

**SOUTH VALLEY WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY
BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, October 15, 2025
7495 South 1300 West
West Jordan, Utah 84084**

Attendance	Board Vice Chairman	Joel Thompson, Jordan Basin Improvement District
	Board Member	Jared Syme, Midvalley Sewer District
	Board Member	Tracy Cowdell, Sandy Suburban Improvement District (excused)
	Board Member	Dave Murphy, City of West Jordan (excused)
	Board Member	Branden Anderson, Midvale City
	General Manager	Lee Rawlings
	Facility Engineer	Taigon Worthen
	Facility Clerk	Belinda Patterson
	Attorney for South Valley	Ryan Richards
	Finance Director	Gary Dunn
	Alternate for City of West Jordan	Greg Davenport
	Alternate for Sandy Suburban Improvement District	Darren Andersen

Call to Order Vice-Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

Roll Call Roll call vote as follows:

Mr. Syme	"here"
Mr. Andersen	"here"
Mr. Davenport	"here"
Mr. Anderson	"here"
Vice-Chairman Thompson	"here"

**Ceremonies/
Presentations/Public
Comments** Members of the Operator's Challenge Team were invited to the meeting and introduced to the board: Jason Smith (coach), Jon Baranowski, Cory Zeman, Jason Schuring, Taigon Worthen (captain). The team finished 5th overall at the WEFTEC 2025 Conference. Mr. Worthen gave a brief summary, with video, on the experience.

2026 Tentative Budget Mr. Dunn mentioned that the finance committee met and talked about their concerns regarding the tentative budget and asked if the board had any issues or concerns they would like addressed at this meeting.

Mr. Davenport said that West Jordan is concerned about the medical incentive offered to employees when they waive the medical insurance and how it compares to other entities. Mr. Dunn responded that the medical incentive has been offered for 10 plus years. It's set up in such a way that if the employee does not take the medical insurance they are paid the single rate. Currently, there are 12 employees utilizing this benefit. The total cost for

that is approximately \$160,000 per year. The insurance we would have normally paid if the employee was on the insurance is approximately \$361,000 plus an additional \$25,000 of HSA contribution. SVWRF is saving \$223,879.00 by having them not on our insurance. Mr. Rawlings added that Sandy Suburban Improvement District doesn't offer medical incentive. All of their employees are on the insurance. Midvale City offers \$250 per month. Mr. Syme added that Midvalley Improvement District does not offer a medical incentive and has never received a request for one. Mr. Thompson stated that over the past several years Jordan Basin has been offering a flat rate of \$10,000 per year. His concern is that if the amount is tied to the single premium, where does that end with insurance rates increasing each year. Mr. Thompson would like to see a fixed amount. He suggested \$11,000 or \$12,000 per year and as rates increase this will not change.

Mr. Davenport expressed a concern regarding the hiring of a training person in operations. Mr. Rawlings responded that we are not hiring a trainer. This position was a crew chief and has been given the responsibility of training our operators on all equipment used to run this facility, and will continue to be a crew chief when needed. The budget includes the hiring of an entry level operator.

Mr. Anderson inquired about the hiring of an individual in maintenance. Mr. Dunn explained that this is a position that will be training over a year's time with another maintenance employee who will be retiring.

West Jordan had a question about the best course of action regarding the financing of thermal dryers, which is in the Capital Facility Plan. Mr. Dunn responded that we do carry debt for some of the member entities. We have three bonds outstanding right now. All member entities are participating in one bond. Midvale and West Jordan are another bond and the third bond belongs to West Jordan. One bond matures in 2028 and two mature in 2030. Thermal Drying is out 6-7 years and at that time we will not be carrying any debt. Member entities can determine if they want to bond in one lump sum or pay cash, whatever they decide.

Mr. Rawlings talked about salary increases for 2026 using the CPI and what other entities have planned for their budget year. He proposed a 3% COLA and 3% Merit increase. The board had no concerns.

Mr. Rawlings said that currently there is a 5% increase added to the budget for insurance. We have a meeting scheduled with the broker regarding the new insurance rates and will be adjusting the tentative budget accordingly.

Closed Meeting

Mr. Anderson moved to go in to a closed meeting for the discussion of the character, profession competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Mr. Davenport seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

Resume the Open Meeting

Mr. Syme moved to go back in to the Open Meeting. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

**Recommendation for
Director of Human
Resources/Facility
Clerk/Administrative
Assistant**

Mr. Thompson moved to approve staff's recommendation to hire Joshua Lawrence as the new Director of Human Resources/Facility Clerk/Administrative Assistant and also give the general manager the discretion to negotiate with the second applicant should there not be an acceptance. He also directed the Vice Chairman to sign the employment contract when completed. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. Roll call vote was as follows:

<u>Mr. Syme</u>	<u>"yes"</u>
<u>Mr. Andersen</u>	<u>"yes"</u>
<u>Mr. Davenport</u>	<u>"yes"</u>
<u>Mr. Anderson</u>	<u>"yes"</u>
<u>Vice Chairman</u>	<u>"yes"</u>
<u>Thompson</u>	

All were in favor, motion carried.

**Approve Agreement with
PRS for Bioreactor 3
Clean Out**

Staff advertised, with the intent to sole source, the cleanout work for Bioreactor 3. There were no inquiries during or after the advertisement period.

Staff negotiated a price with Professional Rig Services (PRS). They quoted a not to exceed amount of \$285,651 to complete the work.

Mr. Davenport moved the board award Bioreactor 3 Grit Removal to Professional Rig Services, Inc. for a not to exceed amount of \$285,651 and authorize the vice chairman to sign the agreement pending review and approval by the facility attorney. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

**Award DAFT Painting
Project**

Staff advertised this project from September 22nd thru October 14th with a mandatory pre-bid meeting held at the facility on October 6th. Two contractors were in attendance: VanCon and Corrio Construction. Bids were received by both contractors.

Mr. Syme moved that the board authorize the vice chairman to execute an agreement with Corrio Construction for the DAFT Rehabilitation Project work in the amount of \$296,270 pending review and approval by the facility attorney. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

Consent Calendar

Items included on the consent calendar are as follows:

- Ratify Check Register: September 2025
- Approval of Minutes: September 17, 2025
- Next Board Meeting Date: November 19, 2025 – with Public Hearing on 2026 Tentative Budget

Mr. Andersen moved to approve the consent calendar. Mr. Davenport seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

General Manager Report

Mr. Rawlings reported that he, Mr. Worthen and Mr. Fife took a side trip following the WEFTEC Conference and toured two facilities using Komline paddle dryers. Both facilities dry similar product to ours and both facilities operate using thermal fluid dryers rather than steam. This facility uses steam dryers. Mr. Syme asked if staff is interested in switching to thermal fluid dryers. Mr. Rawlings responded that if it is decided to stay with Komline then, yes, we would choose to go with thermal fluid dryers. Mr. Thompson asked if there were other thermal fluid dryer manufacturers? Mr. Worthen responded, yes.

Staff is working on obtaining an easement from the City of West Jordan on the South Interceptor. Mr. Davenport reported that the City of West Jordan have two concerns. They don't want to provide an easement on property they didn't own or have an easement to. And they want to make sure that what is taking place is well documented. Mr. Davenport will send an email on the status over the next couple of weeks.

Project Updates

Mr. Worthen reported that cathodic protection work will begin next week.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Thompson adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

Joel Thompson
Board Vice-Chairman

Belinda Patterson
Facility Clerk