



AGENDA

NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Wednesday, February 11, 2026

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM Local Time

This meeting will be held in person at the date and time specified above.

Directors receive no compensation from NWRI for their participation.

Meeting Location: 18700 Ward Street Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Conference Room: C-2

Online Meeting Access: Zoom Meeting ID: 816 6943 7394

Passcode: 602976

As a convenience for the public, this meeting is accessible via Zoom using the provided room ID.

Note that if technical difficulties arise, the meeting will proceed without disruption.

Sites Open to the Public: 111 N. Hope Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

700 N. Alameda Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

6075 Kimball Ave Chino, CA 91708

NWRI Contact: Tianna Manzon, tmanzon@nwri-usa.org

OPENING ITEMS

1. Call to Order

- Roll Call
- Confirmation of Quorum

2. Items Received After Publication of Agenda

In accordance with the Brown act, the Board may take action on items that arise after the posting of the agenda only if there is a need for immediate action and the need for action came to the attention of the Board after the agenda was published.

Recommendation: Adopt a resolution authorizing consideration of items received after agenda posting. Approval requires a 2/3rds vote of members present, or a unanimous vote if fewer than 2/3rds are in attendance.

3. Visitor Participation

This item allows up to 3 minutes for visitors to address the Board of Directors on matters not listed on the agenda but within the authority of the Joint Powers Agency or related to Consent Calendar Items. In accordance with legal guidelines, the Board is prohibited from acting on comments made during this time. Directors may, when appropriate, provide direction to NWRI staff regarding the issues raised. Only a member of the Board of Directors may request the removal of a Consent Calendar Item for separate discussion.



CONSENT CALENDAR

At the discretion of the Chair, items on the Consent Calendar may be approved with a single motion and vote by the Directors present, or by the unanimous consent of the Directors present. Items are considered routine, and any director may request that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and action.

4. Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2025

Approval of minutes is a routine action that formally records the proceedings of the previous Board meeting. Minutes are permanently retained.

Recommendation: Receive and file minutes as presented.

Attachments:

- Minutes of the regular meeting of the NWRI Board of Directors

5. Financial Statements – Ending January 31, 2026

Unaudited monthly financial reports are provided to keep the Board informed of NWRI's financial position and performance between annual audits.

Recommendation: Receive and file NWRI's unaudited financial reports for the period stated above.

Attachments:

- Unaudited Statement of Profit & Loss
- Unaudited Balance Sheet
- Unaudited Report on Account Receivables

6. Disclosure of Third-Party Research Funding

The Executive Director is authorized to sign research contracts within approved limits. These contracts are disclosed to the Board at regular meetings for transparency and oversight.

New Contracts

- LADWP: CalVal Phase 2 - \$2,800,000.00

Contract Extensions

- None.

Recommendation:

1. Receive and file third-party research contracts signed by the Executive Director since the previous meeting of the NWRI Board of Directors.



ACTION ITEMS

The Board of Directors considers Action Items in the order presented, unless a specific motion is made to amend the order of consideration. Each Action Item requires a separate motion and affirmative vote by majority vote of the present Directors. The Board is not obligated to act on any item presented for consideration.

7. 2026 NWRI Board Roster

The Board roster is provided annually to reflect current Board membership and officer appointments. The roster below summarizes the Board's composition to-date.

| Member Agency | Director | Alternate Director(s) |
|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Orange County Water District | Denis Bilodeau | Roger Yoh |
| Los Angeles Department of Water and Power | Jesus Gonzalez | Rafael Villegas Jonathan Leung |
| Metropolitan Water District of Southern California | Dennis Erdman | Mickey Chaudhuri |
| Orange County Sanitation District | Bob Ooten | Rob Thompson |
| Irvine Ranch Water District | John Withers | Douglas Reinhart |
| Inland Empire Utilities Agency | Steve Elie | Kevin Alexander |
| NWRI Treasurer | Jason Dadakis | |
| NWRI Secretary | John Kennedy | |

- Recommendation:
1. Discuss and take action as appropriate
 2. Receive and file the 2026 NWRI Board roster

8. Compliance Acknowledgments

Board members serving organizations subject to public-agency ethics and governance standards are required to complete certain disclosures and trainings to ensure transparency, ethical conduct, and sound fiduciary oversight. These requirements are established under California law and reinforced through best practices for organizations that manage or oversee public funds and programs.

Staff is seeking your acknowledgment of the following required compliance and training obligations and confirm that documentation will be submitted to NWRI in coordination with member agency staff:

- Ethics Training (required every two years)
- Workplace Harassment Prevention Training
- SB 827 Fiscal Training (mandatory beginning in 2026)

- Recommendation:
1. Discuss and take action as appropriate
 2. Acknowledge compliance requirements



9. Clarke Prize Program Update No. 1

Background

In July 2025, Executive Director (ED) Hardy engaged Rising Tide Partners (RTP) to support the development of a program titled “Elevating the Clarke Prize to Global Prominence” (Summary Attached). At that time, ED Hardy and RTP Principal Neal Bloom presented a proposed funding approach to the Board. The Board directed ED Hardy to provide regular updates on key milestones on the program at future Board meetings. This is Clarke Prize Program Update No. 1.

January 2026 – Water x Fire Workshop (Los Angeles, Ca)

On January 21, 2026, NWRI convened the first Clarke Prize Workshop, titled Water x Fire, at LADWP’s La Kretz Innovation Center. Attendees included Clarke Prize Laureates Karl Linden, Eric M.V. Hoek, and Charley Driscoll; NWRI Directors, Erdman, Gonzalez, and Chaudhuri; staff from NWRI Member Agencies; City of Los Angeles staff; and other invited participants. NWRI thanks LADWP for hosting the workshop.

The workshop opened with technical presentations from Laureate Eric M. V. Hoek, PhD (UCLA), Faith Kearns, PhD (Arizona State University), Gregory Pierce PhD, (UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation), and Andrew Whelton, PhD (Purdue University). Presentations highlighted emerging research on conflagrations at the wildland-urban interface, underscoring systemic gaps in water system resilience that can lead to predictable and adverse public health, utility, and community outcomes.

30 workshop participants engaged in facilitated small-group discussions during the afternoon to identify key challenges and opportunities that Clarke Prize Laureates could address in this growing and interdisciplinary field. Over a dozen responsive ideas were generated and documented.

Preliminary Workshop Outcomes:

- RTP staff coordinated on-site logistics with LADWP staff and recorded “B” roll video to help market future workshops and fundraising events.
- NWRI staff debriefed workshop details with the Clarke Prize Laureates who attended.
- NWRI will develop an NWRI Clarke Prize Workshop Proceedings Report and a supporting op-ed for Laureate consideration.
- ED Hardy and Mr. Bloom will provide a detailed presentation on the workshop outcomes to the Board at a future meeting.

2026 Clarke Prize Nominations

The Clarke Prize nomination process is launching in late February. Like past years, nominations will be accepted in May, and the new Laureate will be selected and announced in June. The award ceremony will be in October 2026.

2026 Clarke Prize Summit Dates

Staff requests Board confirmation of Saturday, **October 24** as the proposed date for the 2026 Clarke Prize Summit and Award Ceremony. The proposed date is consistent with event dates over the past decade. Staff proposed the next step of selecting and contracting with an Orange County venue.



Recommendation:

1. Provide feedback and confirm **October 24** as the proposed date for the Clarke Prize Award Ceremony.
2. Receive and file the Clarke Prize Program Update
3. Discuss and take action as appropriate

Attachments:

- “Elevating the Clarke Prize to Global Prominence” PDF
- Clarke Prize Funding Report

10. Key Performance Indicators

This item is intended to provide an opportunity for the Board of Directors to review recent activities of the organization presented by Executive Director Hardy.

Recommendation:

1. Provide feedback and/or direction on recent activity for operational improvement or strategic focus.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Information Items are presented to the Board of Directors to provide general updates and/or background information about the organization and required no immediate action.

11. NWRI Staff Transition

NWRI recognizes Suzanne Sharkey’s tenure as Project Manager and provides an overview of the upcoming staff transition.

Suzanne Sharkey served NWRI with dedication and professionalism since September 3, 2014. During her tenure as Project Manager, she played a key role in supporting NWRI’s programs and day-to-day operations, bringing consistency, institutional knowledge, and a collaborative approach to her work. Suzanne’s last day of employment was January 8, 2026, concluding more than a decade of service to NWRI, and the organization extends its sincere appreciation for her many contributions.

Staff proceeded with a **reassessment** of organizational and staffing needs. Considerations included:

- Current needs of the organization
- The scope of the new employee role and required skills
- Part-time vs full-time
- The appropriate, targeted recruitment process
- Impact on existing staff capacity and workload distribution

After the reassessment, staff initiated a focused **recruitment** process for an Administrative Assistant.

- Applications opened: January 26
- Outreach: Position posted on university job boards and shared with local universities with water-related programs (USC, UCLA, UC Irvine)
- Preliminary Interviews: February 02 – February 13; Final Interviews: Feb 23 - 27
- Candidate Selection: March 02 – 06



12. Executive Director's Report

- CalVal Initiative Updates
 - State Water Board (SWB) Division of Drinking Water Collaboration Workshop on January 12 – 13, 2026 (Richmond, CA)
 - WaterVal Australia Delegation Reuse Facilities Tour – March 02 – 06 (Southern California)
 - WRA Symposium CalVal Panel Presentation – March 10, 2026 (Los Angeles, CA)
 - Expert MF/UF Workshop – March 12, 2026 (LADWP Headquarters)
 - WRF 5277 Webcast – April 02, 2026 (online)
 - SWB Recycled Water Research Program Updates – April 07, 2026 (Sacramento, CA)
- NWRI Strategic Planning

13. Board of Directors Comments

14. Important Dates

- March 2026: WRA Symposium Conflict (no regular board meeting)
- April 08, 2026, at 1:30 PM (Regular Board of Directors Meeting)
- May 2026: Spring Recess
- June 10, 2026, at 1:30 PM (Regular Board of Directors Meeting)
- July 08, 2026, at 1:30 PM (Regular Board of Directors Meeting)

15. Adjournment



DATE: February 11, 2026
TO: NWRI Board of Directors
FROM: Kevin M. Hardy, Executive Director
SUBJECT: **Item 4 – Meeting Minutes**

Duly approved meeting minutes serve as the official and permanent public record of actions taken by the Board of Directors. Approval of these minutes ensures the accuracy and completeness of the record and supports ongoing compliance with public meeting requirements under the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Recommendation: 1. Receive and file meeting minutes for the regular meeting held on November 12, 2025.

Attachments: • Minutes of the Regular meeting of the NWRI Board of Directors



DATE: February 11, 2025
TO: NWRI Board of Directors
SUBJECT: Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting Held November 12, 2025

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 1:42 PM local time by Chair Bilodeau.

- **Roll Call**

The following Directors and Officers were present:

- Chair Denis Bilodeau, Orange County Water District
- Vice Chair Jesus Gonzalez, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
- Director Dennis Erdman, Metropolitan Water District
- Director Bob Ooten, Orange County Sanitation District
- Director John Withers, Irvine Ranch Water District
- Director Steve Elie, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
- Alt. Director Rafael Villegas, LADWP
- Alt. Director Mickey Chaudhuri
- Alt. Director Rob Thompson, OC San
- Alt. Director Kevin Alexander, IEUA
- Secretary John Kennedy, OCWD

Others present:

- Jim Colston, IRWD (Remote)

NWRI Staff present:

- Kevin M. Hardy, Executive Director
- Julie Abshire, Project Controller
- Mary Collins, Communications Manager
- Tianna Manzon, Project Coordinator

- **Confirmation of Quorum.**

A quorum is established when at least four of the six member agencies are represented. All six member agencies were represented by either a Board Director or Alternate Director, or both. A quorum was determined.

2. **Items Received After Publication of Agenda.** None.
3. **Visitor Participation.** None.



CONSENT CALENDAR

4. **Meeting Minutes** – September 10, 2025
5. **Financial Statements** Ending October 31, 2025

ED Hardy provided details about NWRI's current financial standing, and the Board discussed NWRI's unaudited Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet, and Open Invoice Report for the period through October 31, 2025.

6. Disclosure of Third-Party Research Funding

Contracts entered by NWRI are disclosed to the Board at regular meetings for transparency, accountability, and oversight. The following contracts and extensions were reported on:

- **New Contracts**
 - City of Tucson (advanced Water Purification Program) - \$106,920.00
 - City of San Diego (Potable Reuse Project) - \$1,111,176.00
- **Contract Extensions**
 - None.

Staff Recommendation 1. Receive and file Consent Calendar Items 4 – 6

Attachments:

- Minutes of the regular meeting held September 10, 2025
- Unaudited financial reports for the period ending October 31, 2025
 - Statement of Profit and Loss
 - Balance Sheet
 - Report on Account Receivables
- Third party research contracts signed by the Executive Director since the previous meeting of the NWRI Board of Directors

Action Taken:

Motion: Director Withers moved to receive and file Items 4 – 6. Chair Bilodeau seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

- Chair Bilodeau – Yes
- Vice Chair Gonzalez - Yes
- Director Erdman – Yes
- Director Ooten – Yes
- Director Withers – Yes
- Director Elie - Yes

Motion Carried, 6 – 0



ACTION ITEMS

7. Resolution 2025-03 Adopting and Establishing Policy for Staff Reimbursement Rates for Research Services for Calendar Year 2026

- Executive Director Hardy summarized the item:
 - NWRI has been working for approximately seven years to align its billing rates at an appropriate, sustainable level. The proposed action is a CPI-based adjustments to staff rates for calendar year 2026, keeping rates at an appropriate level for the services provided, and still well below typical private-sector consulting rates.
- Board Questions:
 - None.

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Staff Recommendation | 1. Consider the proposed resolution |
| | 2. Adopt Resolution 2025-03 establishing NWRI staff reimbursement rates for research services for the 2026 calendar year. |

Attachments:

- Resolution 2025-03

Action Taken: **Motion:** Director Withers moved to approve staff recommendations 1 – 2. Director Ooten seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

- Chair Bilodeau – Yes
- Vice Chair Gonzalez – Yes
- Director Erdman – Yes
- Director Ooten – Yes
- Director Withers – Yes
- Director Elie - Yes

Motion Carried, 6 – 0

8. NWRI's Federal Income Tax Return and California Income Tax Return

- Executive Director Hardy presented the annual tax filings:
 - The federal Form 990 and its companion state filing (which largely mirrors the 990) restate NWRI's audited financial statements in a format used by the IRS and state authorities.
 - These documents are critical for, maintaining NWRI's nonprofit status, and supporting fundraising efforts, particularly for the Clarke Prize, by assuring donors that contributions qualify for tax benefits.
 - No policy changes are embedded in the filings; they are a restatement of existing audited financial information.

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Staff Recommendation | 1. Receive for record the Tax Year 2024 IRS Form 990 and California State Income Tax Return |
|----------------------|---|



Attachments: ○ Gruber & Lopez – NWRI 2024 Federal and California Income Tax Return

Action Taken: **Motion:** Director Withers moved to
approve staff recommendations 1 – 2.
Vice Chair Gonzalez seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

- Chair Bilodeau – Yes
- Vice Chair Gonzalez – Yes
- Director Erdman – Yes
- Director Ooten – Yes
- Director Withers – Yes
- Director Elie - Yes

Motion Carried, 6 – 0

9. NWRI Employee Handbook (Draft)

- **Executive Director Hardy introduced the item:**

- Historically, staff policies were maintained as separate Word documents, not a single integrated manual.
- The objective is to develop a cohesive, up-to-date handbook that employees can reference for all core policies.

- **Staff Presentation (Tianna Manzon):**

- Tianna and Julie led the consolidation and drafting effort.
- Initial approach: start from what NWRI staff felt was needed and fair for a small, specialized organization.
- NWRI used a Paychex handbook service as a reference, but templates were not fully suited to NWRI's unique structure and needs.
- The current draft reflects customization for NWRI's operations, and a focus on policies that are practical, necessary, and equitable for staff.

- **Board Discussion:**

- Director Ooten raised several comments:
 - Suggested including a policy on firearms, noting that some member agencies have such policies.
 - Noted the presence of sexual harassment training in the draft but did not see a clear ethics training policy and recommended including one.
 - Expressed concern that the sick leave policy as drafted (perceived as about one week) may be too limited and suggested reconsideration.
- Chair Kennedy and Director Withers emphasized that:
 - The handbook should be treated as a working document,
 - NWRI can and should come back to the Board with revisions.
- Directors suggested leveraging member agency HR resources:



- OCWD is in the process of recruiting a new HR Director; once in place, that person could review the draft.
- Other member agencies (e.g., OC San, IEUA) have strong HR departments that could provide feedback.
- Executive Director Hardy welcomed these suggestions
- **Director Elie** recommended that the Board simply provide direction to staff to continue to work on the handbook and bring it back for future consideration after outside review.
- **Director Withers** moved to follow Director Elie's suggested approach.

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Staff | 2. Review NWRI Employee Handbook and provide any direction to staff |
| Recommendation | 3. Adopt the draft version as a working document to guide staff and authorize ongoing refinement prior to final adoption. |

Attachments:

- NWRI Employee Handbook (Draft)

Action Taken: **Motion:** Director Elie moved to provide direction to staff to continue to work on the handbook and bring it back for future consideration, Director Withers seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

- Chair Bilodeau – Yes
- Vice Chair Gonzalez – Yes
- Director Erdman – Yes
- Director Ooten – Yes
- Director Withers – Yes
- Director Elie - Yes

Motion Carried, 6 – 0

- **Chair Transition**

- At the conclusion of Item 9, Chair Bilodeau turned the meeting over to **Vice Chair Gonzalez** to preside over the remaining items.

Information Items

10. NWRI Fellows Program

- **Executive Director Hardy provided background:**
 - NWRI has historically funded student fellowships annually at various universities, often in partnership with AMTA and other organizations.
 - The program supports students conducting research in water and wastewater and historically has been a keyway for NWRI to encourage academic excellence and cultivate future leaders.
 - Increasing administrative overhead at large public universities has complicated direct student funding, but NWRI still sees strong value in maintaining a fellows program.



-
- **Staff shared a video from 2025 fellow:**
 - Hyuck Joo Choi, Georgia Tech – Research on nutrient recovery and controlled struvite crystallization via bipolar membrane electrodialysis.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ZiS6dA5gpA>
 - **Board Discussion:**
 - Board members reacted positively to the video and the fellow's presentation.
 - Vice Chair Gonzalez asked whether the videos are (or will be) posted on the NWRI website; staff indicated they are.
 - The item was treated as a receive and file information item.
 - Director Withers offered a motion to receive and file, but it was noted the Chair could also simply order it filed as an information item.
 - No formal action beyond receiving and filing was required.

11. Key Performance Indicators

Executive Director Hardy provided an update focusing on three key areas:

- **Member Agency Recruitment:**
 - Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
 - Executive Director Hardy will continue follow-up.
 - Eastern Municipal Water District:
 - Identified as the "next" major recruitment focus.
 - Director Elie indicated interest in assisting with outreach, referencing contacts such as General Manager Joe Mouawad.
- **Clarke Prize – Fundraising & January 2026 "Salon"**
 - NWRI has begun meeting with prospective funders to support the Clarke Prize and related programming.
 - A workshop and fundraising salon is being planned for Wednesday, January 21 in Los Angeles, with the theme focused on water challenges arising from the wildfire / wildland-urban interface, particularly from a water quality perspective.
- **Clarke Prize - Board Discussion:**
 - NWRI is seeking a centrally located LA venue for approximately 100 attendees.
 - Director Withers suggested Metropolitan Water District or LADWP as strong host candidates.
 - Vice Chair Gonzalez offered that LADWP would be interested in hosting, which could reduce costs and make the opportunity more attractive to outside sponsors.



12. Executive Director's Report

- **CalVal Initiative:**

- CalVal's success depends on DDW and the State Water Board using the guidance as a practical reference for assigning unit process treatment credits.
- In October, Executive Director Hardy and project partners attended the Next Water Conference and conducted workshops in Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane.
- The trip strengthened the partnership with WaterVal, whose guidance DDW has historically relied on, increasing CalVal's credibility.
- Input from Australian utilities and regulators is being incorporated into the CalVal guidance documents.
- NWRI is completing a sequence of:
 - Expert workshops for each technology,
 - Utility workshops (next on the schedule), and
 - DDW review workshops.
- A major DDW workshop is planned for January 2026 in Richmond, with potential coordination in Sacramento with DWQ.
- The project will undergo two full review cycles (experts → utilities → DDW) before finalizing the guidance.
- DDW's engagement has increased throughout the process, and staff have shown growing openness and support—an encouraging sign for ultimate acceptance and use of the CalVal guidance.

