

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY
Board of Directors**

Approved

September 4, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Board of Directors was held in person and via teleconference on September 4, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. at their Administrative Offices located at 34156 Del Obispo Street, Dana Point, California. The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

KATHRYN FRESHLEY	El Toro Water District	Director
BOB WHALEN	City of Laguna Beach	Director
SCOTT GOLDMAN	South Coast Water District	Director
FRANK URY	Santa Margarita Water District	Director

Staff Present:

MIKE DUNBAR	Emerald Bay Service District
DAVE REBENS DORF	City of San Clemente

Staff Present:

AMBER BOONE	General Manager
JIM BURROR	Deputy GM/Chief Engineer
RONI GRANT	Capital Improvement Program Manager
DINA ASH	HR Administrator
BOB CULVER	Environment Services Manager
JACK BECK	Accountant
JAMES JONES	Superintendent of O&M
MATT CLARKE	Chief Technology Officer
DANITA HIRSH	Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board

Also Present:

ADRIANA OCHOA	Snell & Wilmer
KARI VOZENILEK	Kidman Law, LLP
JENNIFER LOPEZ	South Coast Water District
SANDER HUANG	South Coast Water District
DENNIS CAFFERTY	El Toro Water District

1. CALL TO ORDER

Director Frank Ury called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Director Bob Whalen

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

4. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEMBER REQUEST FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION

None.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Goldman and seconded by Director Whalen to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted.

Motion carried: Aye 4 Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 2
Director Dunbar Absent
Director Freshley Aye
Director Whalen Aye
Director Ury Aye
Director Goldman Aye
Director Rebensdorf Absent

(5A-5F)

- A. Minutes of Board of Directors Special Meeting for August 7, 2025
- B. Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting for June 17, 2025
- C. Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting for July 29, 2025
- D. Financial Reports for the Months of May & June 2025
Approved Action: The Board received and filed the May & June 2025 Financial Reports.
- E. July 2025 Operations Reports
Approved Action: Information Item; received and filed.
- F. Capital Improvement Construction Projects Progress and Change Order Report (August) [Project Committees 2 and 15]
Approved Action: The PC 15 Board approved an additional \$40,000 to the existing project budget of \$160,000. This will result in a revised total project budget of \$200,000 for the CTP Aeration Deck Grating Replacement Project.

6. ENGINEERING MATTERS

- A. Contract Award for Coastal Treatment Grit Tank Coating [Project Committee 15]

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Goldman and seconded by Director Whalen to authorize execution of a contract with Murphy Industrial Coatings in the amount of \$113,894 for the CTP Grit Tank Coating Replacement project, and approve a contract contingency of \$11,390 to address any unforeseen conditions encountered during the work, for a total project budget of \$125,284.

Motion carried: Aye 2, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1
Director Dunbar Absent
Director Whalen Aye
Director Goldman Aye

B. Water Research Foundation Proposal [Project Committee 15]

An open discussion ensued regarding the proposal's relevance to the ongoing master planning process and whether additional PC members should be engaged in the effort.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Whalen and seconded by Director Goldman to authorize the General Manager to submit the proposal on behalf of SOCWA, with the condition that SOCWA shall not be obligated to accept any resulting award without contract approval by the SOCWA Board.

Motion carried: Aye 2, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1
Director Dunbar Absent
Director Whalen Aye
Director Goldman Aye

7. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. General Counsel's Report

Ms. Adriana Ochoa, General Counsel, Snell & Wilmer, provided an update to the Board of Directors on legislation and case law that the CASA Attorney's Committee is tracking. An open discussion ensued.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

B. General Manager's Report

Ms. Amber Boone, General Manager, provided an update on the Facility Planning Assessment Phase I of the master planning process for the J.B. Latham Plant. An open discussion ensued.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

C. Ocean Institute Partnership Proposal

An open discussion ensued on the proposed partnership with the Ocean Institute to support public outreach and internship opportunities.

The Board of Directors directed staff to present to the Finance Committee cost allocation scenarios for the Ocean Institute Partnership funding for recommendation to the SOCWA Board for final consideration.

E. Upcoming Meetings Schedule:

- September 4, 2025 – Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- September 11, 2025 – Engineering Committee Meeting
- September 16, 2025 – Finance Committee Meeting
- September 23, 2025 – Executive Committee Special Meeting
- October 2, 2025 – Board of Directors Regular Meeting

This was an information item; no actions were taken.

9. OTHER MATTERS

None.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Ury adjourned the meeting at 9:24 a.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Board of Directors on September 4, 2025, and approved by the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority.



Lynda May, Assistant Secretary
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY