

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

Approved

Engineering Committee

February 13, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Engineering Committee was held on February 13, 2025, 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
LINDSAY LEAHY
MARC SERNA
MARK McAVOY

Emerald Bay Service District
Santa Margarita Water District
South Coast Water District
City of Laguna Beach

Absent:

DAVE REBENDSOLF
HANNAH FORD

City of San Clemente
El Toro Water District

Staff Present:

AMBER BOONE
RONI GRANT
JIM BURROR
ANNA SUTHERLAND
MARY CAREY
MATT CLARKE
DANITA HIRSH

General Manager
Associate Engineer
Director of Operations
Accounts Payable
Finance Controller
IT Administrator
Executive Assistant

Also Present:

TARYN KJOLSING
ROGER BUTOW
ROBB GRANTHAM
DAVE LARSEN
RUSS BERGHOLZ
ULISES ESCALONA

South Coast Water District
Clean Water Now (CWN)
Santa Margarita Water District
Moulton Niguel Water District
Dudek Engineers
City of Laguna Beach

1. Call Meeting to Order

Ms. Roni Grant, Associate Engineer, called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

2. Public Comments

Ms. Lindsay Leahy introduced herself as the new Deputy General Manager of Santa Margarita Water District and will represent SMWD on the Engineering Committee.

3. Approval of Minutes

- Engineering Committee Minutes of November 14, 2024

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Mr. Dunbar and seconded by Mr. McAvoy to approve the Engineering Committee Minutes for November 14, 2024.

Motion carried:	Aye 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 2
Mr. McAvoy	Aye
Ms. Ford	Absent
Mr. Dunbar	Aye
Ms. Leahy	Aye
Mr. Serna	Aye
Mr. Rebensdorf	Absent

4. General Manager's Report – Engineering Bylaws Update

Ms. Amber Boone, General Manager, updated the Committee on the proposed changes to the Engineering Committee Bylaws Exhibit "A." An open discussion ensued.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Mr. Dunbar and seconded by Ms. Leahy to recommend that the Board of Directors approve Resolution No. 2025-03, A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Amending Exhibit "A" Bylaws revising the Engineering Membership from seven (7) to six (6) with the meeting quorum requirements to remain at four (4) members.

Motion carried:	Aye 4, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 2
Mr. McAvoy	Aye
Ms. Ford	Absent
Mr. Dunbar	Aye
Ms. Leahy	Aye
Mr. Serna	Aye
Mr. Rebensdorf	Absent

5. North Coast Interceptor Project Property Acquisition and Coastal Development Permit Application [Project Committee 23]

Mr. Ulises Escalona, Project Manager for the City of Laguna Beach, gave a presentation on the project. An open discussion ensued.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Mr. Dunbar and seconded by Mr. McAvoy to recommend that the PC 23 Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute all necessary permits, applications, and related documents where SOCWA is a co-applicant for the PC 23 North Coast Interceptor Forcemain Project being managed by the City of Laguna Beach.

Motion carried:	Aye 2, Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 0
Mr. McAvoy	Aye
Mr. Dunbar	Aye

6. Budgeted Capacity for FY 2025-2026

An open discussion ensued regarding an administrative update to table three (3) on page 13 of the agenda packet relating to the agency's restructuring agreement.

Public Speaker: David Larsen – Moulton Niguel Water District

This was an information item; no action was taken.

7. Operations Report

Mr. Jim Burror, Director of Operations, announced that Josh Papas was selected as the Interim Chief Operator at the Coastal Treatment Plant while the process continues in filling the position more permanently. Mr. Burror also stated that AQMD is finalizing and updating SOCWA's permits. An open discussion ensued.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

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

Ms. Roni Grant, Associate Engineer, updated the Engineering Committee on the status of the following CIP projects:

- JBL Scum Line Replacement - Construction is currently in progress.
- JBL Electrical Upgrades - Pre-purchasing of MCC and Plant 1 Generator is underway.
- JBL and CTP SCADA System - Upgrades started earlier this year and are near completion.
- CTP Diffusers Replacement - The contractor substantially completed the contract work, and working out final punch list items.
- CTP Aeration/Secondary Deck Grating Replacement - Construction is currently in progress. A change order to install 1.5-inch grating in the secondary effluent area, replacing the originally planned 1-inch grating is recommended. This adjustment is necessary to enhance the safety of plant staff, as the area experiences high traffic and requires regular access. The change order amounts to \$8,639.53, bringing the revised total contract amount to \$158,000.78. In addition, 89 non-compensable days will be added to the contract for the changes, for a revised contract end date of June 30, 2025.
- CTP West Primary and Secondary Scum Skimming System - Pre-Purchasing of scum skimmers, launders, and weirs is currently in progress.
- CTP Auxiliary Blower Building Roof Replacement - The Notice to Proceed (NTP) has been issued to Best Contracting Services.
CTP Personnel Building Sewer Rehabilitation – The Notice to Proceed (NTP) has been issued to T.E. Roberts.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

9. J.B. Latham Treatment Plant (JBL) Aeration Flare System and Underground Piping Replacement Project [Project Committee 2]

An open discussion ensued regarding tabling the project until after a thorough interview with the top two consultants to perform the work had been completed. No action has been taken.

10. San Bernadino Municipal Water District Phase 1 Biosolids Facility Study [Project Committee 2]

An open discussion ensued regarding the San Bernadino Municipal Water District (SBMWD) wanting to develop a Phase 1 Biosolids Program Feasibility Study for a processing facility that would receive, treat, and dispose of biosolids. The facility would be owned and operated by their water district. SBMWD is seeking a \$50,000 commitment from agencies wanting to participate.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

11. Coastal Treatment Plant (CTP) Blower System Upgrades Preliminary Design Agency Allocation [Project Committee 15]

An open discussion ensued regarding finalizing the member agency allocation for Project Committee 15. Director Dunbar of Emerald Bay Services District has agreed to absorb the difference, allowing the assignment allocation to total 100%.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms. Grant adjourned the meeting at 9:23 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 February 13, 2025, and approved by the Engineering Committee and received and filed by the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority.



Danita Hirsh, Assistant Board Secretary
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY