

**MINUTES OF
THE SALINAS VALLEY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 21, 2025**
117 Fourth Street, Gonzales, CA 93926

CALL TO ORDER

President Silva called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Directors

County of Monterey	Glenn Church, <i>Vice President (Virtual, logged off at 5:18 p.m.)</i>
County of Monterey	Christopher M. Lopez <i>(Arrived at 4:08 p.m., departed at 6:50 p.m.)</i>
City of Salinas	Gloria De La Rosa, <i>Alternate Vice President</i>
City of Salinas	Andrew Sandoval
City of Salinas	Jose Luis Barajas
City of Gonzales	Elizabeth Silva, <i>President</i>
City of Soledad	Evarista Bañuelos <i>(Arrived at 4:08 p.m., departed at 7:01 p.m.)</i>
City of Greenfield	Belén García, <i>Alternate</i>
City of King	Robert Cullen

Absent

City of Greenfield	Marcy Jones
--------------------	-------------

Staff Member Present

Patrick Mathews, General Manager/CAO
Cesar Zuñiga, Assistant General Manager / Operations Manager
Mandy Brooks, Resource Recovery Manager
Brian Kennedy, Engineering and Environmental Compliance Manager
Ray Hendricks, Finance and Administration Manager <i>(Virtual)</i>
Roy C. Santos, General Legal Counsel <i>(Virtual)</i>
Rosie Ramirez, Administrative Assistant
Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

(4:04) Clerk of the Board Trujillo announced the availability of translation services via Zoom and in person. No members of the public requested the service.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (4:05)

Staff Comments: None

Board Discussion: None

Public Comment: None

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

Votes: Motion carried 7,0

Ayes: Barajas, Church, Cullen, De La Rosa, Gacia (Alt), Sandoval, Silva

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Bañuelos, Lopez, Jones

GENERAL MANAGER/CAO COMMENTS

(4:06) General Manger/CAO Mathews commented on the completion the Franchise Agreement approval.

DEPARTMENT MANAGER COMMENTS

(4:07) Assistant General Manager/Operations Manager Zuñiga reminded the Board of the Annual Employee Communication Dinner taking place on September 5. Engineering and Compliance Manager Kennedy commented on the North County Transfer Station Notice of Intent to adopt a Negative Declaration and Initial Study currently in for comment period until September 8 with a public hearing for consideration of adoption scheduled for the next Board of Directors meeting in September. Finance and Administrative Manager Hendricks updated the Committee on the following:

- CalPERS announced their return-on-invest at 11.6%, giving the Authority a surplus of approximately \$500,000.
- The health insurance premiums effective January 1, 2026 will increase approximately 9.5% with the Authority budgeting for a 10% increase.
- The workers' compensation insurance premiums decreased by approximately 4% with the Authority budgeting for a 15% increase, giving the Authority a budget surplus that will be used to supplement the landfill post-closure budgets.

GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL COMMENTS

(4:10) None

BOARD DIRECTOR COMMENTS

(4:11) Director Garcia commented on the City of Greenfield is working on wastewater issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(4:12) None

CONSENT AGENDA (4:13)

1. Minutes of the June 26, 2025, Meeting.
2. May 2025 Claims and Financial Report.
3. June 2025 Claims and Financial Report.
4. Member and Interagency Activities Report for June and July 2025.
5. June 2025 Quarterly Investment Report.
6. Tonnage and Diversion Report for the Quarter Ended June 30, 2025.
7. Resolution No. 2025-50 Awarding an Agreement to Cascadia Consulting Group to Conduct a Waste Characterization Study in the Amount of \$399,307.
8. Resolution No. 2025-51 Approving a One-Time Waiver of Recycling and Disposal Fees Associated with the Pajaro River Encampment Clean-Up by the Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion: None

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

Votes: Motion carried 9,0

Ayes: Bañuelos, Barajas, Church, Cullen, De La Rosa, Gacia (Alt), Lopez, Sandoval, Silva

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Jones

CONSIDERATION

9. SELECTION OF AN EXECUTIVE RECRUITING FIRM

(4:14) General Manager/CAO Mathews provided a brief report on the release of the informal request for proposals to executive recruiting firms. He indicated a total of five proposals were received. The Executive Committee reviewed the responses and provided their recommendation to select Bob Murray and Associates to conduct the recruitment of the new General Manager/Chief Administrative Officer for the Authority.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion: The Board discussed the report and recommendation.

Motion: Director Lopez made a motion to retain Bob Murray and Associates for the recruitment services for a new General Manager and enter into an agreement subject to General Counsel approval. Director Sandoval seconded the motion.

Votes: Motion carried 9,0

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

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (4:21)

10. AGENDA ITEMS – VIEW AHEAD SCHEDULE

President Silva commented on her attendance to the CCRC Conference commending the youth counsel presentation.

CLOSED SESSION

(4:23) President Silva invited public comment related to items numbered 11.

11. Pursuant to **Government Code 54956.8** to confer with General Counsel Roy C. Santos and real property negotiators General Manager/CAO Patrick Mathews, and Asst. GM/Ops Manager Cesar Zuñiga, concerning the possible terms and conditions of acquisition, lease, exchange or sale of **1)** APNs 003-051-086 and 003-051-087, **2)** APNs 223-071-007, and **3)** APNs 223-042-004.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(4:23) None

ADJOURNED

(4:23) President Silva adjourned the meeting to Closed Session.

RECONVENE

(5:18) President Silva reconvened the meeting to Open Session.
 Director Church logged off.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOP (5:32)

12. STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

A. Review and Discuss Potential Future Challenges. Identify Actions and Priorities to Address Challenges.

- Growth
- Natural Disasters
- Recession, Reserves and Rates
- Politics
- Regulations
- Diversion Technology versus Landfilling
- Climate Change
- Health and Safety

The Executive Management Team led the Board Strategic Workshop. The Board reviewed the Board Norms and established the agency's priorities and actions for the 2025-26 fiscal year and decades to come. The workshop focused on seven main components of the agency and its future: Growth Change, Political Change, Climate Change, Natural Disasters,

Regulations, Health and Safety Changes, Recession, Reserves and Rates, and New Technologies vs. Landfilling Expansion.

B. Wrap Up and Next Steps

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion: The Board participated in the discussion of all components of the workshop. Several goals and priorities were identified.

Motion: By Consensus the Board directed staff to draft the goals and priorities identified and present at an upcoming meeting for final consideration and approval.

(6:30) Break

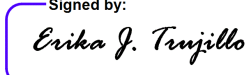
(6:46) Reconvened

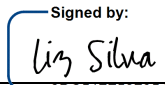
(6:50) Director Lopez left the meeting.

(7:01) Director Bañuelos left the meeting.

ADJOURNED

(8:23) Director Cullen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. President Silva seconded the motion and adjourned the meeting.

Attest: 
Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED: 
Elizabeth Silva, President