

Board Members

Joe Neves, District 1 – Vice Chairman
Richard Valle, District 2
Doug Verboon, District 3
Rusty Robinson, District 4 – Chairman
Robert Thayer, District 5



Staff

Kyria Martinez, County Executive Officer
Laurie Avedisian-Favini, County Counsel
Catherine Venturella, Clerk of the Board

Board of Supervisors

Regular Meeting Action Summary

Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: BOARD of SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS, Kings County Government Center
1400 W. Lacey Boulevard, Hanford, California 93230

☎ (559) 852-2362 ❖ bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us ❖ www.countyofkingsca.gov

The meeting can be attended on the Internet by clicking the Microsoft Teams hyper link below:
<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/222834658162234?p=2uQtv8D02wKAl6pr3k>

or by sending an email to bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us on the morning of the meeting for an automated email response with the Microsoft Teams meeting link information. Members of the public attending via Microsoft Teams will have the opportunity to provide public comments during the meeting. If the Microsoft Teams connection malfunctions or becomes unavailable for any reason, the Board of Supervisors reserves the right to conduct the meeting without remote access. *Microsoft Teams will be available for access, and the Board Chambers will be open at 8:50 a.m.*

Members of the public who wish to view/observe the meeting virtually can do so on the internet at:
www.countyofkingsca.gov and click on the “Join Meeting” button or by clicking this link:

<https://youtube.com/live/oK-EK7NkrKc?feature=share>

****Members of the public viewing the meeting through YouTube will not have the ability to provide public comment.**

Members of the public may submit written comments on any matter within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction, regardless of whether it is on the agenda for the Board’s consideration or action, and those comments may become part of the administrative record of the meeting. Comments will not be read into the record, only the names of those who have submitted comments will be read. Written comments should be directed to bosquestions@co.kings.ca.us email by 8:00 a.m. on the morning of the noticed meeting to be included in the record. Those comments received after 8:00 a.m. may become part of the record of the next meeting. E-mail is not monitored during the meeting. To submit comments by U.S. Mail, send to: Kings County Board of Supervisors, Attn: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Kings, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, CA 93230.

- I. 9:00 AM **CALL TO ORDER**
ROLL CALL – Clerk of the Board
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT
INVOCATION – Pastor Orris Whitley – Mt. Olive Church
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



II. UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCES

This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on items of interest within the Board's jurisdiction, and which are not already on the agenda. The Board will not answer questions impromptu, and concerns or complaints will be referred to appropriate staff. For items which are on the agenda, members of the public will be provided with an opportunity to address the Board as each item is brought up for discussion. Speakers should limit their comments to not more than two (2) minutes.

Julio Godinez, representing SEIU Caregivers stated that Kings County is anticipating a care crisis and needs to provide affordable healthcare and benefits for In-Home Supportive Services workers.

Veronica Ramos, representing SEIU Local 2015 stated that there is a care crisis and a shortage of caregivers in Kings County due to lack of livable wages and healthcare.

Ginger Wallis, resident of Avenal, apologized to and thanked the Kings County Board of Supervisors, Elections Department and Fire Department and their staff and stated that the citizens of Avenal appreciate you and thank you for never giving up on us.

Sheila Verdugo, resident of Avenal sincerely thanked the Board and addressed several issues with leadership, government and also concerns with expenditures in respect to the Avenal City Council. She stated that Avenal residents do not fully understand what is next for the election process and need someone knowledgeable to explain.

Lupe Villa, Elections Office, gave an update on the recall election ballot count for four members of the Avenal City Council.

Micah Kuiper, resident of Kings County, stated his concerns that the Cross Creek Bridge project needs to be completed.

Jose Arellano, resident of Corcoran, stated that he is experiencing issues with Kings County Human Services Agency/Child Protective Services and the safety of his children and stated that an investigation needs to be started.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Report out of closed session from the regular meeting for May 12, 2026.

REPORT OUT: Laurie Avedisian-Favini, County Counsel stated the Board took no reportable action at the May 12, 2026 meeting.

B. Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting for May 12, 2026.

PUBLIC: None

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (DV, JN, RV, RT, RR - Aye)

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items listed under the consent calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. If a Board member has questions, requests additional information, or wishes to comment on an item, the vote should not be taken until after questions have been addressed or comments made, and the public has had an opportunity to comment on the Consent Calendar items.



