



Monterey Educational Risk Management Authority

P.O. Box 3320, Salinas, CA 93912

[www.merma.org](http://www.merma.org)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES  
October 22, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Monterey Educational Risk Management Authority met on October 22, 2025, at Intercontinental The Clement Hotel, 750 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940.

**Board of Directors Present**

Ana Aguillon, Vice President, Salinas UHSD  
Yvonne Perez, Secretary, Carmel USD  
Bernard Burchette, Spreckels USD  
Irene Kahn, Big Sur USD  
Joannie Lumbrá, King City USD  
Joshua Jorn, Pacific Grove USD  
Jeremy Shipman, SMCJUHSD  
Tracie Corpuz, Washington USD

**Board of Directors Absent**

Colleen Stanley, President, MCOE  
Josh Van Norman, Bradley USD  
Martha Contreras, Chualar USD  
Janet Pacheco, Gonzales USD  
David Smith, Graves USD  
Norma Yanez, Greenfield USD  
Daniel Stonebloom, Lagunita USD  
Dr. Ricardo Espinoza, Mission USD  
Nikki Herring, Salinas City Elementary SD  
Amy Sweet, San Antonio USD  
Catherine Reimer, San Ardo & San Lucas USD  
Claudia Arellano, Santa Rita USD  
Sarah Doherty, Soledad USD

**Guests and Staff Present**

Ofelia Navarro, Carmel USD – Alternate Board Member  
Wendy Rianda, King City USD – Alternate Board Member  
Lupe Reyes, County of Monterey Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office  
Jake Stroud, County of Monterey Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office  
Michael Kronbetter, PFM Asset Management  
Jacinto Acosta Bernal, McGilloway, Ray, Brown & Kaufman  
Collin Linder, McGilloway, Ray, Brown & Kaufman  
Joshua Whiteside, Glover & Whiteside LLP  
Marlene Richardson, Intercare  
Christine Bagley, Intercare

Jeff Trussler, Intercare  
Matt Gowan, Alliant  
Marcus Beverly, Alliant  
Maria Lorenzana, MERMA  
Angela Murguia, MERMA  
Hallie Pacheco, MERMA

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice President, Ana Aguillon called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**B. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Board of Directors Present: Ana Aguillon, Yvonne Perez, Bernard Burchette, Irene Kahn, Joannie Lumbra, Joshua Jorn, Jeremy Shipman, Tracie Corpuz

Eight Board members present, and thirteen Board members absent. Since a quorum of the Board was not present, the Executive Committee is empowered to act as the governing body on all matters to be considered at the meeting. A quorum of the Executive Committee was present.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED**

Motion to approve the agenda as posted.

<b>MOTION:</b> Jeremy Shipman	<b>SECONDED:</b> Joannie Lumbra	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
<b>AYES: 8</b>	<b>NOES: 0</b>	<b>ABSENT: 13</b>
	<b>ABSTAIN: 0</b>	
<b>AYES:</b>	Jeremy Shipman, Joannie Lumbra, Yvonne Perez, Bernard Burchette, Irene Kahn, Joshua Jorn, Tracie Corpuz, Ana Aguillon	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Colleen Stanley, Josh Van Norman, Martha Contreras, Janet Pacheco, David Smith, Norma Yanez, Daniel Stonebloom, Dr. Ricardo Espinoza, Nikki Herring, Amy Sweet, Catherine Reimer, Claudia Arellano, Sarah Doherty	

**D. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**E. CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following items were presented:

1. Board of Directors Minutes – May 21, 2025
2. Treasurer’s Report – June 30, 2025

Motion to approve items 1 and 2 on the Consent Calendar with a single motion as presented.

<b>MOTION:</b> Irene Kahn	<b>SECONDED:</b> Yvonne Perez	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
<b>AYES: 8</b>	<b>NOES: 0</b>	<b>ABSENT: 13</b>
	<b>ABSTAIN: 0</b>	
<b>AYES:</b>	Irene Kahn, Yvonne Perez, Bernard Burchette, Joannie Lumbra, Joshua Jorn, Jeremy Shipman, Tracie Corpuz, Ana Aguillon	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Colleen Stanley, Josh Van Norman, Martha Contreras, Janet Pacheco, David Smith, Norma Yanez, Daniel Stonebloom, Dr. Ricardo Espinoza, Nikki Herring, Amy Sweet, Catherine Reimer, Claudia Arellano, Sarah Doherty	

**F. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**1. President’s Report**

Vice President Ana Aguillon reported that President Colleen Stanley could not attend the meeting today. Ana thanked everyone for being here. Colleen Stanley submitted a written President’s Report that Hallie Pacheco read on her behalf.

“I had the opportunity to attend several events and trainings at the CAJPA Conference in September. The venue was great, and the workshops were well thought out. I was able to attend the Alliant Dinner on Tuesday evening and the Intercare luncheon on Wednesday afternoon. I also attended the session that Marcus presented: Anchors of Pool Success – and Failure. He did a great job with humor and examples. Accompanying Matt for a meeting with the Safety Underwriters was very interesting. I appreciated being able to “see into his world” a little bit as I watched him interact. It was clear that the relationships he has built are of critical importance in doing the job he does to keep our JPA fiscally successful!”

**2. Board of Directors Report**

Nothing to report.

**G. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**1. Investment Portfolio**

Michael Kronbetter of PFM Asset Management provided an overview of current market themes and an update of MERMA’s investment portfolio as of June 30, 2025.

Motion to accept and file the Investment Portfolio Report as presented.

<b>MOTION:</b> Yvonne Perez	<b>SECONDED:</b> Irene Kahn	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
<b>AYES: 8</b>	<b>NOES: 0</b>	<b>ABSTAIN: 0</b>
<b>ABSENT: 13</b>		
<b>AYES:</b>	Yvonne Perez, Irene Kahn, Bernard Burchette, Joannie Lumbra, Joshua Jorn, Jeremy Shipman, Tracie Corpuz, Ana Aguillon	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Colleen Stanley, Josh Van Norman, Martha Contreras, Janet Pacheco, David Smith, Norma Yanez, Daniel Stonebloom, Dr. Ricardo Espinoza, Nikki Herring, Amy Sweet, Catherine Reimer, Claudia Arellano, Sarah Doherty	

*Joshua Jorn of PGUSD stepped out of the meeting.*

**2. Investment Policy**

Jake Stroud of the County of Monterey Treasurer-Tax Collector’s Office presented the updated Investment Policy for FY 2025-26 with minor revisions.

Motion to approve the updated Investment Policy as presented.

<b>MOTION:</b> Tracie Corpuz	<b>SECONDED:</b> Jeremy Shipman	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
<b>AYES: 7</b>	<b>NOES: 0</b>	<b>ABSTAIN: 0</b>
<b>ABSENT: 14</b>		
<b>AYES:</b>	Tracie Corpuz, Jeremy Shipman, Yvonne Perez, Irene Kahn, Bernard Burchette, Joannie Lumbra, Ana Aguillon	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Joshua Jorn, Colleen Stanley, Josh Van Norman, Martha Contreras, Janet Pacheco, David Smith, Norma Yanez, Daniel Stonebloom, Dr. Ricardo Espinoza, Nikki Herring, Amy Sweet, Catherine Reimer, Claudia Arellano, Sarah Doherty	

**3. Financial Statements for FYE 2025 and 2024**

Jacinto Acosta Bernal of McGilloway, Ray, Brown & Kaufman presented the Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ending 2025 and 2024.

Motion to accept and file the Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ending 2025 and 2024 as presented.

<b>MOTION:</b> Tracie Corpuz	<b>SECONDED:</b> Joannie Lumbra	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
<b>AYES: 7</b>	<b>NOES: 0</b>	<b>ABSTAIN: 0</b>
<b>ABSENT: 14</b>		
AYES:	Tracie Corpuz, Joannie Lumbra, Yvonne Perez, Irene Kahn, Bernard Burchette, Jeremy Shipman, Ana Aguillon	
ABSENT:	Joshua Jorn, Colleen Stanley, Josh Van Norman, Martha Contreras, Janet Pacheco, David Smith, Norma Yanez, Daniel Stonebloom, Dr. Ricardo Espinoza, Nikki Herring, Amy Sweet, Catherine Reimer, Claudia Arellano, Sarah Doherty	

*The Board of Directors took a break at 10:18 a.m. – Reconvened at 10:30 a.m.*

*Joshua Jorn of PGUSD returned to the meeting.*

**4. MERMA Annual Report / Financial Benchmark Performance**

Marcus Beverly presented the MERMA Annual Report which provides an overview of MERMA history, coverage, services, financial condition and contact information. Marcus also presented MERMA’s Financial Benchmark Performance as of June 30, 2025, for the Board to review.

Motion that no dividend will be declared this year.

<b>MOTION:</b> Ana Aguillon	<b>SECONDED:</b> Tracie Corpuz	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
<b>AYES: 8</b>	<b>NOES: 0</b>	<b>ABSTAIN: 0</b>
<b>ABSENT: 13</b>		
AYES:	Ana Aguillon, Tracie Corpuz, Jeremy Shipman, Yvonne Perez, Irene Kahn, Bernard Burchette, Joannie Lumbra, Joshua Jorn	
ABSENT:	Colleen Stanley, Josh Van Norman, Martha Contreras, Janet Pacheco, David Smith, Norma Yanez, Daniel Stonebloom, Dr. Ricardo Espinoza, Nikki Herring, Amy Sweet, Catherine Reimer, Claudia Arellano, Sarah Doherty	

**5. Funding Policy Update**

The Funding Policy was presented with revisions to increase the benchmark for Net Position to Expected Liabilities ratio.

Motion to approve the updated Funding Policy as presented.

<b>MOTION:</b> Joannie Lumbra	<b>SECONDED:</b> Joshua Jorn	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
<b>AYES: 8</b>	<b>NOES: 0</b>	<b>ABSTAIN: 0</b>
<b>ABSENT: 13</b>		
AYES:	Joannie Lumbra, Joshua Jorn, Yvonne Perez, Irene Kahn, Bernard Burchette, Jeremy Shipman, Tracie Corpuz, Ana Aguillon	
ABSENT:	Colleen Stanley, Josh Van Norman, Martha Contreras, Janet Pacheco, David Smith, Norma Yanez, Daniel Stonebloom, Dr. Ricardo Espinoza, Nikki Herring, Amy Sweet, Catherine Reimer, Claudia Arellano, Sarah Doherty	

## **H. PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Managing a Crisis**

Matt Gowan provided a presentation on Managing a Crisis and how the Alliant Deadly Weapon Response Program can assist in a crisis situation. This program is offered by MERMA to all member districts.

*The Board of Directors moved ahead to Item I.2.*

## **I. JPA BUSINESS**

### **2. Intercare Claims Management Stewardship Report**

Christine Bagley of Intercare presented the annual Claims Management Stewardship Review of claim activity and performance benchmarks for Fiscal Year 2024-25. The following are program year successes.

- Settling 55 Claims by Compromise and Release
- Closed 697 Reportable Claims
- Obtained Recoveries in the amount of \$3,035,500
- InterMed achieved overall savings of \$3,757,465

Ana Aguillon mentioned she would like Intercare to continue with training provided to the member districts. It was discussed that January and summer prior to school starting would be a good time for the Workers' Comp 101 and Investigating Root Cause Analysis training.

Discussion about more workers' compensation medical providers. There is a shortage of doctors in Monterey County. Marlene Richardson will reach out to Agile Occupational Medicine to meet with the Manager to discuss possible options and see if they plan to expand with more clinics.

*The Board of Directors broke for lunch at 12:14 p.m. – Reconvened at 1:14 p.m.*

*The Board of Directors moved back to Item H.2.*

## **H. PRESENTATIONS continued**

### **2. Legal Update**

Joshua Whiteside of Glover & Whiteside LLP provided a presentation on Legal Updates for School Leaders. He covered issues concerning religion, LGBTQ+, and public schools.

## **I. JPA BUSINESS continued**

### **1. Volunteer Coverage**

Discussion regarding covering volunteers under workers' compensation. To do so, the district must pass a Resolution with their Board, and MERMA has twelve member Resolutions on file. Also, discussion on districts purchasing a volunteer accident coverage policy if they don't provide workers' compensation. Discussion will continue at an upcoming meeting to cover the definition of a volunteer, benefits under current coverage with a Resolution, and coverage with an accident coverage policy.

**3. Loss Control Update**

Maria Lorenzana provided an update on trainings and support she has provided to the member districts over the past year. She mentioned she can provide trainings customized to the member's needs. She discussed the Shoes for Crews Events which have been well received by members who have utilized the program. She discussed the criteria for the Yacht Award of Excellence Program which offers a monetary award of doubling Matching Safety Funds with a minimum of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$30,000.

Irene Kahn of Big Sur Unified thanked Maria Lorenzana and wanted to let everyone know how much the school appreciated and enjoyed the CPR training Maria provided. She received very good feedback from the school.

**4. Roundtable Discussion**

No feedback or suggestions at this time.

**J. CLOSING COMMENTS**

Irene Kahn and Ana Aguillon thanked MERMA staff for coordinating today's meeting.

**K. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Board of Directors Meeting – May 20, 2026, 1:30 p.m.

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice President, Ana Aguillon adjourned the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

Colleen Stanley, President:



Marcus Beverly, Executive Director:



Date:

5/20/26