



## Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

These are the minutes of the regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Summerland Sanitary District held at the District's Office at 2435 Wallace Avenue, Summerland, California.

The public was able to listen to the meeting telephonically by calling +1 669 900 6833 (San Jose), code 983 226 8568, or through the internet at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9832268568>. The public was also allowed to attend the meeting.

The agenda notice for this meeting, including instructions for the public to provide comments and/or participate in the electronic meeting, was posted on the district's website and bulletin board and at the Post Office at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

PRESIDENT D. NOVIS CALLED THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO ORDER AT 3:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

DIRECTORS PRESENT	JOLENE COLOMY	
	JOHN FRANKLIN	
	DAVID NOVIS	
	JAMES WITMER (via Zoom)	
ABSENT	MARTIN TUCKER	
OTHERS PRESENT	NOE AGUILAR VEGA	Operations Manager
	MARJON (MAR) SOUZA	Administrative Manager

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

IV. President D. Novis asked if there were any modifications and/or changes. Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved as submitted.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT [NON-AGENDA ITEMS]

No public comments were submitted, and one member of the public was present via zoom.

VI. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JULY 14, 2022 [Action Item]

A motion was made by Director J. Franklin to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 14, 2022. The motion was seconded by Director J. Colomy, and was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	4	J. Colomy, J. Franklin, D. Novis, J. Witmer
NOES:	0	None
ABSENT:	1	M. Tucker
ABSTAIN:	0	None

VII. APPROVAL OF THE MONTHLY EXPENSES FOR JULY 2022, INCLUDING PAYROLL AND PETTY CASH [Action Item]

District Management answered the Board's questions and clarified information about the payout of bills. A motion was made by Director J. Colomy to approve the monthly expenses, including payroll and petty cash totaling \$139,878 for Fund 5215 (this includes an interfund

Summerland Sanitary District  
Minutes Regular Board Meeting 08/09/2022

transfer of \$214,213 to Capital Fund 5217) and \$2,223 for Fund 5217. The motion was seconded by Director J. Franklin, and was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	4	J. Colomy, J. Franklin, D. Novis, J. Witmer
NOES:	0	None
ABSENT:	1	M. Tucker
ABSTAIN:	0	None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Finance Committee Report  
The Finance Committee did not meet.
- B. Administration, Operations & Personnel (AOP) Committee  
The AOP- Committee did not meet.
- C. Ad Hoc- Rate Study Committee  
The Ad Hoc-Rate Study Committee did not meet.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Emergency Repair Report for the Replacement of Treatment Plant's Blowers as Authorized by Resolution 2021-08 [Non-Action Item]

The Board reviewed the submitted staff report. Operations Manager N. Aguilar Vega said he met with Cushman and the blowers have been received, but the installation of the Blowers has been moved to the end of August or the first week of September due to a delay in the receipt of the Variable Frequency Drives. Until the completion of the installation, the emergency condition, as described in Resolution 2021-08, still exists.

**At this point Director M. Tucker joined the meeting.**

- B. Rate Study Fiscal Year 2022-23 [Non-Action Item]

The Board discussed the Request for Proposals Sewer Rate Study.

President D. Novis asked if the Board would consider a 9% to 10% CPI adjustment for the annual sewer rates per July 1, 2023, predicated on the rate study. President D. Novis would like to give Board input to the (to be contracted) rate consultant. Director Colomy said that the Board cannot give direction to the Rate Consultant in this much detail, until they do the study and the results are known. Director J. Franklin agreed with this statement. President D. Novis said that the Board spent \$25,000 on a rate study, which was unrealistic in its implementation, and he expressed that he would like the board to give more input before the Study. Administrative Manager M. Souza suggested to organize a workshop with a rate study consultant to go through the exercise of what is possible through Prop. 218, the different scenarios of calculating sewer rates and what level of input the board can provide. The Board agreed with this idea and directed staff to organize a workshop, preferably an hour before the regular board meeting of September 8<sup>th</sup>.

