

**MINUTES OF
THE SALINAS VALLEY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 16, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

President Salinas called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Board Directors were present:

County of Monterey	Simon Salinas, <i>President</i>
City of Gonzales	Elizabeth Silva
City of Soledad	Carla Stewart
City of Greenfield	Yanely Martinez
County of Monterey	John M. Phillips
City of Salinas	Kimbley Craig
City of Salinas	Gloria De La Rosa, <i>Alt. Vice President</i>

The following Board Directors were absent:

City of Salinas	Tony Barrera
City of Soledad	Christopher K. Bourke
City of Greenfield	Avelina Torres
City of King	Robert Cullen, <i>Vice President</i>

Staff Members Present:

Patrick Mathews, General Manager/CAO	Brian Kennedy, Engineering & Environmental Compliance Manager
Cesar Zuñiga, Asst. GM/Operations Manager	Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board
Ray Hendricks, Finance Manager	Cindy Iglesias, Administrative Assistant II
Rose Gill, HR/Organizational Dev. Manager	Thomas Bruen, General Counsel
Mandy Brooks, Resource Recovery Manager	

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Salinas announced the availability of translation services. No member from the public requested the service.

GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

(6:02) General Manager/CAO Mathews reported on the following items;

- The first Special Districts Managers Association Meeting-- Mr. Mathews explained the group meets once a quarter to discuss issues of commonality amongst Special Districts and JPAs. This group discusses the upcoming challenges with the changes to the CalPERS discount rates and will provide the Board more information as it becomes available.
- He attended the Monterey Bay Climate Action Compact meeting to participate in a panel presentation on Organics Recovery. He informed the Board of the upcoming presentations by Resource Recovery Manager Brooks on this topic as the Authority moves forward with collaboration projects with the Monterey County Food Bank and local growers for efforts to divert agricultural waste from the landfill by composting or distribution to low-income community members.

DEPARTMENT MANAGER COMMENTS

(6:03) Assistant General Manager /Operations Manager Zuniga reported there was about \$50,000 worth of damage at the Crazy Horse Landfill due to the recent wind storms. The Sun

Street Transfer Station was granted permission by the local health department to exceed tonnage limitations in order to receive extra waste produced by the storms and has seen a significant increase of self-haul customers and green waste tonnage. Finance Manager Hendricks commented that just as Assistant General Manager /Operations Manager Zuniga reported the increase in customers mean more income as well as more expenditures therefore he will be monitoring the revenue and expenditures very closely. Resource Recovery Manager Brooks informed the Board of the new Super Hero themed commercial produced by the Marketing Committee that has been airing since the last week of February and will continue thru end of June. The Spanish version is being aired on Univision and Telemundo and in English on CBA Fox, ABC, and Comcast.

BOARD DIRECTORS COMMENTS

(6:08) Director Phillips commented the Air Board authorized about \$100,000 for the North Monterey County, Prunedale area for a pilot project to bring in contracted wood chippers to divert green waste from the landfill and try to avoid people from having to burn the green waste caused by the recent storm. Director De Lo Rosa reported that she will be attending the April 8 Hebron Heights cleanup event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(6:09) None

CONSENT AGENDA (6:09)

1. Minutes of February 16, 2017, Regular Meeting
2. January 2017 Claims and Financial Reports
3. February 2017 Member and Interagency Activity Report
4. Strategic Plan 2016-19 Goals & Objectives Monthly Progress Report
5. Appointments to the Citizens Advisory Group
6. A Resolution Approving Supplemental Appropriation of \$60,769 for CalRecycle's Fiscal Year 2015-16 Beverage container Recycling City/County Payment Program
7. A Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of a Cooperative Application to the California Department of resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycles) for the Organics Grant program 2nd Cycle – Fiscal Year 2016-17 where the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority is the Cooperative Lead Applicant and the Food Bank for Monterey County is a Participating Entity

Public Comment: None

Board Comments: Director Craig commented pertaining Item No. 5, she informed is working with her nominee to the Citizens Advisory Group, John Baily to complete and submit his application for review.

Motion: Director Craig made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Silva seconded the motion.

