

***Salton Community Services District***  
**REGULAR MEETING *MINUTES***

**November 15, 2023**  
**Closed Session 1:00 p.m.**  
**Open Session 2:00 p.m.**  
**1209 Van Buren Ave.**  
**Salton City, CA 92275**  
**[www.saltoncsd.ca.gov](http://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- Absent

Lidia A. 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. Public comments regarding the resolution prohibiting the use of recording devices in closed session may also be made.

**No Comments**

**4. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:**

- A. 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

**No Reportable Action**

- B. 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)

**The board reviewed the Ruling and Order on the Writ of Mandate filed on November 9, 2023. In the case of Jalynda Ellen Alexander vs Salton Community Services District, the ruling provides as follows. SCSD Board member Manuel Ramos did not have a conflict of interest requiring disqualification from participation in the rate increase process. The address list the district used for the mailing of the March notice and the June notice were in substantive and procedural compliance with Proposition 218. The district complied with the Proposition 218 process, the ruling reads the Court has exercised its independent judgment and finds the administrative record demonstrates no violation of constitutional standards. Accordingly, and in light of the foregoing, the Petition for Writ of Mandate is denied. Signed on November 9, 2023, L Brooks Aderholt.**

- C. 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)

**No Reportable Action**

- D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: (one potential case)

**No Reportable Action**

**5. OPEN SESSION: 2:00 pm**

**6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Michelle Gilmore, President**

**7. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS:**

**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.

#### **9. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**President Gilmore-** The West Shores Senior Center is having its Thanksgiving Dinner. Thanks to Manager Kimo from WinCo for donating 15 turkeys and Mike Veto from Burrtec who donated money in the form of a WinCo gift card.

**Vice President Friese-** Imperial County Public Works Director John Gay visited the Senior Center and talked about the main roads that will be fixed. An RPF will be issued in December and the road work will be completed in 2024. [On November 9,] Mr. Friese attended the ribbon cutting at West Shores High School for a new computer lab that was donated by the Palm Desert Rotary Club. He also toured the virtual-reality lab that is currently in operation at the high school.

**Director Ramos-** Absent

**Director Sierra-** No Comment

**Director Johnson-** No Comment

#### **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.

- A.** Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of October 18, 2023.
- B.** Approve demands for the month of October 2023.
- C.** Slovak, Baron, Empey, Murphy, & Pinkney (\$19,157.07)  
**Director Johnson** motioned to approve the Consent Calendar Items for October.  
**Vice President Friese** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call:**

**President Gilmore** Yes

**Director Sierra** No

**Vice President Friese** Yes

**Director Johnson** Yes

**Director Ramos** Absent

**Motion Passes 3-1**

**11. REPORTS:**

- A. Interim General Manager's report
- B. Finance Officer's report
- C. Field Foreman's report
- D. Park Supervisor's report

**12. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD REPORTS: STANDING COMMITTEE:**

- A. Architectural Committee Report  
**Israel Gonzales- reported on the plans that have been approved last meeting. One was approved and it is a two-story house that will be built using containers.**

**13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A. THE SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SALTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT, REQUIRING THE PAYMENT OF ATTORNEYS' FEES BY CERTAIN PARTIES.

**Vice President Friese motioned to approve the Ordinance No. 2023-11. President Gilmore seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**President Gilmore Yes**

**Director Sierra No**

**Vice President Friese Yes**

**Director Johnson Yes**

**Director Ramos Absent**

**Motion Passes 3-1**

**14. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Discussion and Approval for the Proposals on the Shade Structure for Desert Shores Park.  
**Vice President Friese motioned to approve the Shade Structure for Desert Shores and to go with staff's recommendation of Creative Shade Solutions. The board decided to leave color selection to staff's discretion. President Gilmore seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**President Gilmore Yes**

**Director Sierra Yes**

**Vice President Friese Yes**

**Director Johnson Yes**

**Director Ramos Absent**

**Motion Passes 4-0**

- B. Discussion and Approval of the Pump for Station 24 Fairbanks for the Submersion Pump Rebuild.

**Director Johnson motioned to approve the Pump Rebuild for Station 24. Vice President Friese seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**President Gilmore Yes  
Vice President Friese Yes  
Director Ramos Absent**

**Director Sierra Yes  
Director Johnson Yes**

**Motion Passes 4-0**

- C. Discussion and Approval of the Budget Amendment 2023-2024.

**President Gilmore motioned to approve the Budget Amendment 2023-2024. Director Johnson seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**President Gilmore Yes  
Vice President Friese Yes  
Director Ramos- Absent**

**Director Sierra Yes  
Director Johnson Yes**

**Motion Passes 4-0**

- D. Discussion and Approval for the Total Compensation Study Proposals.

**Discussion and Approval for the Total Compensation Study Proposals. Director Johnson motioned to commission a Total Compensation Study and to go with staff's recommendation of the Koff & Associates proposal. The Vice President seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**President Gilmore Yes  
Vice President Friese Yes  
Director Ramos Absent**

**Director Sierra No  
Director Johnson Yes**

**Motion Passes 3-1**

- E. Discussion of the Service Area Plan (Revised November 2023).

**Director Johnson motioned to approve the Service Area Plan. Vice President Friese seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**President Gilmore Yes  
Vice President Friese Yes  
Director Ramos Absent**

**Director Sierra Yes  
Director Johnson Yes**

**Motion Passes 4-0**

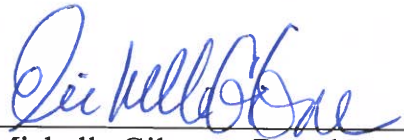
**15. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Director Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:06 pm. Vice President Friese seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call:**

**President Gilmore Yes  
Vice President Friese Yes  
Director Ramos Absent**

**Director Sierra Yes  
Director Johnson Yes**



Michelle Gilmore, Board President



Sonia Thania Garcia, Secretary of the Board

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