

**SWEETWATER AUTHORITY GOVERNING BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

**April 24, 2024, 5:00 p.m.  
Sweetwater Authority  
505 Garrett Avenue  
Chula Vista, CA 91910**

Directors Present: Josie Calderon-Scott, Steve Castaneda, Manny Delgado, Hector Martinez, Paulina Martinez-Perez, and Ditas Yamane (\* participating remotely)

\*Director Yamane provided a brief statement regarding her participation in the meeting remotely via videoconference in compliance with the provisions of Government Code section 54953, stating that her remote participation was for “just cause” for medical reasons that prevent her from participating in person. Director Yamane participated through both audio and visual technology.

Directors Absent: Ron Morrison

Staff Present: General Manager Carlos Quintero, Assistant General Manager Roberto Yano, Legal Counsel Paula de Sousa, Board Secretary Ligia Hoffman, Principal Public Affairs Representative Alessandra Angelone, Director of Water Quality Justin Brazil, Director of Engineering and Operations Erick Del Bosque, Assistant Board Secretary Michael Garcia, Public Affairs Representative Gabriel Innocenzi, and Director of Finance Rich Stevenson

Others Present: Lisa Baeza, Leighangela Brady, and Elizabeth McEvoy of National School District; Karen Henry and Mike Sampsel.

**Pursuant to the Brown Act Government Code Section 54953, this meeting was held in person and via teleconference.**

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**1. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Martinez-Perez called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

### 3. Opportunity for Public Comment

Karen Henry provided documents to the Board and commented on PFAS in local water and the impact on Authority rates.

Mike Sampsel provided documents for the Board to review and commented on the consultant data related to vehicle replacement program at the Authority.

### 4. Chair's Presentation

#### 4.1 Recognition of 2024 High School Photo Contest Winners

Public Affairs Representative Innocenzi provided a presentation.

#### 4.2 "National School District Partnership Bring a Teacher to Work Day," presentation by Leighangela Brady, Superintendent, National School District

Public Affairs Representative Angelone introduced this item.

Lisa Baeza, Dr. Leighangela Brady, and Elizabeth McEvoy of the National School District provided a presentation.

#### 4.3 Comments from Public Regarding Agency Staff

### ACTION CALENDAR AGENDA

### 5. Items to be Added, Withdrawn, or Reordered on the Agenda

There were none.

### 6. Approval of Minutes

Director Martinez-Perez noted her abstention from item 6.2.

**Motion by:** Director Castaneda

**Seconded by:** Director Delgado

that Governing Board approve items 6.1 - Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of April 10, 2024, and item 6.2 - Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of April 15, 2024, noting Director Martinez-Perez's abstention from item 6.2.

Ayes (6): Director Calderon-Scott, Director Castaneda, Director Delgado, Director Martinez, Director Martinez-Perez, and Director Yamane

Absent (1): Director Morrison

**Motion Carried (6 to 0)**

#### 6.1 Regular Board Meeting of April 10, 2024

#### 6.2 Special Board Meeting of April 15, 2024

## 7. Consent Calendar Items

Director Castaneda recused himself from consideration of Agenda Item 7.1 due to his contract with Sempra Energy, parent company of SDG&E, which Director Castaneda disclosed on the record.

Director Calderon-Scott pulled Item 7.4 for discussion.

Item 7.5 was pulled for Public Comment.

**Motion by:** Director Martinez-Perez

**Seconded by:** Director Martinez

that the Governing Board approve Consent Calendar Items 7.1 through 7.3, with Director Castaneda's noted recusal on Item 7.1.

Ayes (6): Director Calderon-Scott, Director Castaneda, Director Delgado, Director Martinez, Director Martinez-Perez, and Director Yamane

Absent (1): Director Morrison

**Motion Carried (6 to 0)**

**7.1 Approval of San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants – March 2024**

**7.2 Approval of Demands and Warrants (excludes the San Diego Gas & Electric Demands and Warrants) – March 2024**

**7.3 Consideration of One-Time Adjustment to Customer Water Bill - Rondell Homes** (Finance and Administration Committee Meeting of 4/15/24)

Recommendation: Approve a One-time Adjustment in the amount of \$2,312.61 to the account of Rondell Homes.

### Items Pulled from Consent Calendar

**7.4 Review of Board Policies and Procedures (Policies 601 through 608)** (Finance and Administration Committee Meeting of 4/15/24)

Recommendation: Approve Board Policies 601 through 608 as presented.

**Motion by:** Director Calderon-Scott

**Seconded by:** Director Castaneda

that the Governing Board approve Board Policies 601 through 608 as presented.

Ayes (6): Director Calderon-Scott, Director Castaneda, Director Delgado, Director Martinez, Director Martinez-Perez, and Director Yamane

Absent (1): Director Morrison

**Motion Carried (6 to 0)**

**7.5 Review of the Draft FY 2024-25 Five-year Financial Plan Assumptions**  
(Finance and Administration Committee Meeting of 4/15/24)

Recommendation: No action was required by the Governing Board.