Votes: Motion carried 7, 0

Ayes: Salinas, De La Rosa, Silva, Craig, Phillips, Stewart (alt), Martinez (alt)

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Barrera, Bourke, Torres, Cullen

PRESENTATION

8. LONG TERM FACILITY NEEDS PROJECT PUBLIC OUTREACH MATERIALS

(6:10) Resource Recovery Manager Brooks presented and reviewed the final document produced by the subcommittee and SVR staff, including the final comments provided by the

subcommittee that will be included. She explained the document was reduced from eight pages to four pages which will create some cost savings for the production. The next steps will be to distribute the document in the local newspapers, scheduling the public information meetings in conjunction with the submittal of the Notice of Preparation for the Environmental Impact Report and the scheduling of the required regulatory agency scoping meeting tentatively for late April early May depending on location availability.

Public Comment: None

Board Comments: Director Phillips thanked Mrs. Brooks for her work with the subcommittee and the documents revisions. Director Craig thanked the agency for taking into consideration the concerns of the Board and working with the subcommittee to generate a document the Board felt was adequate. Director De La Rosa thanked the subcommittee for working with staff and for the great work done by all.

Motion: By consensus the Board approved the material and authorized its distribution.

PUBLIC HEARING

9. RESOLUTION 2017-07 APPROVING DISPOSAL AND SERVICE FEES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017

(6:16) Finance Manger Hendricks presented the proposed fees and rates. Explaining in detail the rate adjustments and proposed adjustment to descriptions.

Public Hearing: The Public Hearing was opened at 6:28 p.m. No member of the public made comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:29 p.m.

Board Discussion:

The Board discussed the proposed fees and rates with Director Salinas inquiring about the amount of soil brought into the Johnson Canyon Landfill and whether the rate increase would be feasible for customers. Director Craig inquired whether the public hearing should be held in the City of Salinas given 63% of the adjustment of the AB939 fees come from the City of Salinas or a possible presentation at the City of Salinas Council meeting. She also inquired about the possibility of pushing the Disposal and Service Fees one month for a Public Hearing to be held in the City of Salinas. Director De La Rosa said she would like to see more participation in the City of Salinas by the Authority during rate increases. After receiving feedback from staff Director Craig requested General Manage/CAO Mathews and/or Finance Manager Hendricks conduct a presentation to the Salinas City Council on the rate increases. Director De La Rosa commented she would like the Authority to come out to the community of Salinas and present about rate increases. Director Phillips suggested alternating the Authority's regular meetings between Salinas and Gonzales to make it easier for the public from Salinas to attend.

Staff Comments:

Finance Manager Hendricks explained that last year Johnson Canyon Landfill received 16,000 tons of soil, of which 3,000 tons is from out of the area brought in by PG&E. Assistant General Manager /Operations Manager Zuniga further explained in detail the requirements from PG&E for soil disposal and how Johnson Canyon meets those and the area range of where the soil is being brought in from, expressing he feels confident the soil rate increase is reasonable for the local customers and hopeful it will divert some of the soil being brought in from out of area. Finance Manger Hendricks explained that presentations on the rate hearings have been

held in all the jurisdictions in the past with no public participation. General Manager/CAO Mathews indicated he would have no issue presenting to the City of Salinas Council, he went on to explain the schedule adopted by the Authority for the budget direction, preliminary budget, and budget approval to be completed by March is to accommodate the waste haulers schedule to assist them by having rates early enough to facilitate their rate increase process and public noticing requirements. Mr. Mathews indicated that he would like to defer to Doug Kenyon, General Manager of Republic Services to clarify any conflict if the timeline is delayed. Mr. Kenyon stated Republic must submit the rate package to the City of Salinas by April 1 to allow SVR and City of Salinas staff time to review and schedule for the City Council approval in a May meeting, allowing the required 30-day rate increase notice to be sent out to the Salinas customers for rates to take effect July 1. He stated they work on a tight schedule.

Public Comment:

None

Motion:

Director Silva made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2017-07. Director Martinez seconded the motion.

