

SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Special Board Meeting *Minutes*

December 21, 2021

Open Session 10:00 a.m.

1209 Van Buren Ave.

Salton City, CA 92275

www.saltoncsd.ca.gov

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mr. Dale Johnson, President
Mr. Manuel H. Ramos, Director
Ms. Nancy Pieper, Director
Mr. Rogelio Flores, Director
Ms. Lidia A. Sierra, Director

STAFF:

Sandra Davis, Interim General
Manager
Cristina Flores, Board Secretary

- 1. CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 a.m.**
- 2. ROLL CALL:**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dale Johnson, President**
- 4. PRESIDENTS COMMENT: Dale Johnson, President**
- 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54954.3, the public has the right to address the board regarding any agenda closed session items 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 each person.

See Attached

- 6. NEW BUSINESS:**
 - I. Motion to Approve Contract with SBEMP, Attorneys At Law, as District Legal Counsel in the Amount of (\$300.00) Per Hour Attorney Time and (\$150.00) Per Hour for Paralegal Time.**

Director Pieper Motioned to Approve Contract with SBEMP, Attorneys at Law, as District Legal Counsel in the Amount of (\$300.00) Per Hour Attorney Time and (\$150.00) Per Hour for Paralegal Time Director Ramos 2nd the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Director Sierra	Yes	Director Ramos	Yes
------------------------	------------	-----------------------	------------

Director Flores	Yes	President Johnson	No
Director Pieper	Yes		

II. Motion to Approve Authorizing the General Manager to Sign Any Agreements Necessary to Receive Funding From The County of Imperial, In Compliance with the Approved MOU Dated October 20, 2021.

Director Pieper Motioned to Approve Authorizing the General Manager to Sign Any Agreements Necessary to Receive Funding From The County of Imperial, In Compliance with the MOU Dated October 20, 2021 Director Sierra 2nd the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Director Sierra	Yes	Director Ramos	Yes
Director Flores	Yes	President Johnson	Yes
Director Pieper	Yes		

III. Motion to Approve **Resolution 2021-12-01**, Reaffirming General Manager to Update Banking Services and Deposit or Secure All Money Belonging to, or in the Custody of the District and Documenting Signor Privileges of Said Accounts with Pacific Premier Bank.

Director Flores Motioned to Approve Resolution 2021-12-01, Reaffirming General Manager to Update Banking Services and Deposit or Secure All Money Belonging to the District and Documenting Signor Privileges of Said Accounts with Pacific Premier Bank Director Sierra 2nd the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Director Sierra	Yes	Director Ramos	Yes
Director Flores	Yes	President Johnson	Yes
Director Pieper	Yes		

7. ADJOURNMENT: 10:37a.m.


Dale Johnson, Board President


Cristina Flores, Board Secretary

1/4/2022 8:19 AM

Upon written request, this agenda will be made in 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.

Good morning!

I would like to commend the President of the Board and the Interim General Manager for cancelling the adjourned meeting from December 15, 2021, as pursuant to Government Code 54954.2 (b) (3), if an adjourned meeting occurs after more than 5 days after the prior meeting, a new agenda for that adjourned meeting must be posted 72 hours in advance of the adjourned meeting. Kudos to you both for catching this as it prevents the district from lack of compliance of the Ralph M. Brown Act; this is important as the adjourned meeting's legality is questionable on many levels which is why the previous District legal counsel resigned stating and I quote "I will not risk losing my law license because everything they are trying to do is illegal".

Request to add items to the agenda as urgency items that do not fall under the definition of urgency items pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act such as Request for motions to "replace the finance officer", motion to hire new legal counsel, motion to post for the hiring of a new GM. While these items are important for the district they are not considered urgent items pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

The motion to "replace the finance officer" is not only distasteful and disrespectful, but outside the scope of the Board of Directors pursuant to the SCS D Policy and Procedures as staff, outside of the General Manager, are hired by the General Manager and work for the General Manager, not the board. Such motions appear to express that the board of directors would be attempting to humiliate staff in open meeting. This clearly indicates an issue in terms of behavior of certain Directors when it comes to current staff. The SCS D Bylaws Section 5 item 5.2 states that the Directors shall, at all times, conduct themselves with courtesy to each other, to staff and to members of the audience present at Board Meetings. SCS D Bylaws Section 7 item 7.5 Directors and General Manager should develop a working relationship so that current issues, concerns, and SCS D projects can be discussed comfortably and openly. Not responding to emails, not accepting responsibility to fill out form 700's as required, not filling out the document needed so that each director can be the signers on the checks, which is crippling the district by not allowing bills to be paid, refusing to attend a meeting to provide a bit of district history only to turn around and then state that the district staff hasn't provided sufficient training for the directors to do their jobs are just a few of the things that show that some directors are not even attempting to perform their duties as publicly elected officials. Some of the directors have not only avoided working with the Interim GM but have made it very clear inside the district building and outside in the community that they are in no way willing to work with current staff. Some are rude, disrespectful and have broken the Ralph M. Brown Act by coming to decisions as a majority and doing so not within the district's open or closed meetings. These actions are putting the district at risk of severe liability, but also some of these behaviors put individual directors at risk of being sued directly and due to their actions of not following policy or CA Government Code, they will not have protection under the district's liability insurance. Sadly, they continue to put themselves at risk even though a representative from the district's insurance company came to meet with them on December 6, 2021 and explained this to them.

Certain board member's actions indicate a huge lack of respect to staff. They choose not to allow the current staff to show their merit and value and blatantly choose to base the staff's value on hearsay from select community members who just so happen to have their own personal agendas. They do not know how much devotion and loyalty that current staff have put into this district and this community.

Until now, I, having worked for or with the district for almost 6 years have never witnessed a member or members of the board behave so unprofessionally with current staff who have went out of their way to be welcoming and open with them. It is very clear that there are personal agendas and as a board of director, you were not elected to this board to settle personal vendettas, but to do what is best for this community.

I challenge this board of directors to uphold their oaths, their bylaws and the CA Government Code. I challenge this board to stop being influenced by the rumors in the community and set aside it's discord for the current staff as the majority of this board has not worked with the staff on any level to know their work ethics, skills and dedication. I challenge this board to do the right thing, to be respectful, to represent the entire community in a positive manner and above all be accountable and responsible in the requirements of them as board of directors. Your failure to meet the challenges noted above could most certainly be the undoing of this district.

In closing, I would again like to thank the President of this board and the Interim General Manager for protecting not only the district, but the board members from district liability and/or civil liability. Your decision to proceed as you have chosen shows that you are dedicated to the district and wish to protect the district from liability and save public funds from potentially being wasted on the risk of unnecessary liability; I also commend your behavior to protect certain board members of civil liability although they have made no effort to attempt to establish a working relationship with you. This is a wonderful example of doing the right thing.

Thank You!

By Chrissy Gallegos

December 21, 2021 Special Meeting – Public Comments