

**MINUTES OF  
THE SALINAS VALLEY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
OCTOBER 19, 2023  
117 Fourth Street, Gonzales, Ca 93926**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Rocha called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL****Board Directors**

County of Monterey	Christopher M. Lopez
City of Salinas	Anthony Roch, <i>President</i>
City of Salinas	Andrew Sandoval
City of Gonzales	Scott Funk, <i>Alternate</i>
City of Greenfield	Drew Tipton
City of King	Robert Cullen

**Absent**

County of Monterey	Glenn Church, <i>Alternate Vice President</i>
City of Salinas	Carla Viviana Gonzáles
City of Gonzales	Liz Silva
City of Soledad	Ben Jimenez, <i>Vice President</i>

**Staff Member Present**

Patrick Mathews, General Manager/CAO
Cesar Zuñiga, Asst. GM/Operations Manager
Mandy Brooks, Resource Recovery Manager
Ray Hendricks, Finance and Administration Manager
Brian Kennedy, Engineering and Environmental Compliance Manager
Janna Faulk, Recycling Coordinator
Julia Brooker, Resource Recovery Technician
Sara Papineau-Brandt, Resource Recovery Technician
Roy Santos, General Legal Counsel
Rosie Ramirez, Administrative Assistant
Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(6:01) Clerk of the Board Trujillo announced in Spanish the availability of translation services via Zoom.

**CONSIDERATION**

**A. CONSIDERATION OF THE REQUEST BY ALTERNATE VICE PRESIDENT GLENN CHURCH TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY PURSUANT TO AB 2449 SECTION III, DUE TO A PHYSICAL INJURY PREVENTING HIS IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE**

(6:02) General Legal Counsel Santos reported on the request from Alternate Vice President Church to participate remotely pursuant Assembly Bill 2449 due to a physical injury that he had that is preventing him from attending in person.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:** None

**Motion:** Director Cullen made a motion. Director Sandoval seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 6,0

**Ayes:** Cullen, Funk (Alt), Lopez, Rocha, Sandoval, Tipton

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Church, Gonzalez, Jimenez, Silva

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA (6:03)**

**Staff Comments:** None

**Board Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Motion:** Director Lopez made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Sandoval seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 6,0

**Ayes:** Cullen, Funk (Alt), Lopez, Rocha, Sandoval, Tipton

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Church, Gonzalez, Jimenez, Silva

### **GENERAL MANAGER/CAO COMMENTS**

(6:04) General Manager/CAO Mathews commented on the following.

- The Strategic Planning Session scheduled for December 15, 2023.
- The interviews being conducted by the facilitator for the Strategic Planning Session.
- Welcomed back Board member Tipton.

### **DEPARTMENT MANAGER COMMENTS**

(6:05) Assistant General Manager/Operations Manager Zuñiga commented on the Annual Employee Communication dinner that took place in August. He thanked the Board members that attended. He reported on the Jolon Road Transfer Station improvements work, indicating it is expected to be completed by early December.

Finance and Administration Manager Hendricks reported that the Employee of the Year Award and the Audit Report will be presented at the November meeting. He provided a brief summary of item numbered seven on the consent agenda.

Resource Recovery Manager Brooks commented on the community clean up events that are taking place in the City of Gonzales, City of Salinas District Six, Chualar, and Pajaro.

### **GENERAL LEGAL COUNCIL**

(6:08) None

### **BOARD DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

(6:08) Director Lopez

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

(6:11) None

### **CONSENT AGENDA (6:12)**

1. ~~Minutes of the August 17, 2023, 2023 Meeting~~
2. July 2023 Claims and Financial Report
3. August 2023 Claims and Financial Report
4. Member and Interagency Activities Report for August and September 2023

5. Resolution No. 2023-55 Approving the Grants and Capital Improvement Projects Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24
6. Resolution No. 2023-56 Approving a Contract with Recon Refractory and Construction, Inc. for Crazy Horse Landfill Gas Flare Ceramic Blanket Replacement in the Amount of \$98,750.00
7. Resolution No. 2023-57 Approving an Adjustment to the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 to Pay Down the CalPERS Unfunded Accrued Liability
8. Resolution No. 2023-58 Approving a Policy Related to Memberships in Business and Professional Organizations
9. September 2023 Quarterly Investments Report
10. Resolution No. 2023-59 Approving the Regular Board of Directors and Executive Committee Meetings Calendar for 2024
11. Resolution No. 2023-60 Approving the Release and Distribution of a Request for Proposals for Design and Engineering Services for Multiple Improvement Projects
12. Resolution No. 2023-61 Declaring Surplus Property and Authorizing the General Manager/CAO to Dispose of Property
13. Resolution No. 2023-62 Awarding the Purchase of One Used 2017 John Deere 210LE Loader to So-Cal Equipment for an Amount of \$58,185.00

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:** None

**Motion:** Director Sandoval made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Tipton seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 6,0

Ayes: Cullen, Funk (Alt), Lopez, Rocha, Sandoval, Tipton

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Church, Gonzalez, Jimenez, Silva

#### **1. MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 17, 2023 MEETING**

(6:13) Director Tipton pulled the item for discussion. He indicated a correction on Approval of Agenda item is required as follows; Director Dominguez was "Ayes" on the votes and Directors Gonzalez, and Lopez were absent removing Untalon from the Absent list.

