

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY**

**PROJECT COMMITTEE NO. 2
TELECONFERENCE MEETING**

November 22, 2022

9:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting by clicking on the link below:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://socwa.zoom.us/>

Meeting ID: 851 9989 2900
Passcode: 776635

One tap mobile
+16694449171,,85199892900#,,,,*776635# US
+16699006833,,85199892900#,,,,*776635# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 309 205 3325 US
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 360 209 5623 US

Find your local number: <https://socwa.zoom.us/j/keazekPGiB>

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Project Committee 2 was called to be held by teleconference on November 22, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS TELECONFERENCE MEETING AND MAY JOIN THE MEETING VIA THE TELECONFERENCE PHONE NUMBER AND ENTER THE ID CODE. THIS IS A PHONE CALL MEETING AND NOT A WEB-CAST MEETING SO PLEASE REFER TO AGENDA MATERIALS AS POSTED WITH THE AGENDA ON THE WEB-SITE WWW.SOCWA.COM. ON YOUR REQUEST, EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE PARTICIPATION. IF YOU REQUIRE ANY SPECIAL DISABILITY RELATED ACCOMMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT (949) 234-5452 AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING TO REQUEST DISABILITY RELATED ACCOMMODATIONS. THIS AGENDA CAN BE OBTAINED IN ALTERNATE FORMAT UPON REQUEST TO THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY'S SECRETARY AT LEAST TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING.

AGENDA ATTACHMENTS AND OTHER WRITINGS THAT ARE DISCLOSABLE PUBLIC RECORDS DISTRIBUTED TO ALL, OR A MAJORITY OF, THE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY PROJECT COMMITTEE 2 IN CONNECTION WITH A MATTER SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION OR CONSIDERATION AT THE PROJECT COMMITTEE 2 ARE AVAILABLE BY PHONE REQUEST MADE TO THE AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE AT 949-234-5452 OR BY SUBMITTING AN EMAIL TO DHIRSH@SOCWA.COM.

THE AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES ARE LOCATED AT 34156 DEL OBISPO STREET, DANA POINT, CA (“AUTHORITY OFFICE”), BUT ARE NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE PERIOD OF STAY AT HOME ORDERS. IF SUCH WRITINGS ARE DISTRIBUTED TO MEMBERS OF THE PROJECT COMMITTEE 2 LESS THAN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING, THEY WILL BE SENT TO PARTICIPANTS REQUESTING VIA EMAIL DELIVERY. IF SUCH WRITINGS ARE DISTRIBUTED IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO, OR DURING, THE MEETING, THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY ON VERBAL REQUEST TO BE DELIVERED VIA EMAIL TO REQUESTING PARTIES.

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order

2. Public Comments

THOSE WISHING TO ADDRESS THE JOINT PROJECT COMMITTEE 2 / ENGINEERING COMMITTEE ON ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA WILL BE REQUESTED TO IDENTIFY AT THE OPENING OF THE MEETING AND PRIOR TO THE CLOSE OF THE MEETING. THE AUTHORITY REQUESTS THAT YOU STATE YOUR NAME WHEN MAKING THE REQUEST IN ORDER THAT YOUR NAME MAY BE CALLED TO SPEAK ON THE ITEM OF INTEREST. THE CHAIR OF THE MEETING WILL RECOGNIZE SPEAKERS FOR COMMENT AND GENERAL MEETING DECORUM SHOULD BE OBSERVED IN ORDER THAT SPEAKERS ARE NOT TALKING OVER EACH OTHER DURING THE CALL.

3. Approval of Minutes

- Project Committee 2 Meeting of October 25, 2022

Recommended Action: Staff recommends that the Project Committee 2 approve Minutes as submitted.

4. Future Plans for Managing Wastewater Treatment at JB Latham Plant

- a. Overall operations and cost allocations including impact to reuse opportunities
- b. Additional discussion regarding salt contribution at JBL

Recommended Action: Board of Directors Discussion, Direction and Action.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on change in Operator of JB Latham Plant following expiration of PC 2 Agreement

- a. Discussion regarding PC 2 Agreement and possible action regarding SOCWA's operation of JB Latham Plant following expiration of PC 2 Agreement
- b. Discussion regarding future operator of JB Latham Plant following expiration of PC 2 Agreement

Recommended Action: Board of Directors Discussion, Direction and Action.

Adjournment

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notice was personally emailed or mailed to each member of the SOCWA Joint Project Committee 2 / Engineering Committee at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled time of the Special Meeting referred to above.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Notice was posted at least 24 hours prior to the time of the above referenced Joint Project Committee 2 / Engineering Committee at the usual agenda posting location of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority and at www.socwa.com.

Dated this 19th day of November 2022.



Betty Burnett, General Manager/Secretary
South Orange County Wastewater Authority

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY**

**Project Committee No. 2
Meeting**

October 25, 2022

DRAFT

The Special Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Project Committee 2 was held on October 25, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. via teleconference at 34156 Del Obispo Street, Dana Point, California. The following members of the Project Committee No. 2 were present:

MATT COLLINGS	Moulton Niguel Water District	Director
SCOTT GOLDMAN	South Coast Water District	Director
DAN FERONS	Santa Margarita Water District	Director [exited @ 10:08]

DON BUNTS	Santa Margarita Water District	Alternate Director
-----------	--------------------------------	--------------------

**Director Bunts joined the meeting representing Santa Margarita Water District as Director Ferons exited the meeting.*

Staff Participation:

BETTY BURNETT	General Manager
JIM BURROR	Director of Operations
DAVID BARANOWSKI	Director of Engineering
AMBER BAYLOR	Director of Environmental Compliance
RONI YOUNG GRANT	Associate Engineer
JEANETTE COTINOLA	Procurement/Contracts Administrator
DINA ASH	HR Administrator
MATT CLARKE	IT Administrator
MARY CAREY	Controller
KONSTANTIN SHILKOV	Senior Accountant
ANNA SUTHERLAND	Account Payables
DANITA HIRSH	Executive Assistant

Also Participating:

RICK SHINTAKU	South Coast Water District
DAVE REBENS DORF	City of San Clemente
DON BUNTS	Santa Margarita Water District
ROD WOODS	Moulton Niguel Water District
DOUG REINHART	Irvine Ranch Water District
OSMAN MUFTI	Sloan Sakai Yeung & Wong LLP
SHERRY WANNINGER	Moulton Niguel Water District
DREW ATWATER	Moulton Niguel Water District
FRANK URY	Santa Margarita Water District
BILL MOORHEAD	Moulton Niguel Water District
KEVIN DAY	
SAUNDRA JACOBS	Moulton Niguel Water District
KATHRYN FRESHLEY	El Toro Water District
MIKE GASKINS	El Toro Water District
PAMELA ARENDS-KING	South Coast Water District
STEPHEN DOPUDJA	Trabuco Canyon Water District

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Collings called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Future Plans for Managing Wastewater Treatment at JB Latham

Chair Collings opened the discussion for Item 3 to address future plans for managing wastewater treatment at the JB Latham Plant (JBL). Chair Collings inquired of the participants as to their future use plans for those sending flow to JBL and intentions for flow management and recycled water opportunities? And we would like to future be recycling water at the LATHAM plant, or beneficial use either as groundwater recharge or in the irrigation system serving the city of San Juan.

Director Ferons responded as to the desire of Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) to recycle at JBL and utilize the water either for groundwater recharge or in the irrigation system to serve the City of San Juan Capistrano (CSJC). The concepts in discussion for SMWD include:

1. For future expansion of SMWD system, in the next four to five years SMWD would like to have a project for JBL recycled water, and that effort would include the flows from CSJC and flows still coming to JBL from the Mission Bay Hill area.
2. Oso is under construction right now. Flow there have about 1.8 million gallons per day based on the gravity flow going by Oso. The proposal includes a lift station near Oso Parkway to collect flows that are traditionally going to JBL and to pump those back up to the Oso Creek plant so we can produce about 3 million gallons a day there. Then the average flow to JBL will go down so that SMWD can recycle at Oso Plant.
3. SMWD expects JBL to still have 3 mgd which it would like to recycle.
4. SMWD also currently has flow going to the Los Alisos plant and it is going to be under construction so in discussion with MNWD is to send those flows to the 3A Plant, and in exchange, SMWD would have the opportunity to utilize the MNWD flows going to JBL, which they estimate to be 680,000 gallons a day in addition to the 3mgd.
5. SMWD noted that for reuse for groundwater recharge it is not anticipated that any added treatment above recycled water standards would be needed due to the travel times for recharged water. Treatment planned would be filtration and disinfection. Future reuse treatment standards for constituents such as PFAS could change that.

Director Collings noted that Moulton Niguel Water District (MNWD) would be looking at opportunity for 1 mgd of recycled water from a JBL facility. They could utilize that to backfill the dedication of water currently utilized for recycled water at the Regional Treatment Plant (RTP) to potable reuse.

Director Goldman commented that for South Coast Water District (SCWD) the focus currently is on the desalination effort. SCWD would be interested in concepts for groundwater recharge but considering shorter opportunities for travel times (for infiltrated recycled water to the groundwater systems) direct potable reuse or augmentation of water to the desalination facility would be an option. SCWD flows to JBL are in a range of 1 to 1.5 mgd. 4 to 5 mgd of wastewater at JBL would fit in well with reuse options at the desalination project.

Director Collings inquired as to the possible timelines for these project ideas with Director Ferons noting SMWD is looking at a 2-year planning effort and possible project in 3 to 5 years. Director Goldman noted desalination was in the 3-to-5-year horizon for SCWD, but planning could advance on other concepts. For MNWD Director Collings indicated that in a 3-year window they hope to see Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) regulations and to begin a pilot project at RTP. That makes the opportunity to gain recycled water from JBL of interest to MNWD although he noted that he does not anticipate a swap of capacity rather a paper swap of flows.

It was noted that SCWD does have the ability to move recycled water from the Coastal Treatment Plant (CTP) to the Harbor and State Park (JBL adjacent areas) and SCWD does remove salts at the CTP facility. Director Collings noted that there is an opportunity to maximize the use of flows from the CTP facility as a supplement to either the MNWD or SMWD systems.

Director Ferons noted that there is not a mechanism presently to move water back up the San Juan Basin and SMWD is looking at the concept of utilizing space in the Chiquita Land Outfall which has an unused amount of its 42 mgd capacity. The opportunity would include lining the land outfall and inserting pipes within it.

No direction was given, or action taken.

4. Salt Contribution Impacts to Wastewater Treatment at JB Latham

Director Ferons noted an interest in gaining a better understanding of non-stormwater diverted flows as to the impact to JBL water quality and salt contributions. He noted SMWD is considering a brine line from the Lake Mission Viejo Facility to reduce salt inputs. He is interested in understanding the cost impacts of added salts and noted this came to light in the discussion of the harbor project groundwater dewatering requests which would add high salt in to JBL for a timeframe of that project. He questioned whether SOCWA/SCWD should be recovering costs for that. He noted that with City of San Clemente (CSC) there is a project to reduce salinity in recycled water to meet the TDS standards for the Basin.

Director Collings said MNWD is also considering salinity management options for the RTP facility to improve recycled water. He noted there is some opportunity with agencies with stormwater/non-stormwater responsibilities (Municipal Separate Storm Systems or MS4) to capture water and treat it.

Director Ferons noted it is a good discussion that must include MS4 contribution to cost as an element.

Ms. Burnett asked staff to comment on diversion contributions to salts in the wastewater system. SOCWA staff confirmed that volume of diversions is very low in contrast to wastewater flow (between .5 and 3%) and that salt contribution comes principally from the higher TDS water delivered in the potable water delivery system. SOCWA staff noted that current diversion permitting does include a cost contribution above 10,000 gpd. As to the difference in salt contribution between Plant 1 and Plant 2 at JBL, the differential is about 1000 TDS higher salts delivered on the Plant 1 side (from SCWD flows) in contrast to what is delivered on the Plant 2 side. Director Ferons noted that his interest is in the overall cost allocation for contributed elements of flow.

Director Goldman noted that the Harbor developer request is to discharge .5 to 1 mgd of dewatering flow to JBL. He looks forward to the results of the salinity study.

Participants noted that the Harbor development had an approximate 3-year groundwater dewatering schedule and that is somewhat undefined due to the ongoing development timeline and approach. It was noted that the Harbor developer was not proposing pretreatment prior to dewatering discharge to the sewer, but the developer can also consider an alternative option of a separate NPDES permit obtainable from the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Director Collings noted there are installed sensors, approximately 50 in the Aliso Watershed put in place to study opportunity to divert flows to the sewer system.

Ms. Burnett noted that the September 19, 2022, letter sent to the Harbor developer would be helpful to see some of the detail regarding the application to discharge to SOCWA.

Ms. Baylor provided comment that dry weather diversions have been shown to improve ocean water quality as a structural solution.

No direction was given, or action taken.

5. Santa Margarita Water District Update on Proposal to Operate JB Latham

SMWD is developing a PC 2 operations proposal utilizing the SOCWA budgets and flow information. The approach is the working group list of topics that should be addressed in a proposal. It is anticipated that a draft will be delivered in November. The next PC 2 meeting could be set for late November early December. The information would be delivered in draft to the PC. Also, SMWD counsel is drafting agreements.

It was noted that the attorneys are not in agreement. SOCWA Counsel offered to convene a meeting of PC 2 counsels to help to define the areas of differences of opinion. SCWD indicated it is waiting on a formal opinion from its counsel.

Director Goldman noted that SCWD favors the SOCWA model and continuing work on adjustments to the JPA, however, it would not be opposed to SMWD operating the JBL facility. SCWD is unclear as to the process for ongoing consideration, but noted its concerns include retaining control of the water sent to JBL and input to capital costs. He noted a need to extend the PC 2 agreement and questioned what voting would be needed to make changes.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

6. Potential South Coast Water District (SCWD) Proposal to Operate JB Latham Treatment Plant (JBL)

Director Goldman noted that it only makes sense for SCWD to consider a proposal to operate JBL if it would also operate CTP. He noted there have not been discussions at PC 15 to change CTP operations away from SOCWA. He noted there is an impact to all SOCWA agencies and questions include whether decisions need to be made by the whole of the SOCWA Board as the issues are interconnected. Director Ferons questioned why it would not be efficient to operate one plant? Director Goldman indicated that SCWD sees there would not be efficiency without operating two plants due to loss of resource sharing. Operating multiple plants is like the existing SOCWA model. Director Ferons noted that resource sharing could happen through shared services agreements. SCWD's Alternate Committee Member Rick Shintaku noted that it is important that proposals provide a comparison to the existing SOCWA model.

*Director Ferons exited the meeting at 10:08 a.m. Director Bunts (Alternate Director) attended in his stead.

7. PC 2 Agreement Proposed Extension Options

Director Goldman stated in light of the different attorney opinions, and the soon approaching agreement expiration, he proposed extending the existing agreement for one year while the PC 2 members continued to work through the details of either continuing with SOCWA as it currently exists or developing some other approach to the details of the agreements. An open discussion ensued.

Director Collings stated the direction given to him by the Moulton Niguel Water District Board of Directors is there is more than sufficient time to identify and develop a go forward path and are not interested in entertaining an agreement extension. Director Bunts concurred with Director Collings' statement on behalf of the Santa Margarita Water District Board of Directors. An open discussion ensued.

There was concurrence of the PC 2 members to discuss the need for setting up a meeting with SOCWA's General Counsel for the purpose of discussing legal opinion differences regarding amendments to the agreements.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Collings adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m. stating the next PC 2 Committee Meeting is November 22, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate copy of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Project Committee No. 2 of October 25, 2022, and approved by the Project Committee No. 2, and received and filed by the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority.

Betty Burnett, General Manager / Secretary
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY