

**MINUTES OF  
THE SALINAS VALLEY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 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 Salinas	Tony Barrera
City of Gonzales	Elizabeth Silva
City of Soledad	Christopher K. Bourke
City of Greenfield	Avelina Torres
City of King	Robert Cullen, <i>Vice President</i>
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:

None

**Staff Members Present:**

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

**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 presented to the Board an industry article entitled "Landfill Costs Continue to Rise in 2016" which compares how our rates compare to the western States.

**DEPARTMENT MANAGER COMMENTS**

(6:04) Finance Manager Hendricks presented to the Board the "Circular Letter" from CALPERS which has the breakdown of normal cost and unfunded liability, and reflects on the recent lowering of the discount rate that is used to calculate these liabilities. Engineering and Environmental Compliance Manager Kennedy reported that after eight years of not receiving garbage at the Crazy Horse Landfill it has now been certified closed by the State of California. Resource Recovery Manager Brooks provided to the Board copies of the Free Tire Recycling event currently happening. Human Resources/Organizational Development Manager Gill introduced Cindy Iglesias as the new Administrative Assistant II for the Authority.

**BOARD DIRECTORS COMMENTS**

(6:06) Director De La Rosa reported that she has conducted community outreach by distributing Authority reusable bags at community events she has attended and requested more bags to

distribute at the upcoming community meeting she will be attending on Feb 23 at Jesse Sanchez School. Director Cullen welcome Cindy Iglesias to Authority staff. He reported to the Board of his attendance to three events in the last month in which Authority staff have participated. The first was the waste assessment done at his daughter's school by Estela Gutierrez and Guillermina Gutierrez. He stated the report provided to him was eye opening as to the amount of food that is wasted. He thanked Estela and Guillermina for the assessment and for putting together the analysis report. He went on to commend them in their ability to present composting to the children at the Farm Day event on February 2 in King City and at Rava Ranch's yearly Health and Safety Fair expressing his admiration for the great representation of the Authority and education they provide. Director Torres thanked Resource Recovery Manager Brooks for providing her with a sharps container and welcome Cindy Iglesias to the Authority team. Director Phillips stated he is glad to be part of the Authority Board and is looking forward to helping with the education of the newer generations about recycling, reducing, reusing and composting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

(6:12) Doug Kenyon, General Manager of Republic Services informed the Board of his attendance to the "Trashion" fashion show in King City, encouraging the Board to attend the next event in Salinas as it not only benefits the Alliance on Aging but is very interesting to see how thing can be reused. He went on to informed the Board of the Employee recognition banquet that Republic Services will be holding in which two Salinas drivers will receive a 15-year safety award and two others will receive a 5-year superior achievement award for continues perfect attendance. Chris Steinbruner, local grower and land owner in the Salinas area, spoke in opposition to the north county Harrison Rd/Sala Road site option being considered as in his opinion it is inappropriate for it to be near the entrance of the City of Salinas. He stated being surprised to have seen that in the January Board of Directors Special meeting minutes that the second option payment was approved and made as he had spoken to numerous people in the City of Salinas, including Mayor Gunter and was under the understating that they were dead-set against the location.

### **CONSENT AGENDA** (6:15)

- 1-A.** Minutes of January 19, 2017, Regular Meeting
- 1-B.** Minutes of the January 25, 2017, Special Meeting
- 2.** December 2016 Claims and Financial Reports
- 3.** January 2017 Member and Interagency Activity Report
- 4.** A Resolution Approving the 2016-19 Strategic Plan Goals and Six-Month Objectives through July 2017
- 5.** A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Two Used Transfer Trucks from Golden Gate Truck Center for an Amount of \$127,734.26
- 6.** December 2016 Quarterly Tonnage and Diversion Report

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Comments:** None

**Motion:** Director De La Rosa made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Silva seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 9, 0

Ayes: Salinas, Phillips, De La Rosa, Barrera, Craig, Silva, Bourke, Torres, Cullen

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

## **PRESENTATION**

### **7. HISTORY OF SALINAS AREA TRANSFER STATION**

(6:16) General Manager Mathews presented to Board an overview of the 20-year history on the Salinas Area Facility Search. He summarized the sites that have been considered, recounting the ones having been looked at more than once and shared the past the reasons for the Board's continued change in direction. He explained the sites and project options currently being considered and the three studies they are being reviewed under; Environmental Impact Report study, Economical benefits study, Long Range Fiscal Rats Impacts study. Further explaining that all sites and project options are being studied at equal levels. He indicated that due to the nature of the industry there has been political or community opposition to all the previous sites and stated that there will likely be some level of opposition to all new sites and project options currently being studied.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Comments:** The Board discussed the report inquiring about sites that had been excluded and clarification of the reasons for their exclusions as well as current sites and options being considered. Director Phillips expressed his opposition to the Harrison/Sala Road currently being considered.

