

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

Finance Committee

Approved

April 21, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Finance Committee was held on April 21, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. in-person and via teleconference from the Administrative Offices located at 34156 Del Obispo Street, Dana Point, California. The following members of the Finance Committee were present:

MICHELLE BANNIGAN	City of Laguna Beach	Alternate Director [arrived 10:40am]
DENNIS CAFFERTY	El Toro Water District	Alternate Director
ERICA CASTILLO	South Coast Water District	Alternate Director
PAUL PENDER	Santa Margarita Water District	Alternate Director

Staff Participation:

AMBER BOONE	General Manager
RONI GRANT	Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Manager
JACK BECK	Accountant
ANNA SUTHERLAND	Staff Accountant
MATT CLARKE	Chief Technology Officer
LYNDA MAY	Administrative Assistant/ Assistant Clerk
ROBERT CULVER	Environmental Service Manager

Also Participating:

KATHRYN FRESHLEY	El Toro Water District
MATT COLLINGS	Moulton Niguel Water District
KELSEY DECASAS	Moulton Niguel Water District
JOE MULLER	South Coast Water District
ADRIANA OCHOA	Snell & Wilmer
DREW BALLARD	Foster & Foster

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairperson Paul Pender called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m.

2. Public Comments

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

- Finance Committee Special Meeting of March 17, 2026.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Castillo and seconded by Director Cafferty to approve the Minutes for March 17, 2026, as submitted.

Motion carried: Aye 3, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1
Director Cafferty Aye
Director Bannigan Absent
Director Pender Aye
Director Castillo Aye

4. Use Audit Update FY 24-25

After a discussion of the allocation methodology for UAL and OPEB, the committee agreed the move forward with the Use Audit.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Cafferty and seconded by Director Bannigan to recommend to the Board the disbursement of the Use Audit funds, with the understanding that further actuarial analysis is needed to reconcile adjustments of the UAL and OPEB liabilities post reorganization.

Motion carried: Aye 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 0
Director Cafferty Aye
Director Bannigan Aye
Director Pender Aye
Director Castillo Aye

5. FY 26-27 Budget

An open discussion ensued on the FY 26-27 budget, including the CIP Memo Summaries broken down by Project Committee. Legal Counsel was provided an update regarding legal interpretations of cash roll forward balances pertaining to Moulton Niguel Water District's cash contributions to open capital projects. Staff requested that legal counsels of the member agencies review the open questions for direction to SOCWA staff. Ms. Boone indicated that the capital portion of the budgets are being revised with a request to the SOCWA Engineering Committee for comment by April 29, 2026.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Castillo and seconded by Director Bannigan to recommend the Board approve the the FY 26-27 O&M Budget at \$20,059,648.

Motion carried: Aye 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 0
Director Cafferty Aye
Director Bannigan Aye
Director Pender Aye
Director Castillo Aye

6. Quarterly Investment Reporting Under Government Code Section 53646

Ms. Boone briefed the committee on the LAIF report's earnings, and provided an update on the upcoming PC 15 RFP for investment of monies from the Exit agreement.

7. Financial Reports for the Month of March 2026

An open discussion ensued on the reporting methods of capital projects (CIP), with Director Cafferty suggesting an emphasis on expected cash flow updates of open CIP projects.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Bannigan and seconded by Director Cafferty to recommend the Board receive and file the March 2026 Financial reports.

Motion carried:	Aye 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 0
Director Cafferty	Aye
Director Bannigan	Aye
Director Pender	Aye
Director Castillo	Aye

8. SOCWA Revenue Discussion

After a discussion on the methodology of reporting and tracking revenue sources, the committee agreed on the need to formalize a process and ensure compliance with the JPA. The committee requested that if there were additional revenue sources affecting the General Manager, that the information should be brought to the Committee for review. The Committee also requested a revenue policy for inclusion in the Policy Handbook.

9. Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Account Annual Review

After the committee agreed to move Item 9 to the front of the meeting, a presentation was given by Drew Ballard of Foster and Foster Actuaries on the Retiree Healthcare Plan valuation.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairperson Pender adjourned the meeting at 12:04 p.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 Finance Committee of April 21, 2026, and approved by the Finance Committee and received and filed by the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority.



Lynda May, Assistant Secretary
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY