

VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 15, 2025

4105 W. Gonzales Road, Oxnard, California

Chair Newman, 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:

Leslie Cornejo, City of Santa Paula
Doug Halter, City of Ventura (arrived at 8:33am)
Kevin Kildee, City of Camarillo
Martha McQueen-Legohn, City of Port Hueneme
James Acosta, Special Districts
David Newman, City of Thousand Oaks
Bert Perello, City of Oxnard

Absent: Andrew Whitman, City of Ojai, Andrew Nelson, Special Districts, Christina Villaseñor, City of Fillmore

Staff Present: Chris Theisen, General Manager; Robert Kwong, Legal Counsel, Richard Jones, Director of Operations, Tina Rivera, Director of Finance, and Mayra Rodriguez Clerk of the Board.

2. Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge was led by Director Acosta.

3. Agenda Review:

None

It was moved by Director Acosta, seconded by Director Cornejo, to approve to the Agenda Review. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 7-0 (FOR: Halter, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Acosta, Perello, Cornejo, and Newman).

4. Public Comment:

None.

PRESENTATION (Item 5 only)

5. Receive and File PFM Asset Management, LLC – 1st Quarter Review of VRSD Investment Portfolio

Robert Montoya, PFM Asset Management, gave the presentation to the Board.

It was moved by Director Kildee, seconded by Director Perello, to Receive and File PFM Asset Management, LLC – 1st Quarter Review of VRSD Investment

Portfolio. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 7-0 (FOR: Halter, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Acosta, Perello, Cornejo, and Newman).

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: May 1, 2025 Regular Meeting

It was moved by Director Perello, seconded by Director McQueen-Legohn, to Approve to the Consent Agenda as presented ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 6-0-1 (FOR: Halter, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Perello, and Newman ABSTAIN: Acosta).

REGULAR AGENDA (Items 7 through 9)

7. Consider and Approve the List of Labor Market Agencies to be used for The Compensation Study

Chris Theisen, General Manager presented the staff report to the Board.

It was moved by Director McQueen-Legohn, seconded by Director Cornejo, to Approve the list of labor market agencies for the compensation study currently being undertaken. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 7-0 (FOR: Halter, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Acosta, Perello, Cornejo, and Newman).

8. Consider and Approve an Engagement Letter with Lebeau Thelen LLP for Legal Services Related to The Comprehensive Groundwater Adjudication Case, OPV Coalition, ET AL. V. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, ET AL., Santa Barbara Superior Court Case No. VENCI00555357

Chris Theisen, General Manager presented the staff report to the Board.
Board.

Director Perello recused himself from item number 8.

It was moved by Director Acosta, seconded by Director Cornejo Consider, Approve, and Direct the General Manager to sign, the Joint/Multiple Client Disclosure and Consent Agreement from LeBeau Thelen; and Consider, Approve, and Direct the General Manager to sign, the Engagement Letter – OPV Coalition et al. v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, et al., Santa Barbara Superior Court Case VENCI100555357 with LeBeau Thelen LLP for legal services for said case in an initial amount not to exceed \$3,500. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 6-0 (FOR: Halter, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Acosta, Perello, Cornejo, and Newman).

9. Consider and Approve Offering A \$50,000 Incentive Payment to Enhance the Recruitment of a Solid Waste Superintendent, which is critical to District Operations in the Solid Waste Division of the Operations Department

Chris Theisen, General Manager presented the staff report to the Board.

It was moved by Director Kildee, seconded by Director Halter to Approve offering and providing a one-time incentive payment of \$50,000 for the impending recruitment of the vacant Solid Waste Superintendent position in the following manner: \$25,000 to be paid in the first paycheck (but subject to claw-back until passing probation at twelve months of employment) and \$25,000 to be paid upon completion of two years of satisfactory employment. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 7-0 (FOR: Halter, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Acosta, Perello, Cornejo, and Newman).

INFORMATION ITEMS (Items 10 through 12)

It is recommended that the Board receive and file the following:

10. Disbursement Report: April 2025
11. Investment Report: April 2025
12. Future Meetings, Seminars and Conferences
 - June 19, 2025, 8:30 a.m.– Regular Board Meeting, District Office
 - July 1, 2025, 8:30 a.m. – P&F Committee Meeting, District Office
 - July 3, 2025, 8:30 a.m.– Regular Board Meeting, District Office
 - July 17, 2025, 8:30 a.m.– Regular Board Meeting, District Office
 - July 30-August 1, 2025, California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Annual Conference, San Diego, CA

It was moved by Director Kildee, seconded by Director Acosta, to receive and file Information Items. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 7-0 (FOR: Halter, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Acosta, Perello, Cornejo, and Newman).

ORAL REPORTS (Items 13 through 16)

It is recommended that the Board receive and file the following:

13. Regulatory Compliance Report: None
14. Committee Reports: None
15. Board Member Comments and Future Agenda Items: None

16. General Manager Comments

Chris Theisen, General Manager, reported the recruitment for the General Manager had closed on April 28, 2025. He reported there were a final of eleven applications received, and is attempting to schedule the Executive Committee meeting in the next coming weeks to review the candidates.

Mr. Theisen also reported the recruitment for the Director of Operations was posted and set to close on June 9, 2025.

Mr. Theisen also reported that the District had received a letter from Ventura County Planning indicating that the CUP application for the Bailard office complex was deemed complete.

It was *moved by Director Acosta, seconded by Director McQueen-Legohn*, to receive and file Information Items. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 7-0 (FOR: Halter, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Acosta, Perello, Cornejo, and Newman).

CLOSED SESSION (Item 17 only)

It is the intention of the Ventura Regional Sanitation District Board of Directors to meet in closed session to consider the following items:

17. CLOSED SESSION – CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL –
ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)) – one case

The Board convened to closed session at 10:03a.m. And adjourned out of closed session at 10:23 a.m. There was no closed session report since there was no reportable action taken on the closed session matter.

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourn to Regular Meeting to be held June 5, 2025, 8:30 a.m. at the Ventura Regional Sanitation District office.

Prepared by:

Approved:

Mayra Rodriguez
Clerk of the Board

David Newman, Chairperson
Ventura Regional Sanitation District