

SAN ELIJO JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
HELD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2024
AT THE SAN ELIJO WATER CAMPUS

Kellie Hinze, Chair

Kristi Becker, Vice Chair

A meeting of the Board of Directors of San Elijo Joint Powers Authority (SEJPA) was held Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 8:30 a.m., at the San Elijo Water Campus.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Hinze called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Directors Present:

Kellie Hinze
Kristi Becker
Allison Blackwell
David Zito

Others Present:

General Manager
Director of Operations
Director of Infrastructure and Sustainability
Director Finance and Administration
Senior Project Manager
Administrative Coordinator
Accounting Technician I

Michael Thornton
Chris Trees
Tom Falk
Kevin Lang
Michael Konicke
Vanessa Hackney
Maria Cruz

SEJPA Counsel:

Snell & Wilmer

Adriana Ochoa

City of Solana Beach:

Director of Engineering
City Manager

Mohammad "Mo" Sammak
Alyssa Muto

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Chair, Hinze, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATION/PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

5. AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Christopher Trees , Director of Operations, 15 years of Service Award.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Moved by Vice Chair Becker and seconded by Board Member Blackwell to approve the Consent Calendar.

Agenda Item No. 7	Approval of Minutes for the October 15, 2024 Board Meeting
Agenda Item No. 8	Approval for Payment of Warrants and Monthly Investment Report – October
Agenda Item No. 9	Wastewater Treatment Report – September
Agenda Item No. 10	Recycled Water Report – September
Agenda Item No. 11	Reportable Meetings
Agenda Item No. 12	San Elijo Joint Powers Authority Updated Salary and Benefits Resolution

Motion carried with the following vote of approval:

AYES: Hinze, Becker, Blackwell, Zito
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

14. BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATE

General Manager, Michael Thornton, reviewed the SEJPA’s Capital Program which includes six priority projects and several miscellaneous near-term projects. The budget for these projects is \$32.8 million. Of the six priority projects, four are under construction. Rising construction costs have caused a funding shortfall affecting the remaining projects, including most significantly, the Biological Treatment Improvement Project. The identified funding shortfall is estimated at \$7 million, with approximately \$4.5 million required specifically for the Biological Treatment Improvement project.

During the October 2024 Board meeting, SEJPA staff conducted a Capital Program Workshop to review the purpose and objectives of both the Stormwater Capture and Reuse Project and the Biological Treatment Improvement Project. The workshop also provided an overview of identified near-term projects to clarify the importance of these projects and update the estimated funding required to complete them. Following the workshop, the Board directed staff to confer with member agencies on funding options for the funding shortfall.

Staff met with staff from both member agencies to discuss options for closing the funding gap. For simplicity, the decision tree was refined to (Option 1) proceed immediately with construction of the Biological Treatment project (concurrent with the implementation of remaining miscellaneous projects) and secure an estimated \$7 million to close identified funding gap or (Option 2) postpone the construction of the Biological Treatment project until after the completion of the 2025 Facility Plan and continue development of miscellaneous near-term projects.

Staff recommended option 2, postponing the Biological Treatment Improvement Project to allow for the completion of the 2025 Facility Plan and then the development of a comprehensive capital program funding strategy. The Board discussed the two options provided by Staff and decided to further evaluate both options and reconvene on this topic at the December Board Meeting.

18. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

19. GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

General Counsel, Adriana Ochoa, provided two case updates relevant to the SEJPA Board.

20. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board Member Zito acknowledged the new Director of Finance and Administration, Kevin Lang. General Manager Thornton introduced the new Director of Finance and Administration.

21. CLOSED SESSION

None.

22. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael T. Thornton, P.E.
General Manager