

VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 4, 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 meeting to order at 8:32 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. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge was led by Director James Acosta.
3. Agenda Review:

Chairperson Friedman stated that Agenda Item No. 9, Revenue and Expense Report was for December 2020 and not January 2021.

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

4. Public Comment:

None.

PRESENTATION (Item 5 only)

5. Receive and File PFM Asset Management, LLC – 4th Quarter Review of VRSD Investment Portfolio

Richard Babbe, PFM Asset Management, gave the presentation and answered the Board's questions.

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

CONSENT AGENDA (Item 6 only) Matters listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine, non-controversial, and are normally approved by one motion without discussion. If discussion is requested by a member of the Board on any Consent Agenda item, or if a member of the public wishes to comment on an item, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate action.

6. Approval of Minutes: January 21, 2021 Regular Meeting

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

REGULAR AGENDA (Items 7 and 8)

7. 2021 Board Committee Appointments

Juliet Rodriguez, Clerk of the Board, facilitated the Board Committee appointments.

It was moved by Director Jones, seconded by Director Acosta, to approve the appointment of Chairperson Friedman, Vice Chairperson Hernandez, and former Chairperson Perello to the Executive Committee. ROLL CALL VOTE: Acosta, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick were in favor; the motion carried 8-0.

It was moved by Director Jones, seconded by Director Kildee, to approve Chairperson Friedman's appointments to the following:

Facilities Committee: Directors Kildee, Perello, and Weirick

Personnel & Finance Committee: Directors Acosta, Crosswhite, and Jones

VCREA Representative: Director Austin, as Primary; Director Kildee as Alternate

ROLL CALL VOTE: Acosta, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick were in favor; the motion carried 8-0.

Director Jones left the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

8. Receive and File Report on Ventura County Board of Supervisors Meeting, January 26, 2021, on Modification to Conditional Use Permit for Toland Road Landfill (Case No. PL17-0121)

Chris Theisen, General Manager, gave the report.

It was moved by Director Acosta, seconded by Director Kildee, to receive and file staff's report. ROLL CALL VOTE: Acosta, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick were in favor; the motion carried 7-0.

INFORMATION ITEMS (Items 9 through 12)

9. Revenue and Expense Report: December 2020
10. Disbursement Report: None
11. Investment Report: None
12. Future Meetings, Seminars and Conferences
 - ♦ Feb. 18, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Regular Board Meeting
 - ♦ Mar. 2, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting
 - ♦ Mar. 4, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Regular Board Meeting
 - ♦ Mar. 18, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Regular Board Meeting

It was moved by Director Kildee, seconded by Director Weirick, to receive and file all Information Items. ROLL CALL VOTE: Acosta, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick were in favor; the motion carried 7-0.

Director Jones returned to the meeting at 9:39 a.m.

ORAL REPORTS (Items 13 through 16)

13. Regulatory Compliance Report
None.
14. Committee Reports
A Facilities Committee Report, for the meeting of January 28, 2021, was given by Committee Chairperson Weirick.

15. Board Member Comments and Future Agenda Items

Director Acosta reported on having attended the CASA Winter Conference, held virtually on January 27-28, 2021.

Director Hernandez inquired on whether the District had a Hazard Mitigation Plan in place and if not, said that there may be grant funding available to prepare it.

16. General Manager Comments

Mr. Theisen stated that a poll was taken of the Board's availability for a Special Meeting on February 11, 2021, and at this time, there is a quorum. The actual need for this meeting would be confirmed in the coming days.

Mr. Theisen informed the Board of Directors that March 16th is the date set by the County Board of Supervisors for the continuation of the hearing that began on January 26, 2021 on the Modification to the Conditional Use Permit for the Toland Road Landfill.

Mr. Theisen stated that he had received an email from City of Oxnard Manager Alex Nguyen in response to a letter he had recently sent to the City regarding VRSD's proposal to the City guaranteeing that VRSD could accept 67% of Oxnard's solid waste even before the conditional use permit modification and other permit modifications were approved.

Mr. Theisen reported that the agenda for the next City of Oxnard Public Works & Transportation Committee did not contain an item regarding the City's solid waste disposal contract(s).

It was moved by Director Kildee, seconded by Director Acosta, to receive and file all Oral Reports. ROLL CALL VOTE: Acosta, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick were in favor; the motion carried 8-0.

CLOSED SESSION (Items 17 and 18)

At 9:56 a.m., Legal Counsel Robert Kwong announced that it was the intention of the Ventura Regional Sanitation District Board of Directors to meet in closed session to consider the following items:

17. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Gov. Code, § 54957.6)

DISTRICT DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES:

Melissa Macias, VRSD Human Resources Manager; Tina Rivera, VRSD Director of Finance; Michael Castro, VRSD Interim Operations Manager; and Melony Chaney, Legal Counsel, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore

EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS:

Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Local 721

International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), Local 501

Non-represented Positions

18. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Gov Code, § 54957)

Title: General Counsel

At 10:50 a.m. Mr. Kwong announced the Board adjourned from Closed Session and that they were reconvening to Open Session. He further announced that no reportable action was taken by the Board on Closed Session Agenda Item No. 17 and Agenda Item No. 18.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, Chairperson Friedman adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m. to a Regular Meeting to be held February 18, 2021, 8:30 a.m. via video conference.

Prepared by:

Approved:

Juliet Rodriguez
Clerk of the Board

Jim Friedman, Chairperson
Ventura Regional Sanitation District

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