A. Human Services Agency:

1. Consider approving the Agreement with JUMP Technology Services for the Adult Protective Services referral and case management automated software system LEAPS, including the Home Safe Reporting Module, retroactively effective from April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2031. **[AGMT 26-085]**

B. Public Health Department:

1. a. Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing submission of a grant application to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery for the Solid Waste Local Enforcement Agency Grant Program; **[RESO 26-035]**
b. Authorize the Director of Public Health to execute all necessary documents to implement the grant, effective upon award through the grant term.
2. Consider re-appointing Cecilio Velasco, Edward Rij, Daniel Perkins, Matthew Rowe and Nate Ferrier to continue serving on the Kings County Ambulance Commission.

C. Sheriff's Office:

1. Consider authorizing the Sheriff's Office to purchase a live scan machine for the Corcoran Police Department.

D. Administration:

1. a. Consider conducting a Public Hearing under Section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code regarding the proposed issuance of tax-exempt obligations by the California Public Finance Authority;
b. Adopt a Resolution approving the financing and the issuance of up to \$270,000,000 in qualified 501(c)(3) bonds by the California Public Finance Authority for Sonoma TCDF, LLC., for a rental senior living community. **[RESO 26-036]**
2. a. Consider approving the Medi-Cal County Inmate Program Participation Agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services for the Medi-Cal County Inmate Program effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029; **[AGMT 26-086]**
b. Approve the Medi-Cal County Inmate Program Agreement with the California Department of Health Care Services effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029. **[AGMT 26-087]**

PUBLIC: None

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (DV, JN, RV, RT, RR - Aye)

V.

REGULAR CALENDAR

A. Community Development Agency – Chuck Kinney

1. Consider accepting the monthly report of Planning Commission's actions from their May 11, 2026 meeting.

PUBLIC: None

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (DV, RV, JN, RT, RR - Aye)

B. Public Works Department – Michelle Speer/Mitchel Cabrera

1. a. Consider approving the Plans and Specifications for the Houston Avenue at Cross Creek Bridge Replacement project;
b. Authorize the Public Works Department to advertise the project;
c. Adopt the budget change. **(4/5 vote required)**

PUBLIC: None

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (RT, DV, JN, RV, RR - Aye)



C. Administration – Kyria Martinez/Veronica Mello/Matthew Boyett

1. Consider adopting a Resolution establishing grand juror compensation at \$20 per day for each day of attendance, not to exceed \$350 per calendar month, plus mileage reimbursement at the applicable Internal Revenue Service. **[RESO 26-037]**

PUBLIC: Ronney Wong, Grand Jury member, stated that the Grand Jury is made up of 19 members, who are representatives on four separate committees that meet up to four times per week, and all 19 members meet on Friday as a group, he stated that lowering the daily rate will make it even harder to attract members and keep them for the one year commitment.

Kathryn Bare, Grand Jury foreperson, stated that the Grand Jury will be doing their own internal training which will save \$5,000, and stated that they will stay within the budget they are given.

ACTION: APPROVED AS AMENDED TO \$20 PER DAY FOR EACH DAY OF ATTENDANCE, NOT TO EXCEED \$1,050 PER QUARTER, PLUS MILEAGE AT THE APPLICABLE IRS RATE.

(DV, JN, RT, RR – Aye; RV - No)

2. Consider authorizing a hiring freeze, effective immediately. Exceptions to the freeze shall only be authorized after approval by the County Administration Office.

PUBLIC: Dave Putnam, Kings County Sheriff stated that he can lose an employee with a two-week notice, but with all the processes in hiring it can take six months to replace the employee who left and state that he will work with Administration to fill required positions.

Ricardo Verdugo, resident of Avenal, stated he commends Kyria Martinez, County Executive Officer for being proactive and imposing the hiring freeze considering the budget situation in California.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (DV, JN, RV, RT, RR - Aye)

3. a. Consider designating deposit from the California Public Finance Authority and a deposit from the California Community Housing Agency as restricted and place the funds in an interest-barring reserve account;
- b. Adopt the budget change. **(4/5 vote required)**

PUBLIC: Lydia Ritchie, Home Garden Community Service District Office Manager, stated their needs to replace an old generator with even a used one would help to keep the community running and there is a need to repair one bathroom that has been vandalized at the community park.

Sheriff Dave Putnam stated that the additional requested Bearcat vehicle for the Sheriff's Department and the equipment that the Corcoran Police Department is requesting funding for is very important and could save lives of our public safety officers and the public.

The Board discussed the funds and project and possible ways of assisting.