- C. Board Discussion: District's Future [Non-Action Item]

The Board held a discussion on the district's future predicated on cost/revenues and climate change. President D. Novis requested input from each board member on possibly merging with Carpinteria, or should the Board wait to complete a rate study and hold off for now.

Director J. Colomy said that she would like to hold off on any decision, until the Board receives a projected financial overview for the upcoming years. Operations Manager N. Aguilar Vega said that a climate change adaptation study will have to be completed by 2027. A cost and benefits analysis needs to be performed of maintaining the plant at present location versus relocation, and, or consolidating. One of the financial factors is the replacement of the outfall pipeline. Since this project can now be planned in the future, staff will contact grant makers in the search for appropriate grants. The first step should be receiving a cost estimate for the replacement of the outfall pipeline. Operations Manager N. Aguilar Vega will contact an engineering firm to receive a proposal for the outfall pipeline replacement cost estimate, and, thereafter, a grant search will start. Director J. Franklin said that this cost aspect and our financial overview will be a major decision maker for the district's future for a possible merger. Director J. Franklin asked if there is a rough cost estimate regarding connecting to Carpinteria Sanitary District (CSD). District Administrative Manager said that there is none and that it is most likely that the Summerland Sanitary District will be operating as a stand-alone facility, with the collection systems maintained by CSD and administration handled by CSD. To connect the main sewer pipelines would require an upgrade of the infrastructure of CSD and this requires planning and time. A feasibility study could be done, which will cost money. The Board is not ready to commit to a feasibility study until the financial picture is completed. The topic "District's Future" will be an ongoing discussion.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS**

**A. Conflict of Interest Biennial Review Pursuant to Government Code Section 87306.5. [Action Item]**

The Board reviewed the Adopted Conflict of Interest Code, Resolution 2020-10, for completeness and accuracy and will determine if amendment is necessary.

The District Administrative Manager M. Souza reviewed the County Clerk notice and instructions and determined that the District's Adopted Conflict of Interest Code is up to date and no amendment is necessary.

A motion was made by Director J. Colomy that the Adopted Conflict of Interest Code was reviewed for completeness and accuracy, and it was determined that no amendment was necessary at this time. The motion was seconded by Director D. Novis, and was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	4	J. Colomy, J. Franklin, D. Novis, M. Tucker
NOES:	0	None
ABSENT:	1	J. Witmer
ABSTAIN:	0	None

**X. FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT – JULY 2022 [Action Item]**

The Board received Financial Status and Cash Balances Reports for Funds 5215, 5216, and 5217, and staff provided explanations as requested.

A motion was made by Director J. Franklin to accept the Financial Status Report of July 2022. The motion was seconded by Director M. Tucker, and was carried by the following roll call vote:

Summerland Sanitary District  
Minutes Regular Board Meeting 08/09/2022

AYES:	4	J. Colomy, J. Franklin, D. Novis, M. Tucker
NOES:	0	None
ABSENT:	1	Witmer (
ABSTAIN:	0	None

IX. OPERATIONS MANAGER REPORT

Operations Manager N. Aguilar Vega provided a written report and answered Board questions.

- Staff and Operations Manager N. Aguilar Vega attended the Tri-County Workshop held at Ojai Sanitary District.
- The annual preventative service maintenance of the district's emergency generators was completed by Quinn Power Systems. All generators meet the standards, additional maintenance was needed for two of the generators. Proposals are being prepared for this.

X. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER REPORT

Administrative Manager M. Souza provided a written report and answered Board questions.

XI. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Board communications: None
- B. Items for future Board meetings: Board Workshop
- C. The next regular board meeting is Thursday, September 8, 2022

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Director J. Franklin to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 3:46 p.m. and was seconded by Director J. Colomy and carried by four ayes and one absent vote.

Respectfully submitted:



Jim Witmer  
Board Secretary

Date: September 8, 2022

Minutes prepared by M. Souza