**Motion:** No motion was needed; this was an informational item.

### **8. LONG TERM FACILITY NEEDS PROJECT PUBLIC OUTREACH MATERIALS**

(6:40) General Counsel Bruen presented to the Board a brief summary of his opinion letter that was requested by the Board of Directors at the January Special meeting regarding the concerns of similarities between the Public Outreach material and current relative legal cases, including one referred to staff by Director Philips involving the County of Monterey. He explained he has reviewed the case involving a challenge to a memorandum of understanding agreement for the project called the East Side Parkway, and does not feel there are similarities with what the Authority is doing with the Public Outreach material. On the second case he noted it involved contracts that the public agency was committing itself to, for a specific project before the completion of the Environmental Impact Report which is against the California Environmental Quality Act. He indicated all of the Authority agreements contain language in accordance to California Environmental Quality Act therefore he feels it is not a problem. He further expressed that in his opinion it is important to keep all the previous Board approved sites under the Environmental Impact Report study without eliminating any of the sites before the study is completed as it could run the risk of a California Environmental Quality Act claim, based on making decisions before the Environmental Impact Report study of all the options is completed. He affirmed he is does not feel the Public Outreach material is a concern under the Environmental Impact Report study.

Resource Recovery Manager Brooks presented to the Board the third revised draft that included feedback previously provided by the Board and Monterey Regional Waste Management. She reported the material is currently being translated to Spanish and the next step to follow is to schedule the public meetings. Finalization of the regulatory scoping and public informational meetings is pending completion of the initial outreach materials.

**Public Comment:** Juan Camacho, Field Operations Supervisor at Sun Street Transfer Station expressed his concerns on the option being considered to direct haul to Monterey Regional Waste Management since that will include closing the Sun Street Transfer Station affecting not only the employees but also customers that use the facility. Chris Steinbruner, local grower and land owner in the Salinas area commented that the Authority Mission indicates

"To manage Salinas Valley solid waste utilizing cost effective practices" and in his opinion the technology being presented in one of the options is not cost effective and directing all waste to Monterey Regional Waste Management would be better.

**Board Discussion:**

The Board discussed the material presented. Some Board members expressed concerns on the length of the material while other expressed concerns with trying to consolidate the information. Director Craig expressed her concern with the title of the material as she feels it's creating an opinion prior to the material being read. Directors Phillips, De La Rosa, and Bourke agreed. Suggestions were made on more potential changes. Directors Cullen and Barrera encouraged the Board to move to approve the material and move forward with the Environmental Impact Report study. They expressed frustration with the amount of time being spent on the material and the potential on removing valuable information. Director Phillips and Salinas further expressed their concern with the material, expressing they didn't feel it is neutral and are not comfortable with the material as is. It was suggested to form a subcommittee to work with Authority staff to edit and reformat the material. Staff further explained the title of the material is part of the Authorities long-standing vision statement and it is not new within the solid waste industry to promote a future without landfills. This statement about moving away from landfills is consistent with the industry, the Authorities sister agency in Marina and the California State goals and regulations for the industry.

**Motion:**

By consensus the Board appointed a three-member subcommittee consisting of Directors Craig, Phillips, Bourke to meet with Authority staff to edit and reformat the material and present the condensed revised material at the March meeting.

**9. FISCAL YEAR 2017-18 BUDGET DIRECTION**

(7:35) Finance Manager Hendricks presented to the Board the updated fiscal year 2017-18 budget. Budget changes consider the Board's feedback from the January meeting as well as direction provided by the Executive Committee at their February meeting. Increasing the projected solid waste eliminates the \$1.00 per ton increase in landfill tipping fees that was originally proposed in January. The proposed \$16,720,000 operating budget includes increases in payroll, the increased use of Madison Lane Transfer Station for overflow Salinas Franchise Waste, debt services, and two new position at the Sun Street Transfer station to help alleviate the 12% increase in customers seen and the increase in Construction and Demolition material being received. Increases will be funded by a 3.6% increase in AB 939 Service Fees and a 2.9% increase to Franchise Transportation Surcharge and the 4.4% increase in the projected solid waste tonnage fully funding the ongoing capital, regulatory, and operational obligations.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Board Discussion:**

The Board discussed the report inquiring about the current average number of trips at the Sun Street Transfer Station as well as the balance of the Authorities reserves accounts. They thanked staff for taking the time to analyze the option of increasing the projected solid waste tonnage and being able to determine the option.

**Motion:**

By consensus the Board accepted the report and directed staff to schedule the rate hearing and final budget consideration for the March meeting.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**10. AGENDA ITEMS – VIEW AHEAD SCHEDULE**

(7:55) The Board reviewed the future agenda items.

**ADJOURN**

(7:56) President Salinas adjourned the meeting.

Attest:   
Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED:   
Simón Salinas, President