

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 15  
HELD AT THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT  
VIA TELECONFERENCE

March 27, 2024  
1:30 o'clock, P.M.

The Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 15 of Los Angeles County met in regular session both in person and via teleconference.

There were present: April Verlato, Director from Arcadia  
Vinh Truong, Director from Duarte  
Jessica Ancona, Director from El Monte  
Cory C. Moss, Director from Industry  
Albert Ambriz, Director from Irwindale  
Charlie Klinakis, Alternate Director from La Puente  
Scarlet Peralta, Director from Montebello  
Felicia Williams, Alternate Director from Pasadena  
Margaret Clark, Alternate Director from Rosemead  
Tony Ding, Alternate Director from San Gabriel  
Kelly Kriebs, Director from Sierra Madre  
Gloria Olmos, Director from South El Monte  
Cathy Warner, Alternate Director from Whittier  
Lindsey Horvath, Director from Los Angeles County  
Richard Barakat, Chairperson, Alternate Director from Bradbury, via AB2449 teleconference

Absent: Emmanuel J. Estrada, Director from Baldwin Park  
Becky Shevlin, Director from Monrovia  
Thomas Wong, Director from Monterey Park  
Steven Huang, Director from San Marino  
Cynthia Sternquist, Director from Temple City  
Dario Castellanos, Director from West Covina

Also present: Kimberly S. Christensen, Secretary to the Board  
Jessica Lienau, 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.

RE: DIRECTOR FROM CITY OF MONTEREY PARK A certificate from the City Clerk of the City of Monterey Park was presented to the Secretary stating that at a meeting of the City Council held February 20, 2024, Mr. Thomas Wong was elected Mayor of the City of Monterey Park, which is the designation of the presiding officer of the governing body of that city and automatically places Mr. Wong on this Board.

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

RE: MINUTES Upon motion of Director Olmos, duly seconded and unanimously carried by a roll-call vote, the minutes of the regular meeting held February 28, 2024, were approved.

RE: DISTRICT EXPENSES The following expenses for the month of December 2023, were presented and upon motion of Director Olmos, duly seconded and unanimously carried by a roll-call vote, were approved:

Local District Expenses:  
Operations & Maintenance \$134,001  
Total Expenses \$134,001

RE: AMENDED CONFLICT OF  
INTEREST AND DISCLOSURE CODE  
APPROVE AND ADOPT

The Chief Engineer and General Manager stated that government code requires that the Districts has a Conflict of Interest (COI) Code and Disclosure (Form 700), which is overseen by Los Angeles County. The

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors recently approved the Districts' COI and Disclosure. Each District must consider approval of the COI and Disclosure. He advised that at its meeting of February 27, 2024, the Districts' code reviewing body, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, adopted an amended Conflict of Interest Code and Disclosure Categories for the Districts. The amendment consists of revisions of deletion of one position from the code as it no longer exists in the agency, changes to nine position titles, addition of eleven positions to the code, and adds one position under "Officials who manage Public Investments." Pursuant to Government Code 87306, each District Board is required to adopt the amended code.

Upon motion of Director Olmos, duly seconded and unanimously carried by a roll-call vote, the Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 15 of Los Angeles County approved and adopted an amended Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Code, a copy of which is on file in the Office of the District and all the provisions of which are incorporated herein as though fully set forth. The amended code supersedes the Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Code previously adopted by this Board.

RE: SERVICE CHARGE REPORT  
RECEIVE AND ORDER FILED  
SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR  
MAY 22, 2024, AND GIVE  
REQUIRED NOTICE

Prior to meeting in regular session, the Chief Engineer and General Manager updated the Directors on the Districts' wastewater rates for the various Boards meeting today, as recorded in the Status Report presented on this date.

A report titled *County Sanitation District No. 15 Service Charge Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25*, 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.

Filing of the Service Charge 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 \$14.25 per month (\$171 per year). The rate for fiscal year 2024-25 as previously adopted by the Board of Directors, is \$14.58 per month (\$175 per year). A letter discussing the service charge rate, the fiscal year 2024-25 preliminary budget, and related matters accompanies the agenda. Staff recommends the Public Hearing be held at the Board meeting scheduled for May 8, 2024. 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 a public hearing be set for May 22, 2024, 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 proposed service charge and its collection on the property tax roll. After the public hearing is closed, the Board must consider adoption of the Service Charge Report and introduction of ordinances establishing the service charge rates and providing for the collection of the service charge on the property tax roll.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board does hereby fix May 22, 2024, 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. 15 Service Charge Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25*, the proposed service charge 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 Service Charge Report and the time and place of the public hearing to be published once a week for two successive weeks in the *San Gabriel Valley Tribune*, a weekly newspaper printed and published within the District, and in such other publications as are deemed appropriate by the Chief Engineer and General Manager.

Upon motion of Director Olmos, duly seconded and unanimously carried by a roll-call vote, the *County Sanitation District No. 15 Service Charge Report for Fiscal Year 2024-25* was ordered filed with the Clerk of the District.

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

ATTEST:

RICHARD BARAKAT  
Chairperson

KIMBERLY S. CHRISTENSEN  
Secretary

/ee