

**SOUTH HENRY REGIONAL WASTE DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING JULY 14, 2026
SHRWD OFFICE
4:30 P.M.**

According to the meeting notice, President Donna Tauber called the meeting to order. Board members who were present or absent were as follows:

Present: Donna Tauber, Tyler Hellums, Aaron Eckart, Luke Garner, Irvin Bengé, Tom Conley, and Dwight Barnes

Absent: None

Tyler Hellums made the motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Tom Conley. Motion carried.

Dwight Barnes made the motion to approve the claims as submitted. This was seconded by Tyler Hellums. Motion carried.

The Board also reviewed and approved all final payments from June 2026 Claims Docket.

Josh McNulty from Gonzalez reported that the District's SRF application received a score of 70 out of 200, ranking 35th out of more than 80 applicants, making first-round funding unlikely. He is working with Ross Hagan of Baker Tilly to evaluate alternative funding options, including an OCRA Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and potential public bond financing.

After discussion, the Board agreed to review the individual project components and prioritize them to determine which improvements should remain in the project. The Board also discussed potential funding options outside of the State Revolving Fund (SRF) program, which included finding information on Grant Writing.

Irvin Bengé made the motion to get information on a Grant Writer, seconded by Aaron Eckart. Motion carried.

Zach discussed the need to hire an additional Maintenance Technician to help address the growing workload associated with maintaining the district's aging collection system and treatment plant. He explained that adding a third maintenance employee would improve preventive maintenance efforts, provide additional support for plant operations and laboratory duties, allow for cross-training among staff, and improve coverage during vacations and emergencies.

After discussion, the Board agreed that the position is already established as a **Tech I Maintenance Technician** and authorized staff to repost the position at the previously approved starting salary of **\$42,000 to \$45,000**.

Tyler Hellums made the motion to hire a third maintenance position; this was seconded by Dwight Barnes. Motion carried.

Zach emphasized the need to focus on maintaining the district's existing infrastructure and developing a long-term capital improvement plan rather than pursuing major expansion projects at this time. He encouraged Board members to tour the district's facilities to better understand the condition of the collection system and treatment plant.

Zach also provided an operations update, reporting that repairs at the Dunreith Pump Station are expected to be completed shortly. He discussed the need to improve access to the Spiceland lift station during community events, the importance of installing a permanent backup generator with portable generator connections, and ongoing efforts to improve system reliability and reduce equipment failures.

An amended salary ordinance (Salary Ordinance 2026-7-1) was signed to reflect Mike Gibson's salary increase from June's meeting for acquiring his IDEM Wastewater Operator Class II certification.

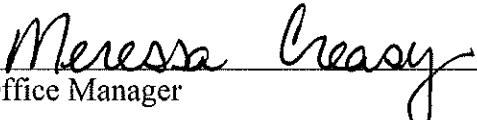
The Board discussed the district's certificates of deposit (CDs), noting that the interest earned on the checking account now exceeds the current CD rates. After reviewing the available options, the Board agreed to transfer the three CDs maturing on August 1 into the checking account and revisit investment options later in the year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



President

ATTEST:



Office Manager