

VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 5, 2025
4105 W. Gonzales Road, Oxnard, California

Chair Newman, 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:

Leslie Cornejo, City of Santa Paula
Doug Halter, City of Ventura
Kevin Kildee, City of Camarillo (left meeting at 9:11am)
Martha McQueen-Legohn, City of Port Hueneme
Andrew Nelson, Special Districts
David Newman, City of Thousand Oaks
Bert Perello, City of Oxnard
Andrew Whitman, City of Ojai (arrived at 8:36am)
Andrew Nelson, Special Districts

Absent: 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 Halter.

3. Agenda Review:

None

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

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: June 20, 2025 Special Meeting, July 17, 2025 Regular Meeting

It was moved by Director Nelson, seconded by Director Cornejo, to approve the June 20, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 6-0-1 (FOR: Cornejo, Halter, Kildee, Nelson, Perello, Newman ABSTAIN: McQueen-Legohn)

It was moved by Director Nelson, seconded by Director McQueen-Legohn, to approve the July 17, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion Carried 5-0-2 (FOR: Cornejo, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Nelson, Perello ABSTAIN: Halter, Newman.)

REGULAR AGENDA (Items 6 through 8)

6. Consider and Approve a \$50,000 Increase to the Incentive Payment for the Solid Waste Superintendent Recruitment

Chris Theisen, General Manager presented the staff report to the Board, and the Board held a long discussion of the pros and cons of the total incentive amount of \$100,000 for this position and when the incentive payments would be made. .

It was moved by Director Whitman, seconded by Director McQueen-Legohn, to direct District staff to offer a total incentive of \$75,000 to the presumptive candidate with authority and discretion to offer up to \$100,000, if necessary. Staff was granted full authority to structure the timing of the incentive payments. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 8-0 (FOR: Cornejo, Halter, Kildee, McQueen-Legohn, Nelson, Perello, Whitman, and Newman).

CLOSED SESSION (Item 16 only)

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 (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)) One case.

It was moved by Director Perello, and Seconded by Director Nelson to reposition Closed Session Item 16 immediately after Item 6 on the agenda. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 7-0 (FOR: Cornejo, Halter, McQueen-Legohn, Nelson, Perello, Whitman, and Newman).

The Board convened to closed session at 9:36a.m. And adjourned out of closed session at 9:59a.m. There was no closed session report since there was no reportable action taken on the closed session matter.

7. Approve, and Authorize The Board Chair to Sign, Amendment No. 1 To VRSD Contract No. 23-001 With PF Engineers, LLC, For Landfill Consulting Services Extending The Contract Term To December 31, 2026.

Richard Jones, Director of Operations presented the staff report to the Board.

It was moved by Director Halter, seconded by Director Perello, to Approve, and Authorize the Board Chair to sign, proposed Amendment 1 to VRSD Contract No. 23-001 with PF Engineers, LLC for landfill consulting services extending the contract term to December 31, 2026. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 7-0 (FOR: Cornejo, Halter, McQueen-Legohn, Nelson, Perello, Whitman, and Newman.

8. Approve, and Authorize Board Chair to Sign, Proposed VRSD Contract No. 25-007 With Dragomir Design-Build, Inc. to Prepare an Update to The Toland Road Landfill's Joint Technical Document ("JTD") and The Final Cover Design for Landfill Closure and Corresponding Regulatory Approval

Richard Jones, Director of Operations presented the staff report to the Board.

It was moved by Director Perello, seconded by Director McQueen-Legohn, to Approve, and authorize the Board Chair to sign, Contract No. 25-007 with Dragomir Design-Build, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$150,000 to prepare an update to the JTD and final cover design for the Toland Road Landfill upon its closure for regulatory approval. ROLL CALL VOTE: Motion carried 7-0 (FOR: Cornejo, Halter, McQueen-Legohn, Nelson, Perello, Whitman, and Newman

INFORMATION ITEMS (Items 9 through 11)

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

9. Disbursement Report: None
10. Investment Report: None
11. Future Meetings, Seminars and Conferences

- September 2, 2025, 8:30 a.m. – P&F Committee Meeting, District Office
- September 4, 2025, 8:30 a.m.– Regular Board Meeting, District Office
- September 18, 2025, 8:30 a.m.– Regular Board Meeting, District Office

- October 2, 2025, 8:30 a.m.– Regular Board Meeting, District Office
- October 7, 2025, 8:30 a.m. – P&F Committee Meeting, District Office
- October 8th through 10th – League of California Cities Annual Conference, Long Beach, Ca
- October 16, 2025, 8:30 a.m.– Regular Board Meeting, District Office

Director Halter will not be attending the September 4, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

Director Cornejo will not be attending the September 4, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

Director Nelson will not be attending any meeting starting the 27th of August through the 27th of October.

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

ORAL REPORTS (Items 12 through 15)

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

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

Chris Theisen, General Manager announced that the incoming General Manager will be commencing his role on August 18, 2025, and will be working alongside him for the first four days.

General Manager Chris Theisen announced that the recruitment process for the Director of Operations is currently underway, and the incoming General Manager will be briefed on progress. He also noted that Richard Jones, the current Director of Operations, will remain in the position until September 5, 2025.

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

**VENTURA REGIONAL SANITATION DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES**

AUGUST 5, 2025

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourn to Regular Meeting to be held September 4, 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