The Commission will take no immediate action on matters which are not on the Agenda. Such items raised by the public may be referred to staff for review and analysis and may be reported back to the Commission at a subsequent meeting. Members and staff may also briefly respond to statements or questions made during Public Forum or take any other action permitted by law.

If a speaker refers to any document, writing, record, picture, or other exhibit, the General Manager shall request a copy so that it can be included in the record.

- B. Time Limits on Public Comments. The Chair may impose time limits on each speaker.

RULE VI. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Communications with Staff. Members should endeavor to direct all questions and requests to the General Manager for delegation to staff, as needed. Members, by making a request to the General Manager, shall have access to information relative to the operations of EBDA, including but not limited to statistical information, information serving as the basis for certain actions of staff, justification for staff recommendations, etc. Members should receive any information from staff as preliminary and be cautious with the use of the information until the General Manager makes a formal recommendation for action.
- B. Communications on behalf of EBDA. Individual members have no authority and should not make any promises on behalf of the Commission or EBDA. Only the Commission may commit EBDA to an action or a policy. If a member is speaking on behalf of EBDA at another agency's public meeting, he/she should always clearly state that what he/she is saying has been approved by the Commission and not deviate from the message and/or position. If a member speaks as a private citizen at a public gathering, he/she should clearly state that he/she is doing so in an individual capacity.

- C. Communications with the Public. Commissioners may always speak with members of the public regarding EBDA matters. It is advisable to inform the General Manager as soon as practicable regarding complaints and concerns from members of the public. Only the Chair and General Manager are authorized to speak with the media regarding EBDA matters. All media requests should be directed to the General Manager.

RULE VII. SUSPENSION/AMENDMENT/REPEAL

A Rule may be suspended at any Commission meeting by a majority vote of the Commission. The Rules may be amended or repealed by a vote of the Commission.

ATTACHMENT 1

CHART OF MOTION PRACTICE

Motion	Second Required?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote Required*
MEETING CONDUCT (PRIVILEGED) MOTIONS				
Point of Privilege	No	No	No	None
Point of Order	No	No	No	None
To Appeal Ruling of Chair	No	Yes	No	Majority + Weighted
To Recess	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority + Weighted
To Adjourn	Yes	Yes	No	Majority + Weighted
DISPOSITION (SUBSIDIARY) MOTIONS				
To Withdraw a Motion	No	No	No	None
To Postpone Consideration (Table)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority + Weighted
To Refer to Committee	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority + Weighted
To Amend	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority + Weighted
To Limit or Close Debate (Call the Question)	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3
MAIN MOTIONS				
To Take Action; To Reconsider	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority + Weighted

* For privileged and subsidiary motions, required vote refers to those present and voting. Main motions require a majority of the full Commission, whether or not present and voting. Except where noted, for purposes of this motion practice, weighted voting does apply.

ATTACHMENT 2

MEMBER AGENCY VOTES UNDER WEIGHTED VOTING CALCULATION

<u>Name of Agency</u>	<u>No. of Votes</u>
Castro Valley	10.30
Hayward	14.72
Oro Loma	19.14
San Leandro	13.74
Union	42.10

In the event one or more Agencies adjusts its Maximum Flow Rate Capacity as set forth in Section 11 of the Amended and Restated JPA, this attachment will be recalculated, and all agencies will be informed, pursuant the Amended and Restated JPA. After such recalculation, a revised Attachment 2 will be automatically incorporated in these Rules.

ATTACHMENT 3

COMMISSION VOTING

A. Weighted Voting:

Except as set out in B and C below, every action will be subject to two vote calculations.

- 1) A calculation of Commissioner's votes where each Commissioner is allocated one vote; and
- 2) A calculation of weighted votes as set forth in Attachment 2.

B. Unanimous Voting:

The following actions require unanimous approval:

- 1) Amendment of the Amended and Restated JPA;
- 2) Termination of the JPA during the Term;
- 3) Approval of modifications to, or extension of, the Master Agreement between the Livermore-Amador Valley Water Management Agency ("LAVWMA") and the Authority, dated April 26, 2007;
- 4) Approval of any agreement that would result in the utilization of the Facilities to dispose of brine pursuant to Section 23(b)(1) of the Amended and Restated JPA;
- 5) Changes to the ownership of Authority Facilities; and
- 6) Approval of the Authority Policies and Procedures regarding purchasing and brine.

C. Other Actions:

For the purpose of Commission actions related to effluent violations addressed in Section 16(b) of the Amended and Restated JPA, the unanimous vote requirement will not include the violating Agency(ies) and the Commissioner from the violating Agency(ies) will not be permitted a vote.