

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

Approved

September 10, 2026

The Special Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Board of Directors was held in person and via teleconference on September 10, 2026, 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
MIKE DUNBAR	Emerald Bay Service District	Director
ALEX ROUNAGHI	City of Laguna Beach	Alternate Director
SCOTT GOLDMAN	South Coast Water District	Director
FRANK URY	Santa Margarita Water District	Director
DAVE REBENDSOLF	City of San Clemente	Director

Staff Present:

AMBER BOONE	General Manager
JIM BURROR	Deputy GM/ Chief Engineer
RONI GRANT	Capital Improvement Program Manager
LYNDA MAY	Assistant Secretary
MATT CLARKE	Chief Technology Officer
IAN LOSKA	Electrical / Instrumentation Technician
JACK BECK	Senior Accountant
ANNA SUTHERLAND	Accountant
DINA ASH	Human Resources Administrator
ROBERT CULVER	Environmental Service Manager
JAMES JONES	Superintendent of O&M

Also Present:

RICK SHINTAKU	South Coast Water District
MARC SERNA	South Coast Water District
JODY BRENNAN	South Coast Water District
JENNIFER LOPEZ	South Coast Water District
KARI VOZENILEK	Kidman Law, LLP
ADRIANA OCHOA	Snell & Wilmer
DUSTIN BURNSIDE	City of San Clemente
MICHELLE BANNIGAN	City of Laguna Beach
MIKE GASKINS	El Toro Water District
CHAD WANKE	Orbis Public Affairs

1. CALL TO ORDER

Director Scott Goldman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Director Alex Rounaghi

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION TAKEN

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

Motion carried: Aye 6 Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 0
Director Dunbar Aye
Director Freshley Aye
Director Rounaghi Aye
Director Ury Aye
Director Goldman Aye
Director Rebensdorf Aye

(4A-4D)

- A. Minutes of Board of Directors Regular Meeting for August 13, 2026,
Minutes of the Board of Directors Special Meeting August 17, 2026
- B. July 2026 Operations Report
Approved Action: Information Item; received and filed.
- C. Capital Improvement Construction Projects Progress and Change
Order Report (August) [Project Committees 2 and 15]
Approved Action: Information Item.
- D. Capital Improvement Program Workplan
Approved Action: Information Item.

5. ENGINEERING MATTERS

- A. Engine System Service Contract Award- Northeastern-Western Energy Systems USA
[Project Committee 2]

Ms. Amber Boone summarized the market history of the Jenbacher Cogeneration engine, current operating costs, and right-to-repair issues to be reviewed by legal counsel.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Ury and seconded by Director Goldman to approve the award of the engine/power plant system service contract with Northeastern-Western Energy Systems USA, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Motion carried: Aye 2, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 0
Director Ury Aye
Director Goldman Aye

- B. JBL Plant 1 Generator Updates [Project Committee 2]

After a related discussion during Closed Session, the Board decided to bring the item back at the October 1, 2026 Board meeting for the bidding of the project and made a recommendation on temporary risk mitigation in the interim.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Ury and seconded by Director Goldman to recommend immediate installation of the temporary generator to mitigate risks with the upcoming El Niño

not to exceed ~\$2400 per day, and to report back on a weekly basis the status of the discussions regarding the generator.

Motion carried: Aye 2, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 0
Director Ury Aye
Director Goldman Aye

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. ACOO and SJCOO Receiving Water Monitoring Reports and CEDEN Data Submittal Authorization for WSP USA, Inc. [Project Committee 5, Project Committee 24]

An open discussion ensued on the required sediment samples and toxicity testing for both the Aliso Creek and San Juan Creek outfalls as part of its NPDES permit compliance, with Ms. Boone noting that these monitoring expenses are tied to a specific permit cycle and will not recur next year.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Dunbar and seconded by Director Ury to authorize the General Manager to issue two purchase orders to WSP USA, Inc. for preparation of the ACOO and SJCOO Receiving Water Monitoring Reports and associated CEDEN data submittals in the amount of \$53,993 each, for a combined total not to exceed \$107,986.

Motion carried: Aye 6 Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 0
Director Dunbar Aye
Director Freshley Aye
Director Rounaghi Aye
Director Ury Aye
Director Goldman Aye
Director Rebensdorf Aye

B. Regional Government Services Contract Amendment

A brief discussion ensued on the current contract with RGS and their additional payroll services to assist with the agency's accountant with month-to-month reconciliations, with Ms. Boone noting the total expenditures to date being \$49,375 over two fiscal years.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Goldman and seconded by Director Dunbar to authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Services Agreement with Regional Government Services Authority (RGS), dated November 8, 2024, extending the term through June 30, 2027, and increasing the Not to Exceed amount by \$55,000 to a revised total of \$161,000

Motion carried: Aye 6 Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 0
Director Dunbar Aye
Director Freshley Aye
Director Rounaghi Aye
Director Ury Aye
Director Goldman Aye
Director Rebensdorf Aye

C. General Manager's Report

Ms. Boone updated the Board on key informational items including participation in the Orange County Water Association's General Manager Summit, administrative efficiency efforts, the agency's VoiceSOP app, the small capital workplan cost summary, and upcoming exhibit signage at Ocean Institute. The status on the associate engineer recruitment was also noted.

D. General Counsel's Report

Ms. Ochoa briefed the Board on the State Water Board's review of the State Water Quality Control Plan and policies under the Triennial Review. Ms. Boone noted that CASA has been engaged on issues such as nutrient limits that may affect future NPDES permit requirements.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

E. Government Affairs Report

Mr. Chad Wanke of ORBIS Public Affairs updated the Board on key items such as ongoing discussions regarding deal points with the County of Orange for the CTP Access Road, and OC San's (Orange County Sanitation District) selling of renewable energy credits.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

F. Upcoming Meetings Schedule:

- September 15, 2026 – Finance Committee Meeting
- September 17, 2026 – Engineering Committee Meeting
- October 1, 2026 – Board of Directors Meeting

This was an information item; no action was taken.

The Board of Directors convened to Closed Session at 9:09 a.m.

7. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session Conference pursuant to Government Code § 54957(b)
Public Employment
Title: Legal Counsel

Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(d)(4)
Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation
One Potential Case

The Board of Directors reconvened to Open Session at 9:52 a.m. There were no reportable actions.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Goldman adjourned the meeting at 9:54 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 Board of Directors on September 10, 2026, and approved by the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority.



Lynda May, Assistant Secretary
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY