

VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 20, 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 8:31 a.m.

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

James Acosta, Special Districts
Mark Austin, City of Fillmore
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

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; Senior Accountant Regina Williams, and Juliet Rodriguez, Clerk of the Board.

2. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge was led by Director Perello.
3. Agenda Review:

No changes.

It was moved by Director Weirick, seconded by Vice Chairperson Hernandez, to approve the Agenda as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 9-0 (FOR: Acosta, Austin, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick).

4. Public Comment:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA (Item 5 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.

5. Approval of Minutes: May 6, 2021 Regular Meeting; May 6, 2021 Special Meeting; and May 11, 2021 Special Meeting

It was moved by Director Kildee, seconded by Director Acosta, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried 9-0 (FOR: Acosta, Austin, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick). Director Austin abstained from the Special Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2021.

REGULAR AGENDA (Item 6 only)

6. Consider, Approve, and Adopt VRSD Ordinance No. VRSD-116 – Fees and Charges for the Toland Road Landfill

Tina Rivera, Director of Finance, gave the staff report.

Chair Friedman opened the public hearing and none of the public present requested to speak.

It was moved by Director Weirick, seconded by Director Perello, to amend Ordinance No. VRSD-116, Section 4 Inflationary Rate Adjustment to read “may be adjusted” and not “will be adjusted”. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion failed 6-3 (AGAINST: Acosta, Austin, Jones, Kildee, Hernandez, and Friedman. FOR: Crosswhite, Perello, and Weirick).

It was moved by Director Acosta, seconded by Director Austin, to A) Conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed fees and charges for Fees and Charges for the Toland Road Landfill, Ordinance No. VRSD-116; B) Conduct the second reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. VRSD-116, Regulating Fees and Charges for the Toland Road Landfill; and C) Adopt Ordinance No. VRSD-116 for Fees and Charges for the Toland Road Landfill to become effective July 1, 2021. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 9-0 (FOR: Acosta, Austin, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick).

INFORMATION ITEMS (Items 7 through 10)

7. Revenue and Expense Report: April 2021

8. Disbursement Report: April 2021

9. Investment Report: April 2021

10. Future Meetings, Seminars and Conferences

- ♦ June 1, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting
- ♦ June 3, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Regular Board Meeting
- ♦ June 17, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Regular Board Meeting
- ♦ July 1, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Regular Board Meeting
- ♦ July 6, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting
- ♦ July 15, 2021, 8:30 a.m. – Regular Board Meeting

It was moved by Director Jones, seconded by Director Acosta, to receive and file all Information Items. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 9-0 (FOR: Acosta, Austin, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick).

ORAL REPORTS (Items 11 through 14)

11. Regulatory Compliance Report

None.

12. Committee Reports

None.

13. Board Member Comments and Future Agenda Items

Director Kildee asked whether the City of Oxnard could use the Toland Road Landfill as a backup. General Manager Theisen answered “yes.”

Director Weirick commented that his estimated calculations for the round trip cost of taking solid waste to Simi Valley from Oxnard was higher when compared to the round trip cost to Toland Road Landfill.

Director Perello asked about the creation of a policy on the delivery of information to the Board. He also asked if District staff had responded to comments made at a recent Ventura County Board of Supervisors presentation on County Service Area No. 29. General Manager Theisen said “no.”

It was moved by Director Weirick, seconded by Director Kildee, to include on a future agenda a discussion of the comments made at the May 11, 2021 Ventura County Board of Supervisors Meeting and include the County Staff’s report and PowerPoint presentation. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 9-0 (FOR: Acosta, Austin, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick).

14. General Manager Comments

General Manager Chris Theisen reported that he and staff had met with Ventura County staff regarding the possibility of the County not renewing their contract for services provided by VRSD to one area of the County.

15. Correspondence Agenda (Receive & File)

- a. May 6, 2021 Letter from Triunfo Water & Sanitation District Board of Directors, Chair Raymond Tjulander
- b. May 12, 2021 Letter from City of Oxnard Public Works Department, Environmental Resources Division, Division Manager Todd Vasquez-Housley

It was moved by Director Kildee, seconded by Director Weirick, to receive and file all Oral Reports. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 9-0 (FOR: Acosta, Austin, Crosswhite, Friedman, Hernandez, Jones, Kildee, Perello, and Weirick).

CLOSED SESSION (Item 16 only)

At 9:15 a.m., Legal Counsel announced that the Board would be convening to a Closed Session in a separate Zoom meeting.

Chair Friedman opened public comment for this item and none was requested by any of the members of the public or attendees present.

Legal Counsel further stated that it is the intention of the Ventura Regional Sanitation District Board of Directors to meet in closed session to consider the following items:

16. CLOSED SESSION – CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)-(d)(4). Two cases.

The Board recessed at 9:20 a.m. to attend Closed Session at 9:25 a.m.

OPEN SESSION

At 10:25 a.m., Legal Counsel reported that the Closed Session ended at 10:23 a.m. and there was no action taken by the Board during Closed Session Agenda Item No. 16 and therefore nothing to report out of that Closed Session.

The Clerk of the Board was asked by Chairperson Friedman to take the roll. The following Board Members were present:

James Acosta, Special Districts

**VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES**

MAY 20, 2021

Mark Austin, City of Fillmore
Jenny Crosswhite, City of Santa Paula
Jim Friedman, City of San Buenaventura
Laura Hernandez, City of Port Hueneme
Kevin Kildee, City of Camarillo
Bert Perello, City of Oxnard
William Weirick, City of Ojai

Absent: Ed Jones, City of Thousand Oaks

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, Chairperson Friedman adjourned the meeting at 10:54 a.m., to a Regular Meeting to be held June 3, 2021, 8:30 a.m. via video conference.

Prepared by:

Approved:

Juliet Rodriguez
Clerk of the Board

Jim Friedman, Chairperson
Ventura Regional Sanitation District