- **CalVal Initiative – Board Discussion:**

- Vice Chair Gonzalez, who is involved in CalVal, offered strong praise:
 - Characterized CalVal as **"by far the most important and ambitious water reuse research effort"** NWRI has undertaken.
 - Congratulated Executive Director Hardy, staff (including Suzanne, Tianna, and others), and the broader project team for their leadership and progress.
- Executive Director Hardy thanked the Board for its support.

13. Board of Directors Comments

- **Vice Chair Gonzalez noted that the Board will effectively be on recess for the next two months, with the next regular Board meeting scheduled for February 11.**
- Clark Prize Workshop Logistics:
- Vice Chair Gonzalez asked whether there was anything the Board needed to be aware of prior to the **January 21** Clark Prize workshop, given that the Board will next meet afterward.



-
- Executive Director Hardy responded that staff will send a **logistics email** with details and a formal invitation to all Board members once the venue and arrangements are finalized. Target date is one month in advance of the event.

14. Important Dates

The following dates were noted for the Board's calendar:

- December 2025 – January 2026: Holiday Recess
- February 11, 2026, at 1:30 PM – Regular Board of Directors Meeting

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 PM by Vice Chair Gonzalez.

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

John Kennedy, OCWD

Secretary, NWRI Board of Directors

OR

SIGNED: _____ DATE: _____

Tianna Manzon, NWRI

Research Project Coordinator



DATE: February 11, 2026
TO: NWRI Board of Directors
FROM: Kevin M. Hardy, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Item 5 – Financial Statements

Monthly financials reports provide a current snapshot of the Institute's financial position and resiliency. Variations from the annual income and expense plan are anticipated and reflect the timing of project reimbursements, grant revenues, and contracted expenses. The financial statements are reviewed regularly by staff to ensure alignment with budget projections, maintain fiscal accountability, and identify any emerging trends that may require management attention.

Recommendation: 1. Receive and file unaudited financial statements for the period ending January 31, 2026.

Attachments:

- Unaudited Statement of Profit and Loss
- Unaudited Balance Sheet
- Unaudited Report on Account Receivables

National Water Research Institute

Profit & Loss

July 2025 through January 2026

| | Jul '25 - Jan 26 |
|--|---------------------|
| Income | |
| 4000 · JPA Contributions (Member 50K) | 300,000.00 |
| 4250 · Grants | 278,335.60 |
| 4400 · Contract Svc/Reimbursable | |
| 4401 · SCSC / Workshops | 24,119.60 |
| 4400 · Contract Svc/Reimbursable - Other | 396,607.87 |
| Total 4400 · Contract Svc/Reimbursable | 420,727.47 |
| 4600 · Circle of Friends/Fellowship | 10,000.00 |
| 4650 · Water Festival/Water Harvest | 19,136.64 |
| 4800 · Interest Income | 18,277.21 |
| 4801 · Fair Value Adj on Investment | -4,763.43 |
| 4900 · Other Income | 555.00 |
| Total Income | 1,042,268.49 |
| Gross Profit | 1,042,268.49 |
| Expense | |
| 6010 · Accounting/Audit | 12,300.00 |
| 6030 · Charges/Tax & Other Fees | |
| 6032 · Banking Fees | 519.33 |
| Total 6030 · Charges/Tax & Other Fees | 519.33 |
| 6040 · Telephone/Communication | |
| 6041 · Cell Phone/Conference Calls | 910.00 |
| 6040 · Telephone/Communication - Other | 120.00 |
| Total 6040 · Telephone/Communication | 1,030.00 |
| 6060 · Mailing Services | 128.03 |
| 6090 · Subscriptions and Dues | 3,515.16 |
| 6110 · Board / Ops Expenses | 42.15 |
| 6120 · Misc Admin Expenses | |
| 6121 · General Office Supplies | 524.51 |
| 6124 · Insurance | 5,120.00 |
| 6125 · Payroll Processing | 609.00 |
| Total 6120 · Misc Admin Expenses | 6,253.51 |
| 6140 · Salary & Benefits | |
| 6141 · Professional Services | 562.50 |
| 6143 · Payroll Taxes | 22,640.34 |
| 6144 · Director | 45,749.14 |
| 6145 · Simple IRA Match | 8,227.74 |
| 6140 · Salary & Benefits - Other | 87,192.66 |
| Total 6140 · Salary & Benefits | 164,372.38 |
| 6160 · Membership | 1,520.80 |
| 7010 · Admin Program Expenses | |
| 7011 · Salary & Benefits | |
| 7018 · Director | 13,793.89 |
| 7011 · Salary & Benefits - Other | 20,607.23 |
| Total 7011 · Salary & Benefits | 34,401.12 |
| 7013 · Registration | 2,290.00 |
| 7016 · Travel/Lodging/Meals | 213.86 |
| Total 7010 · Admin Program Expenses | 36,904.98 |
| 7020 · Advisory Panels | |
| 7021 · Salary & Benefits | |
| 7027 · Director | 21,733.53 |
| 7021 · Salary & Benefits - Other | 96,917.58 |
| Total 7021 · Salary & Benefits | 118,651.11 |