ACTION: A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR VERBOON TO APPROVE THE ITEM AS PRESENTED AND A SECOND WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR NEVES. (DV, JN, RR-Aye, RV, RT-No) Failed

ACTION: A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR VALLE TO AMEND THE ITEM TO ADD \$416,961 SET ASIDE FOR THE PROJECTS OUTLINED TODAY (\$36,748.71 FOR CORCORAN PD, \$6,296.56 FOR HOME GARDEN COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, \$330,366 FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE BEARCAT VEHICLE) AND A SECOND WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR THAYER. (RV, RT-Aye, JN, DV, RR-No) Failed

ACTION: SUPERVISOR VALLE MADE A MOTION TO MOVE THE FUNDS TO AN INTEREST-BEARING ACCOUNT AND DIRECT STAFF TO BRING BACK THE ITEM WITH THE REQUESTED PROJECTS EARMARKED FOR FUNDING. (DV, RR, JN, RV, RT-No) Failed

ACTION: A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR VERBOON TO APPROVE THE ITEM AS PRESENTED AND A SECOND WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR ROBINSON. (DV, RR, JN, RV, RT-No) Failed



VI. 10:00 AM PUBLIC HEARING

A. Community Development Agency – Chuck Kinney/Yesenia Kharufeh

1. a. Conduct a Public Hearing regarding the status of the County's 2022 Community Development Block Grant;
- b. Authorize the Community Development Agency Director to sign and submit all required documents to the Department of Housing and Community Development to close out the grant.

CHAIRMAN ROBINSON OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING; NO TESTIMONY WAS RECEIVED AND THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (DV, RV, JN, RT, RR - Aye)

10:00 AM PUBLIC HEARING

B. Community Development Agency – Chuck Kinney/Noelle Tomlinson

1. a. Conduct a Public Hearing to consider proposed General Plan Amendment 26-02 to adopt the 2024-2032 Housing Element;
- b. Find that approving General Plan Amendment 26-02 is exempt from environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), and none of the circumstances in Section 15300.2 apply;
- c. Find that General Plan Amendment 26-02 is consistent with the policies of the 2035 Kings County General Plan;
- d. Adopt a Resolution approving General Plan Amendment 26-02. **[RESO 26-038]**

CHAIRMAN ROBINSON OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING; NO TESTIMONY WAS RECEIVED AND THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED.

ACTION: APPROVED AS PRESENTED (DV, JN, RV, RT, RR - Aye)

VII. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

On their own initiative, Board Members may make a brief announcement or a brief report on their own activities. They may ask questions for clarification, make a referral to staff or request staff place a matter of business on a future agenda (Govt. Code Section 54954.2a).

Supervisor Neves stated that Lemoore High School softball wrapped up the regular season with a win and looking forward to the 2026 CIF Central Section, Division IV playoff games, attended the Kings Local Planning Council Partnership breakfast, attended the Peace Officers Memorial hosted by the District Attorney's Office, attended the Kings Waste and Recycling Authority special meeting, attended the Behavioral Health consumer hearing, stated that the Thursday Night Market continues through October 2026, attended the American Legion Post 100 breakfast, announced the Lemoore High School softball playoff game against the Caruthers Blue Raiders, the Tigers will play the Shafter Generals on May 20, delivered the invocation at the 135th Celebration of the Salvation Army of Hanford, he continues to donate blood at the Central California Blood Center and attended the 110th Stratford Portuguese Celebration where he has served in about half of the celebrations over 55 years where he started out mowing weeds, sweeping sidewalks and cleaning the restrooms and 55 years later, he continues to do those tasks.

Supervisor Thayer stated he attended the Peace Officer's Memorial where he was the keynote speaker, remembering those who died including four Kings County officers who died by suicide, attended the Kings Waste and Recycling special meeting, assisted a constituent with a traffic control issue, he stated the state budget-that the state is not playing fair, and directed staff to place items spoke of earlier today on an upcoming agenda.



Supervisor Valle stated he attended the Peace Officers Memorial and that “Cowbert” Kingston, the County of Kings mascot, made his debut on the Great Day Morning Show. Supervisor Valle honored Supervisor Neves on his blood donations milestone, and asked staff to bring an item back for the CalPFA/CalCHA money talked about earlier.

Supervisor Verboon stated he attended the Peace Officer’s Memorial, attended the San Joaquin Valley Policy Council Retreat in Stockton and attended the Kings Guild fundraiser.

Supervisor Robinson stated he attended the Peace Officer’s Memorial, attended the Bro-Dal shower for Administration Analyst Alex C. Walker and attended the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Board meeting. He stated that he gave a Downtown Hanford tour to the third-grade class at Hanford Christian School and he attended the Homelessness Collaborative meeting.