**Motion:** Director Tipton made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2023 meeting with the corrections indicated. Director Lopez seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 6,0

Ayes: Cullen, Funk (Alt), Lopez, Rocha, Sandoval, Tipton

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Church, Gonzalez, Jimenez, Silva

### **PRESENTATION**

#### **14. YOUTH COUNCIL INTRODUCTION**

(6:14) Resource Recovery Technician Papineau-Brandt introduced the newly established Youth Council made up of high school and college students from the Salinas Valley. She detailed the objective of the Youth Council is for them to function as a voice for teens, facilitate youth

service-learning projects, facilitate on campus environmental learning, learn, and grow as environmental and political leaders in their communities.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:** The Board discussed the presentation and commended the Youth Council for their initiative and dedication.

**Motion:** None; Information Only

## **15. ANNUAL MARKETING & MEDIA OVERVIEW**

(6:46) Recycling Coordinator Faulk presented a report demonstrating the outreach conducted via social media, paid media, newsletters, videos, podcasts, paid school assembly shows, events, litter cleanups, presentations, door to door visits and trainings.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:** The Board discussed the presentation.

**Motion:** None; Information Only

## **16. 2022-23 SALINAS VALLEY RECYCLES ANNUAL REPORT**

(7:04) General Manager/CAO Mathews provided an overview of the 2022-23 Annual Report, highlighting the accomplishments, the progress made to the Johnson Canyon Landfill Education Center, events, and the extensive community outreach conducted to inspire the public to take initiative to become more resourceful and reduce waste and take part in creating a better environment.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:** The Board discussed the presentation.

**Motion:** None; Information Only

## **CONSIDERATION**

### **17. RESOLUTION NO. 2023-63 OF APPROVING A LANDFILL GAS SALE AGREEMENT AND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH VESPENE ENERGY, INC.**

(7:12) General Manager/CAO Mathews provided report on the history of the Crazy Horse Landfill and the landfill gas produced. He informed the board that Vespene Energy, Inc had approached the Authority for a partnership that would allow for beneficial use of the landfill gas from the Crazy Horse Landfill. Mr. Mathews introduced Adam Wright, CEO and co-founder of Vespene Energy, Inc., who explained in detail the proposed partnership. Vespene Energy, Inc. utilizes a unique power generation system that can use the lower quality gas found at older landfills such as Crazy Horse to generate electricity to power a portable data center that will be located at the landfill. The partnership would pay the Authority royalty payments for the use of the gas, which is estimated at \$3.2 million over 10 years.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:** The Board discussed the presentation inquiring about the liability to the agency.

**Motion:** Director Tipton made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Lopez seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 6,0

Ayes: Cullen, Funk (Alt), Lopez, Rocha, Sandoval, Tipton

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Church, Gonzalez, Jimenez, Silva

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS****18. AGENDA ITEM – VIEW AHEAD SCHEDULE**

(8:04) The Board reviewed the future agenda items.

**CLOSED SESSION**

(8:07) President Rocha invited public comment related to items numbered 19, 20, and 21.

- 19.** Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 to confer with legal counsel and real property negotiators General Manager/CAO Patrick Mathews, Asst. GM/Ops Manager Cesar Zuñiga, Finance and Administration Manager Ray Hendricks, and General Counsel Roy C. Santos, concerning the possible terms and conditions of acquisition, lease, exchange, or sale of 1) Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority Property, APNs 003-051-086 and 003-051-087, located at 135-139 Sun Street, Salinas, CA.
- 20.** Conference With Legal Counsel — Potential Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of **Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)**: (One case).
- 21.** Pursuant to **Government Code Section 54957 (b)** to consider the Performance Evaluation of the General Manager/Chief Administrative Officer R. Patrick Mathews for 2023.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNED**

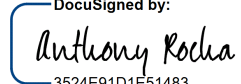
(8:08) President Rocha adjourned the meeting into Closed Session to discuss items numbered 19, 20, and 21.

**RECONVENE**

(8:25) President Rocha reconvened the meeting to open session. Legal Counsel Santos indicated that there were no reportable actions taken in the closed session.

**ADJOURNED**

(8:25) President Rocha adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED:   
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Anthony Rocha, President

Attest:   
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Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board