National Water Research Institute

Profit & Loss

July 2025 through January 2026

| | Jul '25 - Jan 26 |
|---|------------------|
| 7022 · Professional Svc | 39,148.00 |
| 7023 · Honorariums | 85,425.00 |
| 7024 · Travel/Lodging/meals | 15,727.94 |
| Total 7020 · Advisory Panels | 258,952.05 |
| 7030 · Clarke Prize | |
| 7031 · Salary & Benefits | |
| 7037 · Director | 38,164.37 |
| 7031 · Salary & Benefits - Other | 8,185.12 |
| Total 7031 · Salary & Benefits | 46,349.49 |
| 7032 · Professional Svc | 10,350.00 |
| 7034 · Travel/Lodging/Meals | 5,605.71 |
| 7035 · Event Expenses | 166.72 |
| Total 7030 · Clarke Prize | 62,471.92 |
| 7040 · Conf/Workshops/Contract Svc | |
| 7041 · Salary & Benefits | |
| 7049 · Director | 7,981.80 |
| 7041 · Salary & Benefits - Other | 11,304.09 |
| Total 7041 · Salary & Benefits | 19,285.89 |
| 7044 · Travel/Lodging/Meals | 588.01 |
| 7046 · Printing/Copying/Mailing | 15.60 |
| Total 7040 · Conf/Workshops/Contract Svc | 19,889.50 |
| 7050 · Education & Outreach | |
| 7051 · Salary & Benefits | |
| 7059 · Director | 9,308.08 |
| 7051 · Salary & Benefits - Other | 25,757.86 |
| Total 7051 · Salary & Benefits | 35,065.94 |
| 7056 · Fellowship Award | 20,000.00 |
| 7057 · Water Festival Contrib/Payment | 19,136.64 |
| 7058 · Sponsorship | 2,500.00 |
| Total 7050 · Education & Outreach | 76,702.58 |
| 7070 · Research/Proj/Grant - Specific | |
| 7072 · Salary & Benefits | |
| 7078 · Director | 37,259.70 |
| 7072 · Salary & Benefits - Other | 48,692.09 |
| Total 7072 · Salary & Benefits | 85,951.79 |
| 7073 · Professional Svc | 133,331.82 |
| 7074 · Honorariums | 3,031.25 |
| 7075 · Project Expense | 28,947.38 |
| 7076 · Travel/Lodging/Meals | 35,044.76 |
| Total 7070 · Research/Proj/Grant - Specific | 286,307.00 |
| 8000 · Ask Accountant | 3.00 |
| Total Expense | 930,912.39 |
| Net Income | 111,356.10 |

National Water Research Institute

Balance Sheet

As of January 31, 2026

| | Jan 31, 26 |
|--|---------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Checking/Savings | |
| 1000 · Wells Fargo Checking | 148,939.75 |
| 1003 · Petty Cash | 90.45 |
| Total Checking/Savings | 149,030.20 |
| Accounts Receivable | |
| 1201 · Accounts Receivable-General | 2,987,952.28 |
| Total Accounts Receivable | 2,987,952.28 |
| Other Current Assets | |
| SWEEP | 861,174.60 |
| Total Other Current Assets | 861,174.60 |
| Total Current Assets | 3,998,157.08 |
| Fixed Assets | |
| 1500 · Equipment-Office - >1 yr. >2.5k | 13,679.62 |
| 1550 · Accum Depreciation | -13,679.62 |
| Total Fixed Assets | 0.00 |
| Other Assets | |
| 1650 · Investments | 28,580.58 |
| Total Other Assets | 28,580.58 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 4,026,737.66 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |
| Current Liabilities | |
| Accounts Payable | |
| 2000 · Accts Pay-Vendors | 133,903.67 |
| Total Accounts Payable | 133,903.67 |
| Other Current Liabilities | |
| 2100 · Payroll Lia/Vac Accrual - Staff | 10,413.54 |
| 2101 · Payroll Lia/Vac&Sick - Dir | 22,981.43 |
| 2300 · Accrued Payroll | 120.74 |
| 2500 · Deferred Revenue | 3,289,380.05 |
| 2502 · Pass Thru Liab/Water Festival | 2,500.00 |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | 3,325,395.76 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 3,459,299.43 |
| Total Liabilities | 3,459,299.43 |
| Equity | |
| 3900 · Retained Earnings-Unrestricted | 446,082.13 |
| 3910 · Retained Earnings-Temp Restrict | 10,000.00 |
| Net Income | 111,356.10 |
| Total Equity | 567,438.23 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | 4,026,737.66 |