- ◆ Staff Updates and/or Reports: Codi Pennington, Public Guardian/Veteran’s Service Officer introduced the new assistant Public Guardian/Veteran’s Service Officer, Eric Ornellas. Eric Ornellas stated he is from Fresno County, served in the U.S. Army for six years and has a background in law enforcement and corrections.
- ◆ Board Correspondence: Kyria Martinez stated the Board received correspondence from Christine Hobbs dated May 17, 2026. The Board received the following reports for the month of April from the Department of Finance: Monthly Kings County Investment Pool Transaction Activity Report, the Kings County Investment Pool Portfolio Management Summary, the Monthly Fund Balance Report and the Treasurer’s Report of Cash and Investments.
- ◆ Upcoming Events: Kyria Martinez stated that Kings County Behavioral Health is hosting its Mental Health Family Member Support Group tonight, Tuesday, May 19th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Kings Building on the County Government Center campus. Kings County Library is hosting its Movie Time at the Stratford Branch tomorrow, Wednesday, May 20, 2026, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- ◆ Information on Future Agenda Items: Kyria Martinez stated the following items will be on the June 2, 2026 agenda; as there is no Board meeting on May 26, 2026 due to Memorial Day Holiday: Administration – Presentation to the Employee of the 1st Quarter of 2026 and recognition of 2025 Employee of the Year; Agriculture Department – an Agreement with the California Department of Food and Agriculture for European Grapevine Moth Detection Program; Behavioral Health – Agreement with California Psychiatric Transitions CPT and an amended agreement with Vista Pacifica Enterprises Incorporated; Community Development Agency – a 2022 CDBG closeout of the Kettleman City curb, gutter and sidewalk project and the monthly reporting of Planning Commission Actions; District Attorney – an Agreement with Axon Enterprises and annual maintenance renewal for Prosecutor by Karpel; Department of Finance – an amended Agreement for Post Disaster Recovery Management Services. Fire Department – an agreement for Bauer Compressor; Human Resources – two items regarding suspension of competition in the District Attorney’s office; Human Services Agency – an item regarding an Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness month proclamation; Library – an item regarding holiday closure of Hanford and Corcoran Libraries for July 4, 2026; Sheriff’s Office – an item regarding a viper phone and uninterruptible power supply system for Sheriff’s Office Dispatch Center.



VIII.

CLOSED SESSION

1. **Government Code section 54957.6**
CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
Agency designated representatives:
Kyria Martinez
Carolyn Leist
Che Johnson - Liebert Cassidy Whitmore
Employee Organizations:
General Unit - CLOCEA
Supervisor's Unit - CLOCEA
Blue Collar – SEIU
Detention Deputy's Association
Firefighter's Association
Deputy Sheriff's Association
Probation Officer's Association
Prosecutor's Association
Unrepresented Management
2. **Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)**
CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Name of Case: City of Avenal v. County of Kings
Case No. 26CU0138
3. **Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)**
CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
Name of Case: City of Avenal v. County of Kings
Kings County Superior Court Case No. 26CU0106
5th DCA Case No: F091517
4. **Government Code section 54956.9**
CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of section 54956.9
of the Government Code: One Case
Public: None



IX. ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting for Tuesday, May 26, 2026, is canceled due to Memorial Day Holiday on Monday, May 25, 2026.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

X. 11:00 AM IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES PUBLIC AUTHORITY MEETING

XI. 1:00 PM BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING

FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

| | | |
|--------|----------|--|
| May 26 | -- | Regular Meeting Canceled due to Memorial Day Holiday on Monday, May 25, 2026 |
| May 26 | 10:00 AM | Special Meeting Housing Authority of Kings County |
| June 2 | 9:00 AM | Regular Meeting |
| June 3 | 9:00 AM | Freedom Memorial Ceremony |
| June 9 | 9:00 AM | Regular Meeting |
| June 9 | 1:00 PM | Mid-Kings River Ground Water Sustainability Agency Meeting |

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Board of Supervisors office at (559) 852-2362 by 9:00 a.m. on the Monday prior to this meeting.

Agenda backup information and any public records provided to the Board after the posting of the agenda for this meeting will be available for public review within 24 hours of receipt of said documents, at the Kings County Board of Supervisors office, located at 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, CA 93230 or at

<https://www.countyofkingsca.gov/departments/board-of-supervisors/calendar-agenda-and-action-summary>