

**Salton Community Services District
REGULAR MEETING *Minutes***

January 17, 2024

Closed Session 1:00 p.m.

Open Session 2:00 p.m.

1209 Van Buren Ave.

Salton City, CA 92275

www.saltoncsd.ca.gov

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Michelle Gilmore, President
Michael Friese, Vice President
Manuel Ramos, Director
Lidia A. Sierra, Director
Dale Johnson, Director

STAFF:

Emmanuel Ramos, Interim General Manager
Thania Garcia, Board Secretary
Christina Sutton, Finance Officer
Oracio Lemus, Field Foreman
Stephen Prager, Park Supervisor

1. CALL TO ORDER: 1:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL:

**Michelle Gilmore Present
Michael Friese Present
Manuel Ramos Present**

**Lidia Sierra Present
Dale Johnson Absent**

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54954.3, the public has the right to address the board regarding any closed session items listed on the **closed session agenda** prior to the board adjourning into closed session. Anyone who wishes to address the Board, please come to the microphone. Public comments are limited to (3) minutes for each person. Comments are not to be directed towards an individual or individuals but to the Board on a specific issue.

No Comments

4. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Title: (Interim General Manager)

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) Roxana Chavez v. Salton Services Community District, et al. Imperial County Superior Court Case No.: ECU002702

- C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Name of case: JALYNDA ELLEN ALEXANDER, Petitioner, vs. SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT Respondent, Immanuel Ramos; Manuel Henry Ramos Real Parties in Interest. (Imperial County Superior Court Case # ECU003061)
- D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Name of case: SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, a California special district, Plaintiff, vs. MITCHELL EDWARD MANSFIELD, an individual; and DOES 1-50, inclusive (Imperial County Superior Court Case # ECU002875)
- E. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: (One case: Demand for Health Benefits by employee Steven Prager)
- F. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code § 54957.6) District designated representatives: Emmanuel Ramos, Christina Sutton, Robert Patterson, and Lena Wade Employee organization: Laborer's' International Union of North America Local No. 1184.

5. OPEN SESSION: 2:00 pm

6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Michelle Gilmore, President

7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS:

- A. No Reportable Action
- B. No Reportable Action
- C. A Prop 218 petition was filed in an attempt to invalidate sewer fees that had been recently adopted by the district. However, the petitioner was ruled against by the trial court judge, resulting in the lawsuit being unsuccessful. The petitioner then filed a notice of appeal but withdrew it in exchange for a waiver of costs, including copying and transcript preparation costs. As a result, the district successfully resolved the Prop 218 petition and there is now a written settlement agreement in place regarding the dismissal of the lawsuit by the petitioner.
- D. Mr. Mansfield did not defend the case, therefore he lost by default. As a result, the default judgment is currently being processed.
- E. Previously, the district provided notice to Mr. Prager that his claim was untimely, so no action was taken.

F. There were no reportable actions, but Ms. Wade, our office attorney, and staff continued to discuss the negotiation status and receive input.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54954.3 members of the public may address the Board at this time on any items of public interest that are within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. The Ralph M. Brown Act, however, prohibits the Board from taking action on any matter not appearing on the agenda. Those who wish to address the Board should come to the microphone. Members of the public will be given three (3) minutes to address the board on any items of public interest. Comments are not to be directed towards an individual or individuals but to the Board on a specific issue.

Ryan Kelley- Desert Shores project approved. Kickoff meeting next week. More info through the Air Pollution Control District (APCD). Fire in Niland caused damage. State-provided trailers for temporary housing. 40 trailers are available for donation to nonprofits. If not sold to nonprofits, they will be sold in a public auction.

Barbara Quiroz- I am just here to share some information as the Vice President of the Lions Club. We do have a function coming up on February 10. A Sweetheart Dance we have tickets available in advance. We expect it to be a whole lot of fun. Tickets will also be available at the door. But I do have some tickets today if anybody's interested.

9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

President Gilmore- Made community events announcements. LAFCO meetings will no longer be available through Zoom.

Vice President Friese- Thanked Ryan Kelley for his valuable assistance in the grant and bidding process. He mentioned the email list being passed around to inform the community of any future meetings.

Director Ramos- Thanked the office staff and field workers who participated in the Christmas gift giveaway.

Director Sierra- Asked about the shade structure for Desert Shores Park.

10. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

Consent calendar items are expected to be routine and non-controversial, to be acted upon by the board of directors at one time without discussion. If any board member requests that an item be removed from the consent calendar, it will be removed so that it may be acted upon separately.

**B. Approve the Minutes for the Special Meeting on December 6, 2023.
(Vice President Friese removed item B to be voted on separately.)**

A. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 20, 2023.

- C. Approve demands for the month of December 2023.
- D. Slovak, Baron, Empey, Murphy, & Pinkney (\$17,736.04)
Vice President Friese motioned to approve Items A, C, and D. Director Ramos seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

President Gilmore Yes Director Sierra No
Vice President Friese Yes Director Johnson Absent
Director Ramos Yes

Motion Passes 3-1

- B. Approve the Minutes for the Special Meeting on December 6, 2023.
Vice President Friese motioned to approve Special Meeting Minutes for December 6, 2023. Director Ramos seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

President Gilmore Yes Director Sierra Yes
Vice President Friese Yes Director Johnson Absent
Director Ramos Yes

Motion Passes 4-0

11. REPORTS:

- A. Interim General Manager's report [Emmanuel Ramos]
- B. Finance Officer's report [Christina Sutton]
- C. Field Foreman's report [Oracio Lemus]
- D. Park Supervisor's report [Pascual Muniz]

12. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD REPORTS: STANDING COMMITTEE:

- A. Architectural Committee Report [Israel Gonzales, Chairperson]

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

14. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Resolution No. 2024-01-17-01 for the construction application which references the General Manager or Interim General Manager for authority to sign documents.
Vice President Friese motioned to approve Resolution No. 2024-01-17-01. Director Ramos seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

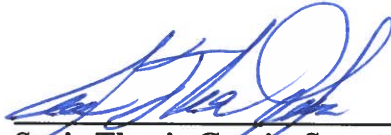
President Gilmore Yes Director Sierra Yes
Vice President Friese Yes Director Johnson Absent
Director Ramos Yes

Motion Passes 4-0

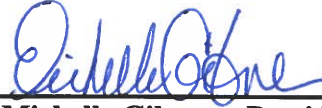
15. SECOND CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS ITEMS NOT COMPLETED IN THE PRIOR CLOSED SESSION AS REFERENCED ABOVE.

16. ADJOURNMENT:

Director Ramos motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice President Friese seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:48 pm.



Sonia Thania Garcia, Secretary of the Board



Michelle Gilmore, President of the Board

Upon written request, this agenda will be made in an appropriate alternative format to persons with disabilities as required by Section 202 of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should direct such request to the Secretary of the Board at least 72 hours before the meeting. Any public record, relating to an open session agenda item, that is distributed within 72 hours prior to the meeting is available for public inspection at 1209 Van Buren St, Suite 1, Salton City, California 92275.