

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 19
HELD AT THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
VIA TELECONFERENCE

March 8, 2023
1:30 o'clock, P.M.

The Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 19 of Los Angeles County met in regular session via teleconference.

There were present: Bruce Barrows, Alternate Director from Cerritos
Steve Croft, Director from Lakewood
Suely Saro, Alternate Director from Long Beach
Ali Sajjad Taj, Chairperson, Alternate Director from Artesia, via teleconference

Absent: Maria Teresa Del Rio, Director from Hawaiian Gardens
Janice Hahn, Director from Los Angeles County

Also present: Kimberly S. Christensen, Secretary to the Board
Wes Beverlin, District Counsel

RE: DIRECTOR REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE BY TELECONFERENCE - APPROVE

Prior to meeting in regular session, the Chief Engineer and General Manager announced that Director Taj is attending remotely for today's meeting, as recorded in the Status Report presented on this date. On February 25, 2023, Director Taj requested to attend the Board meetings virtually, utilizing the "just cause" provisions of AB 2449, while he is traveling to Washington DC for city business. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principle to provide transparent communication to our Boards and the public. A recommendation was made to approve Director Taj's request to participate by teleconference and utilize "just cause" while he is traveling to Washington DC for city business, and advised that there were no other parties present per Assembly Bill (AB) 2449, California Government Code, Section 54953(f) and (j).

Upon motion of Director Croft, duly seconded and unanimously carried by a roll-call vote, the Board approved Director Taj's request to participate by teleconference and utilized "just cause" as the purpose per Assembly Bill (AB) 2449, California Government Code, Section 54953(f) and (j).

RE: PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chairperson announced this was the time for any questions or comments by members of the public. There were no public comments or questions to address the Board on any matters.

RE: ALTERNATE DIRECTOR FROM CITY OF LONG BEACH

A copy of an action taken by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at a meeting held February 21, 2023, was presented to the Secretary stating that Ms. Suely Saro, a member of the City Council of the City of Long Beach, was appointed to serve as alternate Director from the city.

Upon motion of Director Croft, duly seconded and unanimously carried by a roll-call vote, the action was accepted and ordered filed.

RE: MINUTES

Upon motion of Director Croft, duly seconded and unanimously carried by a roll-call vote, the minutes of the regular meeting held February 8, 2023, were approved.

RE: DISTRICT EXPENSES

The following expenses for the month of December 2022 were presented and upon motion of Director Croft, duly seconded and unanimously carried by a roll-call vote, were approved:

Local District Expenses:	
Operations & Maintenance	\$ 23,999.08
Allocated Expenses:	
Joint Outfall	<u>4,253,660.71</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$4,277,659.79</u>

RE: SERVICE CHARGE REPORT RECEIVE
AND ORDER FILED - SET PUBLIC HEARING
FOR MAY 10, 2023, AND GIVE REQUIRED
NOTICE

Prior to meeting in regular session, the Chief Engineer and General Manager stated that all agendas have an item related to the Wastewater Revenue Program. A report titled *County Sanitation District No. 19 Service Charge Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24*, prepared in

accordance with Section 5473 of the Health and Safety Code of the State of California and which establishes the formula for the calculation of a sewage unit that represents the average daily quantity of sewage flow and strength from a single-family home (SFH), was presented. The Chief Engineer and General Manager stated that all Boards will be taking action to order the Wastewater Service Charge Report (Report) filed with the Clerk of the Districts' Board of Directors; setting the date, time, and place for a public hearing on the Report; and order publication of the required public notices. The public hearing is required to collect the service charge on the property tax roll. This is the most efficient way to collect the service charge. The Districts is not setting new rates at this time; the rates were set a few years ago.

Filing of the Report is required each year to collect the wastewater service charge on the property tax roll. The current service charge rate per single-family home is \$14.58 per month (\$175 per year). The rate for fiscal year 2023-24, as previously adopted by the Board of Directors, is \$14.75 per month (\$177 per year). A letter discussing the service charge rate, the fiscal year 2023-24 preliminary budget, and related matters accompanied the agenda. Staff recommends that the Public Hearing be held at the Board meeting scheduled for May 10, 2023. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principles of commitment to fiscal responsibility and prudent financial stewardship; and to plan for both short-term and long-term needs to minimize the need for significant rate increases.

A recommendation was made that, in accordance with Section 5473 of the Health and Safety Code, the Board instruct the District Clerk to publish newspaper notices to inform the public of the date, time, and place for a public hearing on the Service Charge Report, and that the public hearing be set for May 10, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. in the District's Board Room at the Joint Administration Office, 1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, California, for the purpose of public discussion of the adopted service charge and industrial surcharge rates, and in order to continue to collect these charges on the next property tax roll. After the public hearing is closed, the Board must adopt the Service Charge Report in order to ensure collection of the service charge through property tax billing.

Upon motion of Director Croft, duly seconded and unanimously carried by a roll-call vote, the *County Sanitation District No. 19 Service Charge Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24* was ordered filed with the Clerk of the District, and the Board does hereby fix May 10, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. as the date and time, and in the District's Board Room at the Joint Administration Office, 1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, California, as the place for a public hearing on *County Sanitation District No. 19 Service Charge Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24*, the proposed service charge and industrial wastewater surcharge rates, and the collection of the service charge on the property tax roll.

The Clerk of this Board shall cause notice of the filing of the Report and the time and place of the public hearing to be published once a week for two successive weeks in the *Press Telegram*, a daily newspaper, and in such other publications as are deemed appropriate by the Chief Engineer and General Manager.

Upon motion of Director Croft, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.



ALI SAJJAD TAJ
Chairperson

ATTEST:



KIMBERLY S. CHRISTENSEN
Secretary

/cc