



Monterey Educational Risk Management Authority

P.O. Box 3320, Salinas, CA 93912

www.merma.org

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
March 18, 2026**

The Executive Committee of the Monterey Educational Risk Management Authority met at 76 Stephanie Drive, Salinas, on March 18, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. This meeting was also available via Zoom/teleconference.

Executive Committee Members Present

Colleen Stanley, President, Monterey County Office of Education
Ana Aguillon, Vice President, Salinas Union H.S. District
Yvonne Perez, Secretary, Carmel Unified School District
Nikki Herring, Salinas City Elementary School District
Bernard Burchette, Spreckels Union School District – *Arrived after roll call*

Guests and Staff Present

Jacinto Acosta Bernal, McGilloway, Ray, Brown & Kaufman
Marlene Richardson, Intercare
Christine Bagley, Intercare
Agnes Hoerberling, Intercare
Derek Burkhalter, Bickmore Actuarial
Marcus Beverly, Alliant
Matt Gowan, Alliant
Maria Lorenzana, MERMA
Hallie Pacheco, MERMA

A. CALL TO ORDER

Colleen Stanley called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Colleen Stanley, Ana Aguillon, Yvonne Perez, Nikki Herring
Absent: Bernard Burchette

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED

Motion to approve the agenda as posted.

MOTION: Nikki Herring	SECONDED: Ana Aguillon	MOTION CARRIED
AYES: 4	NOES: 0	ABSENT: 1
ABSTAIN: 0		
AYES: Nikki Herring, Ana Aguillon, Yvonne Perez, Colleen Stanley		
ABSENT: Bernard Burchette		

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Bernard Burchette arrived at the meeting.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items were presented:

1. Executive Committee Minutes – January 21, 2026
2. Payment Registers and Board Reports – January and February 2026
3. Treasurer’s Report – December 2025

Motion to approve items 1 through 3 as presented with a single motion.

MOTION: Ana Aguillon	SECONDED: Nikki Herring	MOTION CARRIED
AYES: 5 NOES: 0	ABSTAIN: 0	ABSENT: 0
AYES: Ana Aguillon, Nikki Herring, Yvonne Perez, Bernard Burchette, Colleen Stanley		
ABSENT: 0		

F. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. President’s Report

President, Colleen Stanley had nothing report.

2. Pool Administrator’s Report

Matt Gowan updated the Committee on Senate Bill 555. If passed, the intent is for permanent disability payments to keep pace with the cost of living. It has not changed since 2014. He stated this will also be in line with the Social Security Administration index and explained that permanent disability payments will go up and will continue to go up every year.

Matt mentioned he will be at the CASBO conference in San Diego and would like to invite the Committee to the dinner Alliant is hosting.

Marcus Beverly encouraged the members to attend the CAJPA Annual Fall Conference in Lake Tahoe. He asked the members to let Hallie Pacheo know if they are interested in attending.

3. Claims Administrator’s Report

Christine Bagley of Intercare presented the following reports:

- Claims Activity for Rolling 13 Months: February 2025 – February 2026
- New Claims Received by District: February 2025 – February 2026
- Pending Open Caseload: February 2025 – February 2026
- Pending Open Caseload by District: as of 2/28/26
- Pending Open Claim Count by District Comparison – February 2025 – February 2026
- Rolling 13 Month Closing Rate: February 2025 – February 2026
- Frequency and Severity Reports: FYTD – 2/28/26

- Company Nurse Results: February 2026
- Bill Review Results: February 2026
- Bill Review Results: FYTD – 2/28/26
- Utilization Review Results: February 2026
- Utilization Review Results: FYTD – 2/28/26

4. Loss Control Report

Maria Lorenzana provided an update on Loss Control activities and training. She also brought in two sample Office Master ergonomic chairs for the Committee to view and try out. She mentioned these chairs are much sturdier than the chairs MERMA has been providing and are brand new and come with a warranty. The vendor is giving us 50% off the listed price.

Moved ahead to Item H.1.

H. JPA BUSINESS

1. Actuarial Review of the Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Program

Motion to accept and file the Actuarial Review of the Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Program as presented by Derek Burkhalter of Bickmore Actuarial.

MOTION: Nikki Herring	SECONDED: Bernard Burchette	MOTION CARRIED
AYES: 5	NOES: 0	ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0		ABSENT: 0
AYES: Nikki Herring, Bernard Burchette, Ana Aguillon, Yvonne Perez, Colleen Stanley		

Moved back to Item G.1.

G. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Financial Statements for Period Ending December 31, 2025

Motion to accept and file the Financial Statements for Period Ending December 31, 2026, as presented by Jacinto Acosta Bernal.

MOTION: Ana Aguillon	SECONDED: Yvonne Perez	MOTION CARRIED
AYES: 5	NOES: 0	ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0		ABSENT: 0
AYES: Ana Aguillon, Yvonne Perez, Nikki Herring, Bernard Burchette, Colleen Stanley		

H. JPA BUSINESS (continued)

2. Intercare Claims Administration Contract and Lease Renewal Proposal

Marcus Beverly reported that Intercare's current contract and lease agreement expires June 30, 2026. He presented Intercare's new cost proposal along with updated lease agreement. Agnes Hoerberling, CCO of Intercare, continued the discussion and was available for any questions.

Motion to approve the Intercare Claims Administration Contract and Lease Renewal as presented.

MOTION: Ana Aguillon	SECONDED: Bernard Burchette	MOTION CARRIED
AYES: 5	NOES: 0	ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0		
AYES: Ana Aguillon, Bernard Burchette, Colleen Stanley, Nikki Herring, Yvonne Perez		
ABSENT: 0		

3. Workers’ Compensation Excess Insurance Update

Matt Gowan provided an update on the Workers’ Compensation Excess Insurance renewal for FY 2026-27. He reported for the second layer of excess coverage, SIR \$500,000 – Statutory, the rate has been quoted with a 3.26% decrease from expiring rate and with a negotiated flat renewal for FY 2027-28 if all requirements are met. Matt recommended the Committee accept and bind coverage now and present terms for the first layer of excess coverage at the next meeting.

Motion to accept and bind the second layer of Workers’ Compensation Excess Insurance as presented with a Self-Insured Retention of \$500,000 – Statutory with Safety National.

MOTION: Nikki Herring	SECONDED: Yvonne Perez	MOTION CARRIED
AYES: 5	NOES: 0	ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0		
AYES: Nikki Herring, Yvonne Perez, Ana Aguillon, Bernard Burchette, Colleen Stanley		
ABSENT: 0		

4. Preliminary Budget FY 2026-27

Marcus Beverly presented the Preliminary Budget for FY 2026-27. Marcus mentioned one increase recommended in the budget is the allowance in Health and Welfare benefits. He would like to increase the employer paid contribution as this amount has not kept up with the large medical premium increases annually. The budget will be presented again at the next Executive Committee meeting for direction to recommend to the Board.

5. Meeting Schedule FY 2026-27

Discussion held regarding changing the meeting day for the remaining fiscal year along with the upcoming fiscal year to better accommodate the members. The Committee agreed to change the April 15, 2026, Executive Committee meeting to May 11, 2026, with no other changes for this current fiscal year. Meeting dates were established for FY 2026-27 and a Resolution and meeting schedule will be presented at the next Executive Committee meeting for approval.

6. Executive Committee Members Terms Ending June 30, 2026

Marcus Beverly reported that three members’ terms are ending at the end of the fiscal year, Ana Aguillon, Yvonne Perez and Nikki Herring. Yvonne Perez would like to nominate Ofelia Navarro to replace her. She has been serving as the alternate member for quite a few years and manages the workers’ compensation for Carmel and would be a really great addition to the Committee. Ana and Nikki have agreed to continue serving on the Committee and will accept nominations for election at the Board of Directors meeting.

Moved back to Item F.5.

F. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS (continued)

5. Executive Committee

Colleen Stanley commented that we will miss Yvonne Perez being on the Committee.

I. CLOSING COMMENTS

Marcus Beverly thanked everyone for participating in today's meeting.

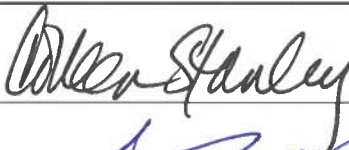
J. UPCOMING MEETINGS

Executive Committee Meeting – May 11, 2026 (*rescheduled from April 15, 2026*)
Board of Directors Meeting – May 20, 2026

K. ADJOURNMENT

Colleen Stanley adjourned the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

Colleen Stanley, President:



Marcus Beverly, Executive Director:



Date:

5/11/26