9:43 AM

02/06/26

Accrual Basis

National Water Research Institute
Transactions by Account
As of January 31, 2026

| Date | Memo | Amount | Balance |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Advisory Panels - 7020 | | | 121,479.50 |
| Colorado | | | 121,479.50 |
| 09/30/25 | Earned through 9/30 Inv #2025-1077 | -14,996.25 | 106,483.25 |
| 12/31/25 | Earned through 12/31/25 Inv #2025-1092 | -21,050.00 | 85,433.25 |
| 01/31/26 | Earned income through 1/31/26 Inv #2026... | -6,137.75 | 79,295.50 |
| Total Colorado | | -42,184.00 | 79,295.50 |
| Total Advisory Panels - 7020 | | -42,184.00 | 79,295.50 |
| Projects and Grants - 7070 | | | 0.00 |
| Phase 2 CalVal | | | 0.00 |
| 07/24/25 | LADWP / Jacobs | 596,000.00 | 596,000.00 |
| 09/30/25 | NWRI billing to 9/30/25 - budget \$140,376... | -47,945.93 | 548,054.07 |
| 09/30/25 | Carollo Trussell and WaterVal 9/30/25 | -39,497.22 | 508,556.85 |
| 09/30/25 | CalVal Phase 1 to P2 for Carollo | 17.75 | 508,574.60 |
| 12/31/25 | NWRI billing to 12/31/25 - budget \$140,37... | -12,768.63 | 495,805.97 |
| 12/31/25 | Carollo Trussell and WaterVal 12/31/25 | -111,667.08 | 384,138.89 |
| 01/15/26 | WaterReuse | 15,000.00 | 399,138.89 |
| 01/27/26 | LADWP / Jacobs | 2,800,000.00 | 3,199,138.89 |
| 01/28/26 | WaterReuse | 35,000.00 | 3,234,138.89 |
| 01/31/26 | NWRI billing to 1/31/25 - budget \$140,376... | -10,440.78 | 3,223,698.11 |
| 01/31/26 | Bernados 1/31/25 | -13,613.56 | 3,210,084.55 |
| Total Phase 2 CalVal | | 3,210,084.55 | 3,210,084.55 |
| Total Projects and Grants - 7070 | | 3,210,084.55 | 3,210,084.55 |
| TOTAL | | 3,167,900.55 | 3,289,380.05 |

RELEASED FUNDING - CalVal

TRUSSELL

| LADWP / Jacobs | | Funding in Bank | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | Balance |
|----------------|-----|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------|----------|-------|--------------|
| Task | 1.4 | \$ 12,000.00 | \$ 6,124.72 | \$ 5,816.52 | \$ - | \$ - | | | | \$ 58.76 |
| | 2.3 | \$ 62,440.00 | \$ 8,372.50 | \$ 15,202.50 | \$ 3,677.50 | \$ 3,052.50 | | | | \$ 32,135.00 |
| | 3.3 | \$ 62,420.00 | \$ - | \$ 21,657.50 | \$ 6,285.00 | \$ 2,942.50 | | | | \$ 31,535.00 |
| | | \$ 136,860.00 | \$ 14,497.22 | \$ 42,676.52 | \$ 9,962.50 | \$ 5,995.00 | | | | \$ 63,728.76 |

CAROLLO

| LADWP / Jacobs | | Funding OK to pay | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | Balance |
|----------------|-----|-------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------|----------|---------|----------|-------|---------------|
| Task | 1.4 | \$ 23,952.00 | \$ - | \$ 17,909.40 | \$ 5,946.62 | \$ - | | | | \$ 95.98 |
| | 2.3 | \$ 62,100.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | | | | \$ 62,100.00 |
| | 3.3 | \$ 56,212.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | | | | \$ 56,212.00 |
| | | \$ 142,264.00 | \$ - | \$ 17,909.40 | \$ 5,946.62 | \$ - | | | | \$ 118,407.98 |

BRIAN

| LADWP / Jacobs | | Funding in Bank | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | Balance |
|----------------|--------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|----------|--------------|--------------|----------|-------|--------------|
| Task | HOURS | \$ 112,800.00 | \$ - | \$ 12,000.00 | \$ - | \$ 12,300.00 | \$ 12,750.00 | | | \$ 75,750.00 |
| | TRAVEL | \$ 8,700.00 | \$ - | \$ 4,877.04 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 863.56 | | | \$ 2,959.40 |
| | | \$ 121,500.00 | \$ - | \$ 16,877.04 | \$ - | \$ 12,300.00 | \$ 13,613.56 | | | \$ 78,709.40 |

AUSTRALIA

| LADWP / Jacobs | | Funding in Bank | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | Balance |
|----------------|--|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------|----------|-------|--------------|
| | | \$ 55,000.00 | \$ 25,000.00 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | | | \$ 30,000.00 |
| | | \$ 55,000.00 | \$ 25,000.00 | | | | | | | \$ 30,000.00 |
| | | | \$ 39,497.22 | \$ 77,462.96 | \$ 15,909.12 | \$ 18,295.00 | | | | |

NWRI

| LADWP / Jacobs | | Funding in Bank | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | Balance |
|----------------|--|-----------------|--------------|---------|----------|--------------|--------------|----------|-------|--------------|
| | | \$ 140,376.00 | \$ 47,945.93 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 12,768.63 | \$ 10,440.78 | | | \$ 69,220.66 |
| | | \$ 140,376.00 | \$ 47,945.93 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 12,768.63 | \$ 10,440.78 | | | \$ 69,220.66 |

