

**VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 25, 2023**

A regular Board Meeting of the Governing Board of Valley Sanitary District (VSD) was held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 45-500 Van Buren St., Indio, CA 92201.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Canero called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Directors Present:

Jacky Barnum, Debra Canero, Mike Duran, Scott Sear, William Teague

Staff Present:

Jason Dafforn, General Manager; Jeanette Juarez, Chief Administrative Officer; Dave Commons, Chief Operating Officer; Holly Gould, Clerk of the Board; and Craig Hayes, Best Best & Krieger

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. PUBLIC COMMENT - None

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

5.1 Approve the Minutes for the Board of Directors Regular Meeting held July 11, 2023

5.2 Approve Warrants for July 25, 2023

5.3 Monthly Financial Report for Period Ending June 30, 2023

5.4 Receive and File Credit Card Report for June 30, 2023

5.5 Designate Identified Items as Surplus Equipment and Authorize Disposition as Appropriate

Jeanette Juarez, Chief Administrative Officer, reported on the June 30, 2023 monthly financial report.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Director Teague motioned to approve the consent calendar as presented. Vice President Duran seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:
AYES: Barnum, Canero, Duran, Sear, Teague
NOES: None
MINUTE ORDER NO. 2023-3320

6. PUBLIC HEARING

- 6.1 Adopt Resolution No. 2023-1185 Declaring Certain Accounts to be Delinquent and Directing the Placement of These Accounts on the County Property Tax Roll for Collection

President Canero asked Jason Dafforn, General Manager, to summarize the actions leading up to the Public Hearing. Mr. Dafforn stated that Pursuant to Government Code Section 6062a, a notice has been given of the Public Hearing regarding the Resolution 2023-1185 Determining Certain Accounts to be Delinquent and Directing the Placement of these accounts on the County Property Tax Roll for Collection. The Property Owners were directly mailed a Notice of the Public Hearing, and a Notice of Public Hearing was duly published in The Desert Sun on June 29, 2023, and July 6, 2023. President Canero read the procedures to be followed during the hearing and asked Mr. Dafforn to summarize any written communications regarding the public hearing. Mr. Dafforn informed the Board that there were none. President Canero declared the Public Hearing open at 1:07 p.m. and asked Mr. Dafforn to give a brief staff report followed by any public testimony. Jeanette Juarez, Chief Administrative Officer, reported three delinquent accounts to be placed on the County Property Tax Rolls for a total of \$295.07. Being no comments from the public, President Canero declared the Public Hearing closed at 1:09 p.m.

“A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT DETERMINING CERTAIN ACCOUNTS TO BE DELINQUENT AND DIRECTING THE PLACEMENT OF THESE ACCOUNTS ON THE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX ROLL FOR COLLECTION.”

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Secretary/Treasurer Sear motioned to approve Resolution No. 2023-1185 declaring certain accounts to be delinquent and directing the placement of these accounts on the County Property Tax Roll for collection. Director Teague seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:
AYES: Barnum, Canero, Duran, Sear, Teague
NOES: None
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-1185

7. NON-HEARING ITEMS

- 7.1 Authorize Specific Directors to Attend the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) 2023 Annual Conference in Monterey, California, and Reimburse Related Expenses

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors authorize President Debra Canero, Vice President Mike Duran, Secretary/Treasurer Sear, and Director Jacky Barnum to attend the CSDA 2023 Annual Conference on August 28-31, 2023, in Monterey, California, and the reimbursement of related expenses. The conference will include various breakout sessions covering the latest district technology, management playbooks, and legal trends. The conference offers opportunities to develop partnerships and discover new products and services.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION:

Vice President Duran motioned to authorize specific Directors to attend the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) 2023 Annual Conference in Monterey and reimburse related expenses. Director Barnum seconded the motion.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barnum, Canero, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2023-3321

7.2 Approve Sponsorship Opportunity to the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Education Foundation

Recognizing the need to recruit new professionals into the industry, CASA members encouraged the association to establish the CASA Education Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization committed to raising money and offering competitive scholarships to support undergraduate students seeking degrees connected to working at a local public wastewater facility. Through scholarships, students can focus on their studies in engineering, natural resources, public administration, wastewater operations, and other areas in the clean water sector. The District will benefit from this sponsorship through increased brand exposure and creating awareness of wastewater education and future career opportunities.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION:

Vice President Duran motioned to approve a sponsorship opportunity to the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Education Foundation for \$5,000. Secretary/Treasurer Sear seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barnum, Canero, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2023-3322

7.3 Adopt Resolution 2023-1186 Amending Employee Wages & Benefits Effective July 1, 2023, and Rescind Resolution 2023-1178

At the May 23, 2023, meeting, the Board of Directors adopted Resolution 2023-1178 amending the wages and benefits for District employees effective July 1, 2023. Due to an oversight, Section 11 Standby Pay was not updated to include the board-approved Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). This

resolution corrects the oversight and updates the standby special assignment pay as follows: \$46.23 per weekday and \$91.38 per Saturday, Sunday, and District observed holidays. In Section 4, CalPERS updated the employee contribution to CalPERS for the "Classic" employees to 8.000%. The original projected value was 7.960% per the CalPERS Actuarial Valuation report.

“A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT AMENDING EMPLOYEE WAGES & BENEFITS EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023, AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2023-1178”

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Vice President Duran motioned to adopt Resolution 2023-1186, amending employee wages & benefits effective July 1, 2023, and rescind Resolution 2023-1178. Director Barnum seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Barnum, Canero, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-1186

8. GENERAL MANAGER’S ITEMS

Jason Dafforn, General Manager, stated there were no items for the Operations Committee meeting scheduled for August 1, 2023, and he would like to cancel the meeting. He also stated the board meeting scheduled for August 8, 2023, falls on the travel day for the CASA Conference and recommends the Board cancel the meeting due to the majority of the Directors attending the conference. Senator Alex Padilla's office will visit the District on August 3 for a site tour. Mr. Dafforn thanked Vice President Duran for the information he provided on community events.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Draft Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee Meeting – July 18, 2023

Chairperson Scott Sear reported on the Community Engagement meeting held on July 18, 2023. The committee discussed the 100-year celebration, including an open house event. They also discussed releasing an RFP for public relations services, ideas for honoring Director Teague and possibly creating a youth advisory board. Vice President Duran suggested hiring an event coordinator for the 100-year celebration event.

10. DIRECTOR’S ITEMS

President Canero commented on the Employee Recognition Luncheon. Three Directors attended. She stated it was an enjoyable and creative event and was impressed at the number of staff achievements celebrated for 2022/23.

11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Twelve employees will attend the Tri-State Seminar in Las Vegas, NV, on August 7-10, 2023.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:39 p.m. The next regular Board meeting will be on August 22, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Gould, Clerk of the Board
Valley Sanitary District