

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 20  
HELD AT THE ANTELOPE VALLEY  
TRANSIT AUTHORITY

May 11, 2023  
11:30 o'clock, A.M.

The Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County met in regular session.

There were present: Richard Loa, Director from Palmdale  
Laura Bettencourt, Chairperson, Director from Palmdale

Absent: Janice Hahn, Director from Los Angeles County

Also present: Kimberly S. Christensen, Secretary to the Board  
Brant Dveirin, District Counsel

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 not listed on the agenda.

RE: MINUTES Upon motion of Director Loa, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the minutes of the special meeting held April 13, 2023, were approved.

RE: DISTRICT EXPENSES The following expenses for the month of February 2023, were presented and upon motion of Director Loa, duly seconded and unanimously carried, were approved:

Local District Expenses:	
Operations & Maintenance	\$1,030,440
Capital	107,682
Allocated Expenses:	
Joint Administration	96,641
Technical Support	108,192
Legal	4,008
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,346,963</u>

RE: ANNEXATION NO. 101 RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION AND APPROVING NEGOTIATED EXCHANGE OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUES - ADOPT

Annexation No. 101 consists of one existing truck stop travel center in the City of Palmdale. Each annexation to the District's service area requires adoption of two resolutions by the Board. The first resolution authorizes submittal of the annexation application to Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), approves the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document, and consents to a waiver of the LAFCO protest hearing. The second resolution is a joint resolution with agencies that already provide services to the proposed annexation territory agreeing to the amount of property tax revenue that will be apportioned to the District in accordance with the Revenue and Taxation Code. A data sheet, map, Notice of Finding and the CEQA document were attached to the agenda. A recommendation was made that the Board adopt resolution for making an application to LAFCO for annexation; review, consider and find adequate the CEQA document; and consent to a waiver of protest proceedings. Furthermore, a recommendation was made that the Board adopt a joint resolution with the County of Los Angeles, Antelope Valley Cemetery District, Antelope Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District, Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District, City of Palmdale, and Palmdale Water District - Westmont approving and accepting the negotiated exchange of property tax revenues resulting from annexation.

Upon motion of Director Loa, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County does hereby approve the Joint Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, the governing bodies of the Antelope Valley Cemetery District, Antelope Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District, Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District, City of Palmdale, and Palmdale Water District - Westmont, and this Board of Directors, approving and accepting the negotiated exchange of property tax revenues resulting from Annexation No. 101 to the District, a copy of which is on file at the

Office of the District and by reference incorporated herein as though fully set forth; and the Chairperson and Secretary are authorized to execute the Joint Resolution on behalf of the District. Furthermore, the following resolution was adopted:

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County, hereinafter referred to as "District", desires to commence proceedings for the annexation to District of certain territory, described in Exhibit "A", attached hereto and by reference incorporated as a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, said Board of Directors does hereby certify that it has reviewed and considered the environmental documents submitted for the proposed annexation and found said environmental documents to be adequate;

NOW, THEREFORE, said Board of Directors does HEREBY RESOLVE, FIND, AND DECLARE as follows:

1. Application and a proposal is hereby made to the Local Agency Formation Commission of Los Angeles County for a change of organization as follows:
  - (a) This proposal is made pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 commencing with Section 56000, Government Code, State of California.
  - (b) The nature of the proposed change of organization and the name of the District for which such change of organization is proposed are as follows:

The annexation of the territory described in Exhibit "A" hereof to County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County.
  - (c) The names of all other affected counties, Districts, or cities are as follows:

