Approved

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY

Board of Directors

October 1, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Board of Directors was held in person and via teleconference on October 1, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. at their Administrative Offices located at 34156 Del Obispo Street, Dana Point, California. The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

KATHRYN FRESHLEY	El Toro Water District	Director	
MIKE DUNBAR	Emerald Bay Service District	Director	
SCOTT GOLDMAN	South Coast Water District	Director	[Zoom]
FRANK URY	Santa Margarita Water District	Director	
DAVE REBENSDORF	City of San Clemente	Director	[Arrived @ 8:34am]

Absent:

BOB WHALEN	City of Laguna Beach	Director

Staff Present:

AMBER BOONE	General Manager
JIM BURROR	Deputy GM/ Chief Engineer
RONI GRANT	Capital Improvement Program Manager
LYNDA MAY	Assistant Secretary
MATT CLARKE	Chief Technology Officer
IAN LOSKA	Electrical / Instrumentation Technician
ANNA SUTHERLAND	Accountant
DINA ASH	Human Resources Administrator
ROBERT CULVER	Environmental Service Manager
JAMES JONES	Superintendent of O&M

Also Present:

ROBB GRANTHAM	Santa Margarita Water District
MARC SERNA	South Coast Water District
RICK SHINTAKU	South Coast Water District
KARI VOZENILEK	Kidman Law, LLP
ADRIANA OCHOA	Snell & Wilmer
DUSTIN BURNSIDE	City of San Clemente
MICHELLE BANNIGAN	City of Laguna Beach
TOM PEREZ	City of Laguna Beach
MIKE GASKINS	El Toro Water District
MATT COLLINGS	Moulton Niguel Water District

1. CALL TO ORDER

   Director Frank Ury called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Director Kathryn Freshley

3. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

   Director Robb Grantham provided a public comment, commending Ms. Amber Boone for her presentation at the annual WEFTEC conference.

4. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEMBER REQUEST FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION

In compliance with SB 707, Director Scott Goldman attended remotely due to his attendance at the WEFTEC conference in Louisiana.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Mike Dunbar pulled item 5.C. for clarification.

ACTION TAKEN
A motion was made by Director Dunbar and seconded by Director Rebensdorf to approve the remainder of the Consent Calendar as submitted.

Motion carried:	Aye 5 Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1	
	Director Dunbar	Aye
	Director Freshley	Aye
	Director Ury	Aye
	Director Goldman	Aye
	Director Rebensdorf	Aye
	Director Whalen	Absent

(5A, 5B, 5D-5F)

A. Minutes of Board of Directors Special Meeting for September 10, 2026
B. Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting April 21, 2026
July 2026 Operations Report
Approved Action: Information Item; received and filed.
D. Capital Improvement Construction Projects Progress and Change Order Report (September) [Project Committees 2 and 15]
Approved Action: Information Item.
E. Capital Improvement Program Workplan
Approved Action: Information Item.
F. Financial Report June 2026
Approved Action: Information Item; received and filed

C. April-May 2026 Operations Report

Mr. Jim Burror provided clarification on item 5.C. for Director Dunbar.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Dunbar and seconded by Director Ury to approve item 5.C. as submitted.

Motion carried:	Aye 5 Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1	
	Director Dunbar	Aye
	Director Freshley	Aye
	Director Ury	Aye
	Director Goldman	Aye
	Director Rebensdorf	Aye
	Director Whalen	Absent

6. ENGINEERING MATTERS

A. JBL Digester Underground Piping Replacement Construction Management Services [Project Committee 2]

After a brief discussion, the Board requested a staff recommendation for the upcoming October Engineering Committee meeting, before bringing the item back to the Board meeting in November.

B. JBL Plant 1 Generator Updates [Project Committee 2]

After an open discussion, the Board agreed to retain the combined project scope, with an accelerated installation milestone, while noting permitting constraints.

7. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Use Audit Flows and Solids FY 25-26

An open discussion ensued on the Use Audit, and staff was directed to include the BOD and TSS solids-loading calculations in future audit staff reports.

A motion was made by Director Ury and seconded by Director Dunbar to approve the Use Audit calculated results for the close of the Use Audit for disbursement or collection of additional funds in FY 25-26.

Motion carried:	Aye 5 Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1	
	Director Dunbar	Aye
	Director Freshley	Aye
	Director Ury	Aye
	Director Goldman	Aye
	Director Rebensdorf	Aye
	Director Whalen	Absent

B. Legal RFP Award

After a brief discussion, the Board proposed to add a 5-year term the Snell and Wilmer Agreement with a severance option.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Freshley and seconded by Director Dunbar to authorize the General Manager to sign the Snell and Wilmer Agreement for Legal Counsel Services with the inclusion of a 5-year term with the option of severance after a 90-day notice period.

Motion carried:	Aye 5 Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1	
	Director Dunbar	Aye
	Director Freshley	Aye
	Director Ury	Aye
	Director Goldman	Aye
	Director Rebensdorf	Aye
	Director Whalen	Absent

C. Orbis Public Affairs Contract

After an open discussion, the Board agreed to extend the contract with Orbis Public Affairs for 6 months, with Legal Counsel advising they could waive the Uniform Purchasing policy to prevent discontinuation of services.

ACTION TAKEN

A motion was made by Director Ury and seconded by Director Dunbar to authorize the extension of Orbis Public Affairs' contract for 6 months, while waiving the requirement of the Uniform Purchasing Policy on any purchase over $25,000, and to bring the contract back to the Executive Committee 3 months before expiring to review and prepare for the next contract bidding.

Motion carried:	Aye 5 Nay 0, Abstained 0, Absent 1	
	Director Dunbar	Aye
	Director Freshley	Aye
	Director Ury	Aye
	Director Goldman	Aye
	Director Rebensdorf	Aye
	Director Whalen	Absent

D. General Manager's Report

Ms. Boone briefed the Board on the upcoming El Niño Coordination meeting in October in relation to the State's declaration of emergency, with the potential to make it a monthly meeting throughout the El Niño season.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

E. General Counsel's Report

Ms. Adriana Ochoa informed the Board that her team will be attending the CASA Attorney Committee meeting in October and will report back for the November Board meeting.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

F. Government Affairs Report

Mr. Chad Wanke was not present to provide an oral report. This item was provided as a separate handout.

This was an information item; no action was taken.

G. Upcoming Meetings Schedule:

- October 13, 2026 – Executive Committee Meeting
- October 15, 2026 – Engineering Committee Meeting
- October 20, 2026 – Finance Committee Meeting
- November 5, 2026 – Board of Directors Meeting

This was an information item; no action was taken.

The Board of Directors convened to Closed Session at 9:12 a.m.

8. CLOSED SESSION

Initiation of litigation pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(d)(4)
Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation
One Potential Case

The Board of Directors reconvened to Open Session at 9:29 a.m. There were no reportable actions.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Director Ury adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate copy of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority Board of Directors on October 1, 2026, and approved by the Board of Directors of the South Orange County Wastewater Authority.

Lynda May

Lynda May, Assistant Secretary
SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY