

**MINUTES OF
THE SALINAS VALLEY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING
MAY 21, 2026
117 Fourth Street, Gonzales, CA 93926**

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL**Board Directors**

City of Salinas	Aurelio Salazar, <i>(Alternate)</i>
City of Gonzales	Elizabeth Silva, <i>President</i>
City of Soledad	Evarista Bañuelos
City of Greenfield	Belen Garcia
City of King	Oscar Avalos <i>(Alternate)</i>

Absent

County of Monterey	Christopher M. Lopez
County of Monterey	Glenn Church, <i>Vice President</i>
City of Salinas	Jose Luis Barajas
City of Salinas	Gloria De La Rosa, <i>Alternate Vice President</i>
City of Salinas	Dennis Donohue
City of King	Robert Cullen

Staff Member Present

Cesar Zuñiga, General Manager/CAO
Mandy Brooks, Asst. General Manager/Resource Recovery Manager
Ray Hendricks, Finance and Administration Manager
Brian Kennedy, Engineering and Compliance Manager
Juan Camacho, Operations Manager
Sara Papineau-Brandt, Resource Recovery Technician
Guille Gutierrez, Resource Recovery Technician
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 the availability of translation services via Zoom and in person. No members of the public requested the service.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (6:03)

Board Discussion: None

Public Comment: None

Motion: Director Bañuelos made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Garcia seconded the motion.

Votes: Motion carried 5,0

Ayes: Avalos (alt), Bañuelos, Garcia, Salazar (alt), Silva

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Barajas, Church, Cullen, De La Rosa, Donohue, Lopez

GENERAL MANAGER/CAO COMMENTS

(6:02) General Manager/CAO Zuñiga commented on the following:

- Attendance at the SWANA Western Regional Conference, where the keynote speaker was a representative from the Air Resources Board. He noted that several questions were raised regarding revised landfill methane regulations scheduled to take effect in January 2027.
- The Authority's participation in the "Touch a Truck" event held in Soledad.
- The sale agreement for the Sun Street property has been finalized and is included on the Consent Agenda for ratification.
- A meeting with the Land Use Advisory Committee regarding the North County Recycling and Transfer Station project, during which strong support for the project was expressed.
- His appointment to the SWANA Gold Rush Board as a public sector representative.

DEPARTMENT MANAGER COMMENTS

(6:05) Assistant General Manager/Resource Recovery Manager Brooks reported that the "Sort with Heart" organics recycling campaign, a collaboration between ReGen Monterey, Salinas Valley Recycles, and Blue Strike Environmental, received three California Association of Public Information Officials (CAPIO) EPIC Awards: an Award of Distinction for a bilingual public service announcement, Best Communications Campaign in California, and Best in Show among more than 500 entries.

BOARD DIRECTOR COMMENTS

(6:08) Director Bañuelos commented on the community serves hour opportunity, upcoming community events, and Memorial Day observances.

Director Avalos reported on community beautification events taking place in King City.

Director Salazar noted the absence of Director Barajas.

Director Garcia discussed e-bike and motorbike related issues in the City of Greenfield and the measures being taken to address them. She also noted an opportunity for the Authority to assist with a community event in Greenfield.

President Silva reported on her attendance at the King City Fair, Memorial Day observances, and a fundraiser hosted by American Legion Post 81 to support scholarships for Gonzales and Soledad High School students.

GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL COMMENTS

(6:18) None

PUBLIC COMMENT

(6:19) None

CONSENT AGENDA (6:19)

1. Minutes of the April 16, 2026, Meeting.
2. March 2026 Claims and Financial Report.
3. Receive the Member and Interagency Activities Report for April 2026.
4. Receive the Tonnage and Diversion Report for the Quarter Ended March 31, 2026.
5. Resolution No. 2026-20 Ratifying the Sale of 139 Sun Street, Salinas, CA, (APNs 003-051-086 & 003-051-087) Property, and the Purchase Sales Agreement with Monterey-Salinas Transit District, in the Amount of \$5,975,000.
6. Resolution No. 2026-21 Approving Amendment No. 1 Authorizing a Two-Year Extension to the Professional Services Agreement with HOPE Services Inc. for Materials Processing and Litter Abatement at the Johnson Canyon Landfill.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion: None

Motion: Director Avalos made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Salazar seconded the motion.

Votes: Motion carried 5,0

Ayes: Avalos (alt), Bañuelos, Garcia, Salazar (alt), Silva

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Barajas, Church, Cullen, De La Rosa, Donohue, Lopez

PRESENTATION

7. RECYCLING RECOGNITIONS

(6:20) Resource Recovery Technician Gutierrez recognized three King City businesses McDonald's, Tacos La Potranca, and El Taquero Deli from King City for implementing food scraps collection programs in compliance with the requirements of Senate Bill 1383. She noted that, with support from Waste Management and Authority staff, these businesses have successfully diverted their food scraps and other organic materials.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion: The Board commended the business for their work and dedication.

Motion: None; Informational Only

8. YOUTH COUNCIL YEAR END SUMMARY 2025-26

(6:31) Resource Recovery Technician Papineau-Brandt introduced the Youth Council, which provided a year-end summary of their activities. Members highlighted educational experiences related to waste management and sustainability, participation in environmental projects, and the creation of outreach videos promoting environmental awareness. The presentation concluded with recognition of graduating seniors for their contributions to the program.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion: The Board thanked the Youth Council for its participation and commended its members for their initiative, engagement, and accomplishments throughout the year.

Motion: None; Informational Only

9. SENATE BILL 1383 – ORGANICS PROCUREMENT UPDATE 2025

(7:04) Assistant General Manager/Resource Recovery Manager Brooks reported that SB 1383 requires member agencies to meet annual recovered organic waste product procurement targets, which were phased in over a three-year period. For calendar year 2025, all member agencies met and exceeded the required target through Direct Service Provider agreements with Atlas Organics.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion: The Board discussed the presentation.

Motion: None; Informational Only

CONSIDERATION

10. RESOLUTION NO. 2026-22 APPROVING A TELECONFERENCING POLICY, A MEETING DISRUPTION POLICY, AND PROCEDURES FOR REQUESTING REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT AT PUBLIC MEETING

(7:16) General Manager/CAO reported that Senate Bill 707 amended provisions of the Brown Act related to teleconferencing and meeting administration. He indicated that to ensure compliance with these changes and other applicable laws, staff developed a Teleconferencing

Policy, a Meeting Disruption Policy, and Procedures for Requesting Reasonable Accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion: The Board discussed the report.

Motion: Director Avalos made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Salazar seconded the motion.

Votes: Motion carried 5,0

Ayes: Avalos (alt), Bañuelos, Garcia, Salazar (alt), Silva

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Barajas, Church, Cullen, De La Rosa, Donohue, Lopez

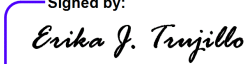
FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (7:29)

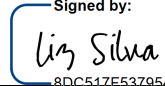
11. AGENDA ITEMS – VIEW AHEAD SCHEDULE

General Manager/CAO Zuñiga reviewed the view ahead.

ADJOURNED

(7:30) President Silva adjourned the meeting.

Attest: 
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Erika J. Trujillo, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED: 
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Elizabeth Silva, President