

**VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT**  
Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 7, 2021  
1001 Partridge Drive, Ventura, California

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND THE COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH OFFICER'S LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION AS A RESULT OF THE THREAT OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS, THIS VRSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WAS HELD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE.

Chairperson Friedman called the special meeting to order at 11:29 a.m.

1. Roll Call: The Clerk of the Board called the roll. The following Board Members were present:

James Acosta, Special Districts  
Jenny Crosswhite, City of Santa Paula  
Jim Friedman, City of San Buenaventura  
Laura Hernandez, City of Port Hueneme  
Ed Jones, City of Thousand Oaks  
Kevin Kildee, City of Camarillo  
Bert Perello, City of Oxnard  
William Weirick, City of Ojai

Absent: Mark Austin, City of Fillmore

Staff Present: Chris Theisen, General Manager; Robert Kwong, Legal Counsel; Tina Rivera, Director of Finance; Richard Jones, Interim Director of Operations; Melissa Macias, Human Resources Manager; Michael Castro, Interim Operations Manager; Sandy Warren, Management Analyst; Regina Williams, Senior Accountant, and Juliet Rodriguez, Clerk of the Board.

2. Agenda Review:

No changes.

*It was moved by Director Kildee, seconded by Director Perello, to approve the Agenda as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: Acosta, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick were in favor; the motion carried 8-0.*

3. Public Comment:

None.

**ACTION ITEMS** (Items 4 and 5)

4. Authorization to Approve Covid-19 Related Emergency Leave Provisions

Melissa Macias, Human Resources Manager, gave the presentation.

*It was moved by Director Acosta, seconded by Director Jones, to A) Authorize the General Manager to approve a negative Comprehensive Annual Leave balance, in an amount not to exceed 80 hours, in emergency scenarios; and B) Authorize the General Manager to approve Comprehensive Annual Leave donations voluntarily made by District employees to other District employees who have exhausted their accumulated paid leave. ROLL CALL VOTE: Acosta, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick were in favor; the motion carried 8-0.*

5. Consideration of a Board of Directors Letter to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors Advocating the Approval of a Conditional Use Permit Modification and Solid Waste Facility Permit Revision for the Toland Optimization Plan Project

Chris Theisen, General Manager, gave the report.

Director Wierick asked that the following sentence be added to the letter:

This landfill has also served a critical role for environmentally safe and cost effective disposal of extraordinary solid waste streams from recent wildfire disasters.

*It was moved by Director Weirick, seconded by Director Acosta, to approve, and authorize the Board Chair to sign, a letter to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors in support of and advocating approval of the Proposed Modification to the Conditional Use Permit and Revision of the Solid Waste Facilities Permit for the Toland Road Landfill with inclusion of Director Weirick's sentence. ROLL CALL VOTE: Acosta, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick were in favor; the motion carried 7-0.*

Director Jones had interim technical issues and was not present for the roll call vote but was able to return to the meeting shortly after.

**ORAL REPORTS** (Items 6 and 7)

6. Board Member Comments

Board Members welcomed Chairperson Friedman and thanked former Chairperson Perello for his year of service.

Chairperson Friedman thanked the Board for their vote of confidence and looked forward to working with Vice Chairperson Hernandez and the Board.

7. General Manager Comments

None.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, Chairperson Friedman adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m. to the next Regular Meeting on January 21, 2021, 8:30 a.m. via video conference.

Prepared by:

Approved:

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Juliet Rodriguez  
Clerk of the Board

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Jim Friedman, Chairperson  
Ventura Regional Sanitation District