

**MINUTES OF  
THE SALINAS VALLEY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 20, 2025**

117 Fourth Street, Gonzales, CA 93926

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

**Board Directors**

County of Monterey	Chirstopher M. Lopez
County of Monterey	Luis Alejo <i>(Alternate)</i>
City of Salinas	Gloria De La Rosa, <i>Alternate Vice President</i>
City of Salinas	Jose Luis Barajas
City of Gonzales	Elizabeth Silva, <i>President</i>
City of Soledad	Evarista Bañuelos <i>(arrived at 6:08pm)</i>
City of Greenfield	Marcy Jones
City of King	Robert Cullen

**Absent**

County of Monterey	Glenn Church, <i>Vice President</i>
City of Salinas	Andrew Sandoval

**Staff Member Present**

Patrick Mathews, General Manager/CAO
Cesar Zuñiga, Assistant General Manager / Operations Manager
Mandy Brooks, Resource Recovery Manager
Ray Hendricks, Finance and Administration Manager
Brian Kennedy, Engineering and Environmental Compliance Manager
Monica Zuniga, Human Resources Supervisor
Roy C. Santos, General Legal Counsel
Rosie Ramirez, Administrative Assistant
Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(6:02) Clerk of the Board Trujillo announced in Spanish the availability of translation services via Zoom and in person. No members of the public requested the service.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA (6:02)**

**Staff Comments:** None

**Board Discussion:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**Motion:** Director Lopez made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Alternate Vice President De La Rosa seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 7,0

**Ayes:** Alejo (Alt), Barajas, Cullen, De La Rosa, Lopez, Jones, Silva

**Noes:** None

**Abstain:** None

**Absent:** Bañuelos, Church, Sandoval

**GENERAL MANAGER/CAO COMMENTS**

(6:02) General Manger/CAO Mathews commented on the addition of Item A on the agenda per his direction.

**DEPARTMENT MANAGER COMMENTS**

(6:04) Operations Manager/Assistant General Manager Zuñiga commented on upcoming Tire Amnesty event taking place from April 5<sup>th</sup> thru May 31<sup>st</sup> at all three of the facilities.

**GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL COMMENTS**

(6:05) None

**BOARD DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

(6:05) Director Cullen informed the committee he will not be in attendance at the April Board meeting. Director Lopez commented on the illegal dumping of tires and incentives that could avoid deterring the problem. He indicated that there is a mural being painted in the Community of Chualar as a landmark that will feature field workers and commemorate the Braceros that were killed in the train crash of 1963. Director Barajas acknowledged International Women’s Month extending his acknowledgment and appreciation to President Silva and the female leaders with in the Authority. Director Alejo commented on the Monterey County Immigrants’ Rights Committee and the commitment to reach and assist the community members. He indicated that there will be an event to unveil the Chualar mural on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Director Silva commented on the upcoming Car Show Event taking place in the City of Gonzales on April 5.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

(6:13) None

**DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION**

**A. Discussion On the Strategic Planning Workshop**

(6:14) General Manager/CAO Mathews provided a verbal report on the outcome of the poll distributed for the scheduling of the annual strategic planning workshop. He indicated that none of the 33 options available worked for the majority of the Board. Mr. Mathews presented the option of conducting the workshop in conjunction with the August 21, 2025, Regular Board meeting.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:** The Board discussed the report confirming their availability.

**Motion:** By consensus the Board agreed to have a Special Meeting scheduled for August 21, 2025, to begin at 4 p.m. to hold the Annual Strategic Planning Workshop.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**1. A PUBLIC HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL 2561/GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 3502.3**

(6:18) Human Resources Supervisor Zuniga presented the Authority’s vacancies, recruitments, and retention efforts for calendar year 2024 as required by Assembly Bill 2561. The presentation demonstrated the highest vacancy rate was 6.2%, the lowest was 1.5% and the average annual rate of vacancies was 3%.

**Public Hearing:** The Public Hearing was opened for public comment at 6:29 p.m. No public comment was received. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:30 p.m.

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

**Motion:** Director Alejo made a motion to accept the report. Director Barajas seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 8,0

**Ayes:** Alejo (alt), Barajas, Bañuelos, Cullen, De La Rosa, Lopez, Jones, Silva

Noes: None  
 Abstain: None  
 Absent: Church, Sandoval

**2. RESOLUTION NO. 2025- 16 APPROVING THE DISPOSAL AND SERVICE FEES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025**

(6:41) Finance and Administration Manager Hendricks presented the rates and adjustments necessary to balance the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26 and impacts to the customers. The rate adjustments included increases to Solid Waste, Organics, Transportation Surcharge, and AB 939 Fees which will fully fund ongoing programs for the upcoming fiscal year. He detailed the impacts to the customers by jurisdiction.

