

Salton Community Services District

REGULAR MEETING *Minutes*

July 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
Pascual Muniz, Park Supervisor
Robert Patterson, Legal Counsel

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 Present

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 public comments.

4. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9:(Two potential cases)

No reportable action

B. 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.

No reportable action

C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Name of case: DAVID DALE, Petitioner, vs. SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, and LIDIA A. SIERRA; CASE NO. ECU003178; SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE COUNTY OF IMPERIAL.

No reportable action

5. OPEN SESSION: 2:00 pm

6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Michelle Gilmore, President

7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS:

8. PUBLIC PRESENTATION:

9. 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.

No public comments

10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

President Gilmore- Community announcements.

Vice President Friese- Community announcements.

Director Ramos- Thanks to the staff and volunteers for the July 13, 2024, event.

Director Sierra- No comment

Director Johnson- No comment

11. 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.

A. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of June 19, 2024.

B. Approve the Minutes for the Special Meeting of June 25, 2024.

C. Approve demands for the month of June 2024.

Vice President Friese motioned to approve A, B, and C with the addition of the amendments requested by Director Sierra for June 19, 2024. Director Ramos seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

President Gilmore- Yes Director Sierra- No

Vice President Friese- Yes Director Johnson- Yes

Director Ramos- Yes

Motion Passes 4-1

- D. Slovak, Baron, Empey, Murphy, & Pinkney (\$14,989.94)
Vice President Friese motioned to approve item D. Director Ramos seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

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

Motion Passes 4-1

12. 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]

13. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD REPORTS: STANDING COMMITTEE:

- A. Architectural Committee Report [Thania Garcia]

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and approval of Desert Shores Soccer Park Phase II Grant in the amount of \$250,000.
- B. Discussion and approval of the Board to select Imperial County Public Works to assist Salton Community Services District with Desert Shores Soccer Park Phase 2.
- C. Discussion and approval to allow the Finance Officer to sign documents for the Phase 2 Desert Shore Soccer Project.

Director Johnson motioned to postpone Items A, B, and C until the September meeting. Vice President Friese seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

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

Motion Passes 5-0

Vice President Friese- I am concerned that approving phase 2 of the of the Desert Shores Park grass will lead to the financial collapse of the district. As Christina reported in today's meeting, SCSD's unrestricted fiscal year 23-24 revenues were \$388,702 and expenses were \$347,534. This left SCSD with a comfortable \$41,168 surplus. This does not reflect the costs of the grass.

Currently, SCSD has been paying only for the water for Desert Shores phase 1. Three months of maintenance was included in the grant. But what if SCSD had been paying for the maintenance and water for phase two during the entire FY 23-24? What would our finances look like?

The Mariposa Phase 1 maintenance contract that the board approved would cost \$31,488 for the whole year. Assuming the grass water demands are 80% of the June bill, the water will cost \$7,046 annually for a total of \$38,534 annual maintenance expense for phase 1. If SCSD paid that expense during the whole FY 23-24, the surplus drops to a razor-thin \$2,634 but SCSD could still balance its budget.

What if Phase 2 costs are added? The Mariposa proposal for Phase 2 is \$26,040 for the year. Since the grass is about the same size, I would expect it to add another \$7,046 in water costs requiring additional \$33,086 to support Phase 2 grass maintenance for a year. Total costs for both phases would be \$57,528 for the year. If phases 1 and 2 were being maintained during FY 23-24, they would have resulted in a \$30,453 deficit. Once SCSD's reserves are depleted, the grass will result in financial collapse of the district.

D. Resolution No. 2024-07-17-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ESTABLISHING A POLICY ALLOCATING THE COST OF NEW SEWER LINE CONSTRUCTION TO LOTS CURRENTLY LACKING SEWER LINES.

Director Johnson motioned to approve Resolution No. 2024-07-17-01, with the word "functioning" struck from the resolution. The \$21.00 Stand-by fee shall not be charged to those lots. Vice President Friese seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

**President Gilmore- Yes Director Sierra- Yes
Vice President Friese- Yes Director Johnson- Yes
Director Ramos- Yes**

Motion Passes 5-0

15. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Resolution No. 2024-07-17-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ORDERING THE CREATION OF A MASTER PARK PLAN AND THE MECHANISM TO FINANCE THE SAME PERMANENTLY.

Vice President Friese motioned to approve Resolution No. 2024-07-17-02, with the approved amendments being the second paragraph stricken from the resolution, adding within 90 after approval, removing Palm Beach Dry Camp and Martin Flores Day Park, changing the word four to two, adding the verbiage to exclude Desert Shores Soccer Project Phase 2 from the restriction on item VII. Director Ramos seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

**President Gilmore- Yes Director Sierra- No
Vice President Friese- Yes Director Johnson- Yes
Director Ramos- Yes**

Motion Passes 4-1

16. Public Hearings

A. Resolution No. 2024-07-17-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ADOPTING THE REPORT OF THE ANNUAL SEWER STANDBY CHARGE AND DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT TO FILE SAID REPORT WITH THE IMPERIAL COUNTY AUDITOR AND REQUEST THE AUDITOR PLACE THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 SEWER STANDBY CHARGE ON THE TAX ROLL

Vice President Friese motioned to approve Resolution No. 2024-07-17-03. Director Johnson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

**President Gilmore- Yes Director Sierra- Yes
Vice President Friese- Yes Director Johnson- Yes
Director Ramos- Yes**

Motion Passes 5-0

B. Resolution No. 2024-07-17-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ADOPTING THE REPORT OF THE ANNUAL SEWER STANDBY CHARGE AND DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT TO FILE SAID REPORT WITH THE IMPERIAL COUNTY AUDITOR AND REQUEST THE AUDITOR PLACE THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 SEWER MAINTENANCE STANDBY CHARGE ON THE TAX ROLL

Vice President Friese Motioned to approve Resolution No. 2024-07-17-04. Director Ramos seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

**President Gilmore- Yes Director Sierra- Yes
Vice President Friese- Yes Director Johnson- Yes
Director Ramos- Yes**

Motion Passes 5-0

C. Resolution No. 2024-07-17-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ADOPTING THE REPORT OF THE ANNUAL SEWER USER FEE AND DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF THE DISTRICT TO FILE SAID REPORT WITH THE IMPERIAL COUNTY AUDITOR AND REQUEST THE AUDITOR PLACE THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 SEWER USER FEES ON THE TAX ROLL

Vice President Friese motioned to approve Resolution No. 2024-07-17-05. Director Ramos seconded the motion.

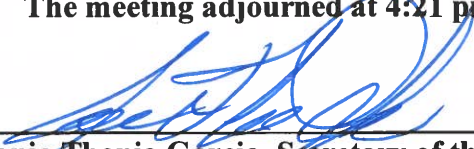
Roll Call:

**President Gilmore- Yes Director Sierra- Yes
Vice President Friese- Yes Director Johnson- Yes
Director Ramos- Yes**

Motion Passes 5-0

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:21 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 Americans 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.

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