Counties: None  
Districts: None  
Cities: Palmdale
  - (d) The territory is uninhabited. A description of the exterior boundaries of such territory is set forth in Exhibit "A" hereof.
  - (e) It is desired that the proposed annexation provide for and be made subject to the following terms and conditions:
    - (1) The retention by District of the deposited sum of \$15,125.00 as the fee required by the Board of Directors for said annexation.
    - (2) The negotiated exchange of property tax revenues between affected agencies resulting from said annexation to District.
  - (f) The reasons for this proposal are as follows:
    - (1) The District is empowered to and is engaged in providing sewerage facilities which can best serve the territory proposed to be annexed with sewage disposal service. Based on the information provided by the property owners, the District's sewerage facilities have or, in accordance with current policy, will have adequate capacity to collect, treat, and dispose of the wastewater anticipated to be generated on the subject property. Actual sewer hook-up will not be allowed until payment of the connection fee and shall be subject to all circumstances then existent including the availability of capacity. Disposal of the treated wastewater will be in accordance with waste discharge permits issued by the appropriate California Regional Water Quality Control Board.
    - (2) Said territory is an existing truck stop travel center, and the property owners have requested in writing that the territory be provided with sewage disposal service.

- (3) Said territory must be annexed to District before sewage disposal service is provided.
  - (g) This proposal is consistent with the sphere of influence of the District.
  - (h) In accordance with the requirements of California Health & Safety Code Section 4830, the territory subject to this annexation will benefit from the annexation.
  - (i) It is hereby requested that proceedings be taken for the change of organization proposed, according to the terms and conditions stated above and in a manner provided by the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000.
2. Said District consents to waiver of protest proceedings pursuant to Section 56663 of the Government Code.
  3. The Clerk of the District is hereby authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this resolution with the Executive Officer of the Local Agency Formation Commission of Los Angeles County.

RE: TECHNICAL SERVICES  
 PALMDALE WATER RECLAMATION PLANT  
 LOADING, REMOVAL, TRANSPORTATION  
 AND DISPOSAL OR REUSE OF BIOSOLIDS  
 HOLLOWAY ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS,  
 LLC- CONTRACT NO. 5529 - APPROVE

Palmdale Water Reclamation Plant (WRP) biosolids are currently managed per an agreement which will expire on May 31, 2023. A Request for Proposals for biosolids management services was issued, and four responsive proposals were received. Holloway Environmental Solutions, LLC (Holloway), a landfill located in Kern County, was ranked the highest in terms of qualifications and

submitted the most cost-effective proposal. In addition, Holloway has successfully provided biosolids management services for other Districts' facilities. The proposed *Loading, Removal, Transportation and Disposal or Reuse of Biosolids* (Agreement) would begin on June 1, 2023, provide Holloway with approximately 10,000 wet tons of biosolids per year for a three-year initial term, and include two optional one-year extensions. The proposed Agreement would include a fee of \$56 per wet ton for biosolids loading, hauling, and management services. With anticipated fuel adjustment charges, this correlates to an estimated cost of approximately \$600,000 per year, an increase of approximately 5 percent over previous annual biosolids management costs. Staff has determined that the Project is exempt or otherwise not subject to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations ("CEQA Guidelines") Sections 15301. This item is consistent with the Districts' Guiding Principle of commitment to operational excellence (protection of public health and the environment, regulatory compliance, and cost effectiveness). A recommendation was made to approve and order executed an Agreement for biosolids generated at the Palmdale WRP.

Upon motion of Director Loa, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County found and determined that it would be to the advantage of the District to enter into an Agreement for the *Loading, Removal, Transportation and Disposal or Reuse of Biosolids* with Holloway Environmental Solutions, LLC, providing for biosolids generated at the Palmdale WRP, as set forth in the Agreement and under terms and conditions contained therein. All the terms and conditions of the *Loading, Removal, Transportation and Disposal or Reuse of Biosolids*, Contract No. 5529, dated May 11, 2023, were accepted and approved, and the Chairperson and Secretary were authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the District.

RE: SERVICE CHARGE PROGRAM - HOLD  
 COMBINED PUBLIC HEARING ON SERVICE  
 CHARGE REPORT, PROPOSED SERVICE  
 CHARGE AND INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER  
 SURCHARGE RATE ORDINANCES AND  
 COLLECTION ON TAX ROLL

The Chief Engineer and General Manager announced that today the Board would hold a public hearing, and the proposed rate increases associated with the service charge and industrial wastewater surcharge rates, and the collection of the service charge on the property tax roll were presented. A copy of the letter previously included with the March agenda describing the required Board

actions; the fiscal year 2023-24 preliminary budget; the proposed service charge rate and industrial wastewater surcharge rate ordinances; the proposed service charge report; and a budget explanation and glossary accompanied the agenda. In this District, the current service charge rate per single-family home (SFH) is \$50.89 per month (\$610.64 per year). Based on review of the upcoming operating expenses, capital projects, required debt coverage and reserve targets, staff recommends that the service charge rate be increased to \$51.88 per month (\$622.52 per year) with the industrial wastewater surcharge rates increasing proportionately. The Board concurred with this recommendation at the March meeting. The Proposition 218 public review process for this rate was conducted in 2019, at which time a rate ordinance was adopted that included the currently proposed rate of \$622.52 per year. Subsequent ordinances delayed implementation of this rate. Owners of multiple

dwelling units and commercial properties are charged in proportion to their use compared to an SFH. Adoption of the Service Charge Report is required each year to collect the wastewater service charge on the property tax roll. 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.

The Chairperson opened a combined public hearing scheduled at this time and place on the Service Charge Report, proposed service charge and industrial wastewater surcharge rate ordinances, and collection of service charge on the property tax roll for County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County.

In accordance with Section 5473 of the Health and Safety Code of the State of California, the *County Sanitation District No. 20 Service Charge Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24*, was filed on March 9, 2023, and publication of two newspaper notices for today's public hearing were published in the *Antelope Valley Press*, a daily newspaper. The Service Charge Report addresses the continued collection of the service charge for the District on the tax roll. These charges are needed to supplement the District's existing revenue sources for the forthcoming fiscal year, as discussed in the letter to the Boards, dated February 3, 2023.

The Chairperson announced this was the time for any questions or comments by members of the public. There being none, the Chairperson closed the public hearing.

RE: SERVICE CHARGE PROGRAM  
ADOPT SERVICE CHARGE REPORT

Following the public hearing, upon motion of Director Loa, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 20

of Los Angeles County approved and adopted the *County Sanitation District No. 20 Service Charge Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24*, which was filed with the Clerk of the Board on March 9, 2023.

RE: WASTEWATER RATES  
SERVICE CHARGE, INDUSTRIAL  
WASTEWATER SURCHARGE, AND  
CONNECTION FEE ORDINANCES  
ADOPT - FIND EXEMPT FROM CEQA

The Service Charge and Industrial Wastewater Surcharge Ordinances (Ordinances) were presented for the Board's consideration. A recommendation was made to adopt the Ordinances. Copies of the proposed Ordinances prescribing the service charge rate and mean loadings and providing for collection of the service

charge on the tax roll and prescribing the industrial wastewater surcharge rates accompanied the agenda.

Upon motion of Director Loa, duly seconded and unanimously carried, the following Ordinances were adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Loa and Bettencourt

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Director Hahn

*An Ordinance Prescribing the Service Charge Rate and Mean Loadings per Unit of Usage for County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County and Providing for the Collection of Such Charges on the Tax Roll.*

*An Ordinance Prescribing Industrial Wastewater Surcharge Rates for County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County.*

Furthermore, the Board found that adoption of the Ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under Section 15273 of State Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA on the basis that CEQA does not apply to the modification of rates or other charges by the District which are for the purpose of meeting operating expenses, purchasing equipment, and funding capital projects necessary to maintain services within existing service areas; and that the proposed rate increases are for the purpose of (1) meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, (2) purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials, (3) meeting financial reserve needs and requirements, or (4) obtaining funds for capital projects necessary to maintain service within existing service areas, as reported to the Board of Directors by the Chief Engineer and General Manager and as reflected in the official minutes of the District on file at the office of the District.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson.

*Laura Bettencourt*

LAURA BETTENCOURT  
Chairperson

ATTEST:

*Kimberly S. Christensen*

KIMBERLY S. CHRISTENSEN  
Secretary

/ee