Approved

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

Engineering Committee

May 21, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Engineering Committee was held on May 21, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. in person and via teleconferencing from the Administrative Offices located at 34156 Del Obispo Street, Dana Point, California. The following members of the Engineering Committee were present:

MIKE DUNBAR	Emerald Bay Service District
HANNAH FORD	El Toro Water District [Zoom]
MARK MCAVOY	City of Laguna Beach [Zoom]
ROBERT GRANTHAM	Santa Margarita Water District [Zoom]
TARYN KJOLSING	South Coast Water District [Zoom]

Absent:

DAVE REBENSDORF	City of San Clemente

Staff Present:

AMBER BOONE	General Manager
RONI GRANT	Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Manager
JIM BURROR	Deputy GM/ Chief Engineer
MATT CLARKE	Chief Technology Officer
LYNDA MAY	Administrative Assistant/Assistant Secretary
ANNA SUTHERLAND	Staff Accountant
JAMES JONES	Operations and Maintenance Superintendent

Also Present:

DUSTIN BURNSIDE	City of San Clemente
CHRIS NEWTON	South Coast Water District

1. Call Meeting to Order

   Ms. Roni Grant, Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Manager, called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

2. Public Comments

   None.

3. Approval of Minutes

   - Engineering Committee Minutes of April 14, 2026.

   ACTION TAKEN
   A motion was made by Mr. Dunbar and seconded by Mr. McAvoy to approve the Engineering Committee Minutes for April 14, 2026.

Motion carried:	Aye 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1	
	Mr. Dunbar	Aye
	Ms. Ford	Aye
	Mr. McAvoy	Aye
	Mr. Grantham	Aye
	Ms. Kjolsing	Aye
	Mr. Rebensdorf	Absent

4. General Manager's Report

Ms. Amber Boone, General Manager, provided a report on the support received for the Water Research Foundation's Project 5394, and the ongoing website redesign which will include a member portal to access the new Saige (AI) tool for governance documents.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

5. Operations Report

Mr. Jim Burror, Deputy GM/Chief Engineer, provided the operations report with an update on the ocean outfall system and ongoing inspections at the JBL treatment plant. Ms. Boone noted CASA's progress with their ROMS-BEC modeling.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

6. Capital Improvements Workplan

Ms. Roni Grant, Capital Improvement Program Manager, provided an update on the workplan including tracking additions requested by the Board. Ms. Boone added that the CIP Workplan will be included in the monthly Engineering Committee packets and will be provided to the Board on a quarterly basis.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

7. Capital Improvement Construction Projects Progress and Change Order Report (May) [Project Committees 2 and 15]

Ms. Grant updated the Committee on ongoing construction projects including the JBL Effluent Pump Station upgrades and Energy Building roofing replacement. Ms. Grant also noted the CTP West Primary and Secondary scum skimming system project is to be completed in the next couple of months.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

8. As-Needed Construction Management Services for Capital Improvement Projects

An open discussion ensued on the procurement process related to the request for qualifications for the Capital Improvement projects including transparency and selection processes. Ms. Grant explained the purchasing policy of needing two quotes for contracts over $25,000.

ACTION TAKEN
A motion was made by Mr. Dunbar and seconded by Mr. Grantham to approve: 1) the recommendation for the award of on-call construction management services contracts for general/civil engineering projects to the following firms: AKM, Ardurra/MKN, Dudek, La Salle Solutions; and 2) the recommendation of award of on-call construction management services contracts for coating projects to the following firms: Ardurra/MKN, and Harper; and 3) On-call services agreements will be for a three (3) year term and have a not-to-exceed limit of $750,000 per agreement.

Motion carried:	Aye 5, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1		
	Mr. Dunbar	Aye	
	Ms. Ford	Aye	
	Mr. McAvoy	Aye	
	Mr. Grantham	Aye	
	Ms. Kjolsing	Aye	
	Mr. Rebensdorf	Absent	

9. JBL Digester Underground Piping Upgrades Construction Contract Award [Project Committee 2]

After an open discussion on the original budget, safety issues, and the permanence of the improvements, the Committee agreed to bring the item back to next Engineering Committee meeting with more information for further discussion.

Recommended action was postponed, no action taken.

10. CTP Access Road Construction Contract [Project Committee 15]

After Ms. Boone provided context on the patching job strategy during ongoing discussions with the County of Orange, providing a short-term fix until possible cost-sharing is confirmed with the County.

ACTION TAKEN
A motion was made by Mr. McAvoy and seconded by Ms. Kjolsing to approve the Engineering Committee to present to the Project Committee 15 Board of Directors the following items: 1) Authorize execution of a construction contract with T.E. Roberts in the amount of $204,068.76, and 2) Approve a contract contingency of $10,203.44 to address any unforeseen conditions encountered during the work.

Motion carried:	Aye 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1	
	Mr. Dunbar	Aye
	Mr. McAvoy	Aye
	Ms. Kjolsing	Aye

11. CTP Regional Flow Study Update [Project Committee 15]

Mr. Burror provided an update on the regional flow study mentioning the upcoming Project Element 4 workshop. Ms. Boone noted the decision to remove the alternative of sending flow from CTP to the JBL plant. The committee was then notified that there will be an update on Alternative 1 which is to bring all flow to OCSAN.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

12. Capital Improvement Program Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27 Update

Mr. Burror updated the committee on the CIP Budget, noting a $4 million reduction due to delayed master plans, and the Board requesting a reduction from $16 million to $8 million in capital spending. Ms. Boone explained the ongoing efforts to align the budget with master plans and strategic goals.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Grant adjourned the meeting at 9:13 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 Engineering Committee of May 21, 2026, and approved by the Engineering Committee and received and filed by the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority.

Lynda May

Lynda May, Assistant Secretary
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY