



**SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REGULAR MEETING  
Minutes of April 20, 2022**

**NOTE:** This meeting was held in person and via teleconference, pursuant to AB 361

**1. CALL TO ORDER-5:30 PM OPEN SESSION**

President Jones called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Secretary Berry called the roll. Directors Present Jones, Beard, Redfern, Van Pelt. Staff Present: Mike LeBrun Interim General Manager, Rick Battles Legal Counsel, Wendy Berry Secretary/Treasurer

**3. DIRECTORS COMMENTS:**

No Comments

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mrs. Ivy asked questions about the how many litigations and costs the district has been involved in, streetlights, election of the President, unionization by the employees, status of the work environment and update on the general manager position. Mr. Lee – employee turnover rate

**5. REPORTS:**

- A. General Manager – newsletter, and no update on testing subsurface of Horizon Drive
- B. Legal Counsel – No Report
- C. Secretary/Treasurer – the District's insurance carrier can't find a broker that could quote earthquake insurance for the district's sewer lines. Jay Freeman won the LAFCO seat election
- D. Committees – the ad hoc committees for hiring a GM and union negotiations continue to meet.

**6. CONSENT ITEMS:**

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2022.
- B. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2022
- C. Approval of Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of March 29, 2022.
- D. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes of March 30, 2022
- E. Approval of Disbursements from March 12, 2022 through April 15, 2022

Director Beard motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented, Director Van Pelt seconded and the motion passed by a roll call vote:

**AYES: Beard, Jones, Van Pelt, Redfern**

## **7. ACTION ITEMS:**

### **A. Approval of installment payment plan for 3125 Horizon Drive APN 141-350-006.**

The property owners at 3125 Horizon Drive needs to connect to sewer so they signed their installment payment plan on March 18, 2022. The total cost is \$68,199.76 and \$5,096.14 will be placed on the property tax bill annually. The interest rate will be 4.5% for 20 years. Director Van Pelt motioned to approve the installment payment agreement and authorize staff to proceed with publishing the notice in the newspaper, Director Beard seconded and the motion passed by a roll call vote:

**AYES: Van Pelt, Beard, Jones, Redfern**

**B. Adoption of Resolution No. 22-08, Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings of the District's Legislative Bodies Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)** will continue and expire on May 19, 2022 unless, on or before that date and every thirty (30) days thereafter, the Board adopts a subsequent resolution setting forth the findings required by Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the timeframe that the district may continue conducting its public meetings via teleconference in compliance with government Code Section 54953(b)(3). Director Redfern motioned to adopt Resolution 22-08, Director Van Pelt seconded and the motion passed by a roll call vote:

**AYES Van Pelt, Beard, Jones, Redfern**

**C. Review and discussion of Santa Barbara LAFCO Municipal Service Review (MSR) process and formation of Ad Hoc committee.** On February 3, 2022, the Commission directed its staff to prepare an updated services review for water, wastewater, stormwater, and recycled water services within the County.

To begin the update process, LAFCO staff sent a questionnaire to all involved agencies. On March 30, your Board received a presentation on the process from LAFCO Executive Officer Mike Prater and reviewed the LAFCO questionnaire and the district responses. Staff submitted the MSR to LAFCO and the Board will finalize the responses for policy related questions. Director Van Pelt motioned to form an Ad Hoc Committee with Director Redfern and Director Van Pelt to monitor and participate in the MSR process and to keep the Board informed regarding the process with Directors Redfern and Van Pelt as committee members for the duration of six months, Director Redfern seconded and the motion passed with a roll call vote:

**AYES: Van Pelt, Redfern, Jones, Beard**

**D. Consideration of forming or designating a committee for the purpose of Tribal interface.** At the March regular meeting the Board discussed having a committee to establish a regular liaison with the Chumash Tribe. The Santa Ynez Band of the Chumash Indians is the single largest District customer. The Tribe presents a unique organization relative to the typical public and private customers the District serves. Director Beard motioned to form an Ad Hoc

Committee with Directors Jones and Director Beard for the purpose of discussing and working with the Tribe regarding issues of mutual interest for an initial period of three months, Director Van Pelt seconded and the motion passed by a roll call vote:

AYES: Beard, Jones, Redfern, Jones

**E. Discussion and action regarding transition from at-large elections to district-based elections.** On March 18, 2022, your Board adopted Resolution 22-06 a resolution of intention to move to district-based elections and formed an Ad Hoc committee with Jones and Redfern for the purpose of developing a timeline, outreach program and approve the consultant contract. Board consensus is to have staff prepare a request for proposal for demographer services to move the district from at-large elections to district based elections.

**F. Discussion and action regarding filling the board vacancy.** California Government Code §1780 governs vacancy in any elective office on the governing board of a special district. Director D'Ambra resigned from the board on April 14, 2022 leaving a vacant seat for the duration of his term which expires in December 2022. The appointed candidate needs to be a registered voter residing within the district boundaries. The appointed candidate will need to file election paperwork for the November election to continue as a board member, if elected. The district has 60 days to fill the vacancy by appointment or the Board of Supervisors can appoint a board member to fill the seat. The district is required to post a notice of vacancy in three or more conspicuous places in the district at least 15 days before the board makes appointment. Director Beard motioned to authorize staff to publicize the vacancy and proceed with the advertisement in three conspicuous places, SYV News circulated paper, SYV Star and Noozhawk, Director Redfern seconded and the motion passed by a roll call vote:

AYES: Beard, Jones, Van Pelt, Redfern

## 8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Treasurer Report – Submittal and review quarterly cash position pursuant to Government Code §61053 for quarter ending 03-31-22. Current interest rate is .365% earning \$3,091.00 in interest and the District currently has \$5,167,597.53.

## 9. LABOR AND EMPLOYEMENT:

### A. Closed session:

- 1) Public comments on closed session agenda items. **Various comments were made about the process of negotiations.**
- 2) Closed session conference with labor negotiators pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6

Agency designated representatives: Nate Kowalski, Legal Counsel, Director Redfern, Director Jones

Employee organization: Teamsters Local 986

- 3) Closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)

Public Employment  
Title: General Manager

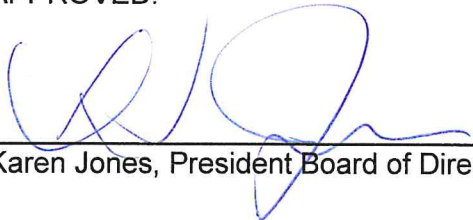
4) Open session report on closed session agenda items

**The Board entered closed session at 7:30 p.m. For item 2, the Board gave direction to the designated representatives and Item 3 had no reportable action. The Board came out of closed session at 9:08 p.m.**

**10. ADJOURNMENT:** Director Van Pelt motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m., Director Beard seconded and the motion passed by a roll call vote:

**AYES: Beard, Jones, Redfern, Van Pelt**

APPROVED:

  
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Karen Jones, President Board of Directors

ATTEST:

  
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Wendy Berry, Secretary Board of Directors