**Public Hearing:** The Public Hearing was opened for public comment at 6:35 p.m. No public comment was received. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:36 p.m.

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

**Motion:** Director Barajas made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-16. Director Cullen seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 8,0

Ayes: Alejo (alt), Barajas, Bañuelos, Cullen, De La Rosa, Lopez, Jones, Silva  
 Noes: None  
 Abstain: None  
 Absent: Church, Sandoval

**CONSIDERATION**

**3. RESOLUTION NO. 17 APPROVING THE OPERATING BUDGET FOR FY 2025-26, A REVISED PERSONNEL ALLOCATION EFFECTIVE MAY 12, 2025, AND THE SALARY SCHEDULE FOR SALINAS VALLEY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY FIELD OPERATIONS UNIT EFFECTIVE JULY 7, 2025**

(6:41) Finance and Administration Manager presented the Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26 of \$24,985,000. The projected revenues are due to rate and/or tonnage increases to Solid Waste, Organics, Transportation Surcharge, and the AB 939 fees. The budget was explained along with the expenditure increases included, insurance premiums increases, merit increases, cost of living increases, and a request for two new positions: an additional Field Operations Supervisor and a new Human Resources Technician. The Capital Improvement Budget funded from Operations included a new CIP for SB 1383 Procurement and discussed the 5-year projections to the status quo budget including projected rates.

**Public Comment:** None

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

**Motion:** Director Lopez made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2025-17. Director Barajas seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 8,0

Ayes: Alejo (alt), Barajas, Bañuelos, Cullen, De La Rosa, Lopez, Jones, Silva  
 Noes: None  
 Abstain: None  
 Absent: Church, Sandoval

**CONSENT AGENDA (6:52)**

4. Minutes of the February 20, 2025 Meeting.
5. January 2024 Claims and Financial Report.
6. Member and Interagency Activities Report for February 2024.
7. Resolution No. 2025-18 Awarding a Contract to Aragon Electrical Services, Inc. for the Design and Construction Services of Electrical Vehicle Charging Stations for an Amount of

\$238,162, Subject to Grant Funding Award from Monterey Bay Air Resources District and Approving a Supplemental Appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Capital Improvement Budget in the Amount of \$260,000.

8. Resolution No. 2025-19 Declaring Surplus Lands at 131 and 139 Sun Street, Salinas, CA and Authorizing the General Manager/CAO to Dispose of the Properties.
9. Resolution No. 2025-20 Approving Amendment No. 2 to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority and the At-Will Management Employees and the Revised Salary Schedule effective July 1, 2025.
10. Resolution No. 2025-21 Approving the Revised Human Resources Supervisor Job Description and Approving the New Human Resources Technician Job Description.
11. Resolution No. 2025-22 Approving Amendment No. 2 to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between the Salinas Valley Solid Waste Authority and the Administration, Finance and Resources Recovery Benefits Committee (ABC) and Approving the Revised Salary Schedule Effective July 1, 2025.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:** None

**Motion:** Director Alejo made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Alternative Vice President De La Rosa seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Motion carried 8,0

Ayes: Alejo (alt), Barajas, Bañuelos, Cullen, De La Rosa, Lopez, Jones, Silva

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Church, Sandoval

**PRESENTATION**

**12. SWANA LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE**

(6:55) General Manager/CAO Mathews presented the new and revised legislative and regulatory mandates that could have an impact on the solid waste industry. He detailed the recent legislation for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Programs and SB 54, one of the most significant EPR Programs signed into law that will require all single-use packaging and plastic food service ware sold in CA to be either recyclable or compostable by 2032. Resource Recovery Manager Brooks presented an update on the SB 1383 timeline and detailed the efforts to comply with the mandate.

**Public Comment:** None

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

**Motion:** None; Informational Only

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (7:41)**

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

**CLOSED SESSION**

(7:43) President Silva invited public comment on closed session items numbered 14.

14. Pursuant to **GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.95** to conference with General Counsel Roy C. Santos on consideration of Liability Claim No. 2025-01 alleging bodily injuries, pain, and suffering.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

(7:44) None

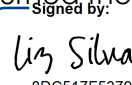
(7:46) President Silva adjourned the meeting into closed session to discuss item numbered 14.


**RECONVENE**

(7:56) President Silva reconvened the meeting to open session. General Counsel Santos reported that the Board of Directors rejected Liability Claim No. 2025-01.

**ADJOURNED**

Director Bañuelos made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Cullen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. President Silva adjourned the meeting 7:57 p.m.

APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth Silva, President

Attest:  \_\_\_\_\_  
Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board