Total Released Funding: \$ 596,000.00

Deferred Revenue: \$ 360,066.80
 Carry Over Phase 1: \$ 17.75
 Billed / Not Earned or Received: \$ 2,800,000.00
 Billed / Not Earned or Received: \$ 35,000.00
 Received Not Earned or Released: \$ 15,000.00
Total CalVal Deferred: \$ 3,210,084.55

National Water Research Institute

Open Invoices

As of January 31, 2026

| Date | Num | Class | Aging | Open Balance |
|--|-----------|---|-------|---------------------|
| Jacobs Project Management Company | | | | |
| 01/27/26 | 2026-1000 | Projects and Grants - 7070:Phase 2 Cal... | | 2,800,000.00 |
| Total Jacobs Project Management Company | | | | 2,800,000.00 |
| Los Angeles Department of Water and Power | | | | |
| 03/31/25 | 2025-1015 | Advisory Panels - 7020:LADWP Ground... | 298 | 566.75 |
| 06/30/25 | 2025-1039 | Advisory Panels - 7020:LADWP Ground... | 214 | 6,186.17 |
| 08/31/25 | 2025-1070 | Advisory Panels - 7020:LADWP Ground... | 148 | 29,127.42 |
| 09/30/25 | 2025-1082 | Advisory Panels - 7020:LADWP Ground... | 123 | 7,511.39 |
| 12/31/25 | 2025-1096 | Advisory Panels - 7020:DPR LADWP | 25 | 17,680.31 |
| Total Los Angeles Department of Water and Power | | | | 61,072.04 |
| State Water Resources Control Board | | | | |
| 12/31/25 | 2025-1093 | Advisory Panels - 7020:Onsite DDW | 5 | 18,578.25 |
| Total State Water Resources Control Board | | | | 18,578.25 |
| Valley Water District | | | | |
| 01/31/26 | 2026-1003 | Advisory Panels - 7020:Valley Water S... | | 13,196.71 |
| Total Valley Water District | | | | 13,196.71 |
| Water Research Foundation | | | | |
| 09/30/25 | 2025-1074 | Projects and Grants - 7070:5224 Digital ... | 93 | 15,418.03 |
| 06/12/25 | 2025-1032 | Advisory Panels - 7020:CalVal TWRF 5... | 92 | 28,887.26 |
| 06/30/25 | 2025-1063 | Advisory Panels - 7020:CalVal TWRF 5... | 92 | 1,112.74 |
| Total Water Research Foundation | | | | 45,418.03 |
| WaterReuse Association | | | | |
| 01/28/26 | 2026-1001 | Projects and Grants - 7070:Phase 2 Cal... | 4 | 35,000.00 |
| Total WaterReuse Association | | | | 35,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | | | 2,973,265.03 |



DATE: February 11, 2026
TO: NWRI Board of Directors
FROM: Kevin M. Hardy, Executive Director
SUBJECT: Item 9 – Clarke Prize Attachment

Recommendation:

1. Provide feedback and confirm **October 24** as the proposed date for the Clarke Prize Award Ceremony.
2. Receive and file the Clarke Prize Program Update
1. Discuss and take action as appropriate

Attachments:

- "Elevating the Clarke Prize to Global Prominence" PDF



Elevating the Clarke Prize to Global Prominence

Executive Summary. The Clarke Prize for Excellence in Water Research has honored groundbreaking achievements in water science since 1993. As global water challenges intensify—from scarcity to sustainability—the time is right to elevate the Clarke Prize to global prominence. Our goal is to leverage the Clarke Prize into a globally recognized honor that raises awareness, inspires future leaders, and attracts new partners and funders to NWRI’s mission through a comprehensive, year-round strategy.

Vision. We envision the Clarke Prize as the preeminent global award for water innovation, supported by: a year-round research platform engaging the world’s brightest minds; an annual, world-class Summit celebrating Laureates, their supporters and their innovation; a sustainable fundraising model, supported by families, funders, and partners. With Inspiration drawn from the success of the Breakthrough Prize <https://breakthroughprize.org/>

Clarke Prize Summit. An annual gathering in Southern California bringing together the Clarke Prize community to celebrate Laureates and foster connection among global leaders while helping to solve the most complex water challenges.

Clarke Prize. Awarded to thought leaders in water research, science, technology, or policy, Clarke Prize Laureates exemplify excellence and innovation while advancing the human right to clean water.

NWRI Funded Workshops and Research. NWRI will fund research on the designated theme aligned with NWRI priorities. Research grants embody the promise of Ms. Clarke’s vision: collaborative, interdisciplinary solutions to global water challenges.

New Funding Model. We will build on the Irvine Family legacy and NWRI’s reputation to establish a Giving Circle, targeting family offices, water companies, foundations, and public agencies. The approach will feature general and thematic campaigns, sponsorship tiers, and customized engagement opportunities.

Muti-Media Engagement. To achieve global prominence, NWRI and the Clarke Prize will adopt a multi-platform media strategy, combining traditional, digital, and social media to reach diverse audiences worldwide.

Potential Solutions & Deliverables

- Conduct original applied research aligned with research theme.
- Create impactful Laureate centered research, independent review and solutions.
- Publish at least one peer-reviewed paper or high-impact white paper.
- Present findings at the Clarke Prize and related events.
- Draft public-facing policy briefs and opinion pieces.