Votes:

Motion carried 7, 0

Ayes:

Salinas, Phillips, Silva, De La Rosa, Craig, Martinez (alt), Stewart (alt),

Noes:

None

Abstain:

None

Absent:

Torres, Cullen, Barrera, Bourke

CONSIDERATION

10. RESOLUTION NO. 2017-18 APPROVING THE OPERATING BUDGET, PERSONNEL ALLOCATION AND SALARY SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-18

(6:33) Finance Manager Hendricks presented the proposed \$16,720,000 Operating Budget, detailing the total amount in increases in payroll, the use of Madison Lane Transfer station for overflow of Salinas Franchise Waste, debt service and the increase for the two-new positions for the Sun Street Transfer. Mr. Hendricks explained these increases would be funded by the 3.6% increase in AB 939 Service Fees, the 2.9% increase (\$0.50/ton) to Franchise Transportation Surcharge that were just approved under in the Disposal and Service Fee schedule as well as the projected 4.4% increase (7,500 tons/year) in solid waste tonnage. There would be no increase in the landfill/transfer station tipping fees this year.

Public Comment:

Gary Peterson, Public Works Director for the City of Salinas expressed his opposition to the hiring for the two-new staff members for the Salinas Transfer Station advocating for hiring temporary contract labor not for permanent workers as he feels contract for trucking could reduce cost. Juan Camacho, Field Operations Supervisor I of the Sun Street Transfer Station expressed his opposition for hiring temporarily workers due to safety.

Board Discussion:

Director Craig expressed her concerns regarding the hiring of more staff at the Salinas Transfer Station as she has seen and heard concerns from SVR staff from the transfer station with the uncertainty of their jobs. She inquired about the possibility of hiring temporary workers or contract labor. Director De La Rosa expressed her concerns with the information being provided to new staff as she feels it important they are being told that, in her opinion, the Salinas Transfer Station is going to move. She inquired about doing a temporary trial of contract labor. Director Phillips suggested staff should be

informed adequately of the process and should be encouraged to be part of the process. Director Salinas provided his input on his support for the staff recommendation and encouraged the Board to support the hiring of permanent staff for the two new positions, mentioning Authority staff does not have a union and he feels it is proper for staff to attend Board meetings to advocate for themselves, as well, the great safety record the Authority has and the demand for the transfer station services.

Staff Comments:

Staff explained the Authority currently utilizes temporary workers but there are several limitations involved in contract labor and drivers, including consistency of performance, number of hours allowed to work due to CalPERS requirements, amount of time spent training, lack of advanced safety training, proper trailer types needed for the transport of waste or construction and demolition materials, amongst other factors compared to an Authority staff member. Staff explained that agency staff's concerns being expressed to the Board and management are related to one of the five scenarios currently being studied under the Environmental Impact Report that calls for the elimination of any SVR facilities in the Salinas area. Staff explained the proposed staffing needs are related to the increase in customers that the Sun Street Transfer Station has seen as well as the increase in green waste and construction and demolition material being brought to Sun Street. These two new positions are critical to assure the daily operations are conducted in a safe and proper manner. General Manager/CAO Mathews explained orientations are conducted for new hires to inform them of all agency matters as well as regular meetings with current staff to keep them informed and address staff concerns. This is the reason staff has been attending the Board meetings and have expressed concerns with the Board and Mr. Mathews about one of the options being considered. Mr. Mathews recommended analyzing the cost of hiring vs. contracting for the two-new positions and present a report to the Board at their April meeting prior to initiating recruitment.

Motion:

Director Craig made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2017-08 with the stipulation that staff wait on filling the approved positions until after staff conducts a cost analysis for the contract labor and report back to the Board at the April meeting. Director De La Rosa seconded the motion.

Votes:

Motion carried 7, 0

Ayes:

Salinas, Phillips, De La Rosa, Craig, Silva, Stewart (alt), Martinez (alt)

Noes:

None

Abstain:

None

Absent:

Barrera, Bourke, Torres, Cullen

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. AGENDA ITEMS – VIEW AHEAD SCHEDULE

(7:00) The Board reviewed the future agenda items.

ADJOURN

(7:01) President Salinas adjourned the meeting.

Attest: 
Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED: 
Robert Cullen, Vice President