Mike Sampsel commented on the sources of water in the item documents and the impacts to revenue.

No action was required by the Governing Board.

**8. Action and Discussion Items**

**8.1 Consideration to Establish an Ad Hoc Committee for the Evaluation of Legal Counsel Proposals (No Enclosure)**

Chair Martinez-Perez provided a verbal report.

No action was taken by the Governing Board.

**8.2 Review of the Draft FY 2024-25 Five-year Financial Plan**

Karen Henry commented on the five-year assumptions and the impacts to future budgets.

Director of Finance Stevenson provided a presentation.

No action was required by the Governing Board.

**9. Approval of Directors' Attendance at Meetings and Future Agenda Items**

**Motion by:** Director Castaneda

**Seconded by:** Director Martinez-Perez

that the Governing Board approve per diem for Directors for items 9.1 and 9.2.

Ayes (6): Director Calderon-Scott, Director Castaneda, Director Delgado, Director Martinez, Director Martinez-Perez, and Director Yamane

Absent (1): Director Morrison

**Motion Carried (6 to 0)**

**9.1 Per diem approval for Directors who wish to attend the Day of the Child Event, Chula Vista - April 20, 2024**

**9.2 Per diem approval for Directors who wish to attend the CSDA Annual Conference, Indian Wells - September 9-12, 2024**

**10. Delayed Revenue Balance Dashboard**

**11. Committee Minutes**

**12. Informational Reports**

**12.1 Financial Reports - March 2024**

**12.2 Quarterly Performance Measurement Report – Third Quarter FY 2023-24**

**12.3 Quarterly Report of Directors' Expenses – Third Quarter FY 2023-24**

**12.4 Quarterly Report on Communications Plan Metrics – Third Quarter FY 2023-24**

**12.5 Quarterly Water Treatment Chemical Update**

**12.6 Quarterly Capital Projects Report – Third Quarter FY 2023-24**

**13. Report of Management**

General Manager Quintero reported that:

- Friday, April 26 is the South County Economic Development Council Summit, and that he will be a panelist at one of the sessions;
- Loveland Reservoir is at 95 percent full, and 76 percent full at Sweetwater Reservoir;
- The next regular Board meeting on May 8 is cancelled due to the majority of the Board attending the Association of California Water Agencies Conference in Sacramento;
- The Workshop to discuss the Strategic Plan Detailed Work Plan is scheduled as a Special Board meeting on Saturday, May 4; and
- A Special Board meeting to discuss the FY 2024-25 Budget is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15th.

**14. Report of Representatives to the San Diego County Water Authority**

Report by representatives for the purposes of briefing the Board on items of interest and importance that appear on the previous or future San Diego County Water Authority agendas and to receive direction from the Sweetwater Authority Governing Board in representing its interests at the San Diego County Water Authority.

Director Yamane reported that the Board meeting is the following day.

Director Castaneda reported that the upcoming meeting item is the impacts of the significant increase in Metropolitan Water District's rates and charges.

**15. Reports by Directors on Events Attended**

**15.1 NWRA 2024 Policy Conference, Washington D.C. - April 9-11, 2024**

Director Delgado provided a report.

**15.2 Council of Water Utilities Meeting - April 16, 2024**

Directors Calderon-Scott, Castaneda, and Delgado provided reports.

**15.3 SWA Delegation Trip, Washington D.C. - April 16-18, 2024**

Directors, Martinez, Martinez-Perez, and Yamane provided reports.

**15.4 Day of the Child Event - April 20, 2024**

Directors Calderon-Scott, Castaneda, Delgado, Martinez, and Yamane provided reports.

**15.5 Other Events Attended**

**16. Directors' Comments**

There were none.

**17. Closed Session**

At 7:16 p.m. the Board convened in closed session for items 17.1 and 17.2 as stated on the agenda. There was no need for closed session on item 17.3.

**17.1 Conference with Labor Negotiator pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6:**

**Agency Negotiators: General Manager Carlos Quintero, Assistant General Manager Roberto Yano, and Special Legal Counsel Mark Bresee**

**Employee Organization: Sweetwater Authority Employee's Committee**

**17.2 Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1):**

**Aqueous Film-Forming Foams Products Liability Litigation, Settlement Agreement Between Public Water Agencies and 3M; U.S. Dist. Ct., D. S. Carolina, Case No. 2:18-mn-2873-RMG**

**17.3 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1):**

**United States, et al. ex rel John Hendrix v. J-M Manufacturing Company Inc., and Formosa Plastics Corporation, U.S.A., Case No. ED CV06-00055-GW**

The Board came out of closed session at 8:00 p.m. and reconvened in open session, with Director Morrison absent and Directors Castaneda and Yamane departing before Legal Counsel's Report. There were no minutes taken, and the session was not audio-recorded. There was no reportable action taken by the Governing Board.

**18. Adjournment**

With no further business before the Board, Director Martinez-Perez adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

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Paulina Martinez-Perez, Chair

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Ligia Hoffman, Board Secretary