

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting for the  
Scotia Community Services District  
Tuesday May 19th, 2026, at 5:30 P.M.

**A. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE at 5:30 PM**

Paul Newmaker, President– Present

Delia Ansted, Director – Present

Nina Sellen, Director – Present

Susan Pryor Vice President- Present

Andrew Perkins -Present

Steve Coppini General Manager, Amber Sandum Board Clerk, Scott McLeran District Legal Counsel,  
Public Members- Renee Abrams, Steve Abrams, Desiree Espinosa

**B. SETTING OF THE AGENDA -No Changes**

**C. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting April 21st, 2026
2. Approval of RCB Check Registers April 1-30, 2026
3. Approval of Columbia Bank Check Registers April 1-30, 2026
4. Approval of RCB Mastercard Statement – March Statement
5. Approval of Columbia Bank Visa Statement – April Statement

No public comment

**Motion:** To Approve Consent Calendar

**Motion:** Pryor **Second:** Sellen

**Motion Vote:** Ayes Ansted, Sellen, Pryor ,Perkins, Newmaker **Opposed:** None **Absent:** None **Abstain:** None

**Public Comment:** Renee Abrams comments on the previous minutes, Reviewing the minutes from last month's meeting, I'm sorry, it was about town. I knew it was going to be a well-attended meeting. There was something that stood out in the minutes, and it was under new business page four, and near the bottom of the first paragraph our general manager is responding to the draft budget, and I have highlighted here the DFA is now pushing for consolidation studies, and that stood out. What's the DFA? I see it comes under the State Water Resources Control Board, it's well down through that. I can pull up fact sheets under drinking water grants, and that includes definitions, criteria for qualifying research grant. There's 17 pages, you know, about exhibit A guidelines, definitions, types of consolidation and consolidation projects, which includes surrendering its domestic water supply permit, and generally cease operating through waters that last big alarms for me. We had a special election we voted to be an independent CSD by 85 registered voters. It was consolidation consideration. I'm not for it. I think we should not give up our water rights. They will never come back. So, in order to protect our investment in our homes and our business ownership in this community,

I think we need to maintain the value expressed in those waterways and if we need to seek funding look for something else hope were not already in the process.

Motion Carries

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT & WRITTEN COMMUNICATION: NONE**

**E. CLOSED SESSION: NONE**

**F. PUBLIC HEARING – None**

**G. BUSINESS**

**1. New Business –**

**a. SCSD Draft Budget FY 26/27**

Board discussed

Renee Abrams commented that last year's revenue and expenditures were higher, particularly higher than this year's, and not quite sure if that will be go down not sure what's anticipated. Another thing that I wanted to bring up from the minutes from the last meeting, the general manager did say that the boil water notice, he highlights the financial impact of boil water notice, noting that district's income is down and expenditures are rising. He also said at the same meeting on the same topic, general manager commented that the only real expenditure was overtime in the district is absorbing the cost. Let's hope we don't have tragedies, but you never know, and I just want to reiterate, I bought into this community with every one of us who was a homeowner or businessman has bought into lead by the CSD, and we appreciate the five members of our board and those on staff who are protecting all of our interests, and that's what I want to encourage at this point, because my notes, it's been four years since we've had a rate increase. I think right now I've seen numbers as high as 4% from inflation rates, I don't know if we can afford the wait. Let me be the last in line to want to raise rates. We have a vested interest here, and you know, when it comes to rates being raised, we cry, we scream, that's what we're good at, but we also took on this infrastructure. We have the responsibility to ourselves and our future. So I'm just saying, I'm picking up on what the manager is saying, I'm looking at the projection, which I'm not really good at understanding the budget not sure if the budget is okay.

Board Discussed

Legal Counsel advised more than a 5% increase annually would go to the voters for a 218 vote. You can raise rates up to 5%. You can choose to raise rates annually. Usually around June will look into it further. Doesn't have to be 5% it can be up to.

Director Ansted asked if it could be done at any time.

Legal Counsel- Usually done at certain time of year, will look into it.

Public Member Desiree commented on the Boil Water Notice, was advised that it was discussed in last month's meeting. Director Ansted encouraged her to look at last month's minutes.

Direction was given to proceed with Final Budget in June.

## 2. Old Business – None

## H. REPORTS –

1. **President's Report:** President reported he had spoke to a gentleman that was concern about the cost of what the customers pay in Scotia. He assumed the bills were horrendous. He thought everyone was paying \$300 to \$400 which is not correct. He lives where they pay a \$50 flat rate and that CSD is in the red because of the rates.
2. **Board Director Reports:** Director Sellen and Director Ansted went to a plant sale and got plants. Pedro dug holes and they put them in. The garden looks great.
3. **General Manager's Report:** Working with SHN to update the Emergency Response Plan.

**Water Plant:** SHN and myself have requested and received a meeting for this Thursday with representatives from Division of Drinking Water and DFA, and we've got some questions that we quite honestly need answers to that I can't answer tonight. I won't have them until I meet with them, but first and foremost, you know, if they're going to make us go through this process, and it's determined that, okay, it's cheaper for them to fund us merging or consolidating, however they want to put it. What happens if our neighbors still say no, and if they can't force them into that. Why are we wasting the time doing that? That is my stance. These are questions I want answers to, and we're going to push for that. It's my understanding it's strictly coming from the funding agency. They're basically their whole push statewide is consolidation, because it's cheaper, and so they're basically telling us we need to take another look. I have brought up votes in the past. I have brought up this has been studied. They think it needs to be studied again, and so we're going to meet with them on Thursday, and because I told him, I said I'm not going to take anything to the board without these answers, and they said, well, you need to do this study so you can have these answers from your board. It's just, it's a circle, it makes no sense to me. So, anyway, I want you to be aware. At the last meeting, I thought it was strictly wastewater. They're pushing it forward on lean drinking water side as well, I've expressed our concerns about that, pushing back our project and getting updated water plant, and they noted my concern wasn't essentially what they said, so hopefully we'll get some more answers on that, I. But again, I don't have the answer for you right now. Yeah, but these are these are one of several questions that are going to be asked, along with how, who is who's forcing this decision, you know? Is it something we necessarily have to do in order to get funded? Hopefully I'll have some answers.

**Dog Park:** Veranda is done, rotten trees are down. Park was rented out last weekend and there were a lot of people at the dog park.

**Ballpark:** Was approached about Wildwood days and doing a men's softball tournament down there. That will be the first weekend in August. Will be ran independently, the CSD will just supply the field and have it ready for them. The youth have started practicing, and don't have a schedule yet.

**Tesla:** Will have boots on the ground approximately June 1<sup>st</sup>. The schedule is two to three weeks.

**Theater:** Not much happening at the Theater. Did figure out the plumbing issue. Ramp is done, trim need to be done. Runway lights work, the sound system will need to be upgraded.

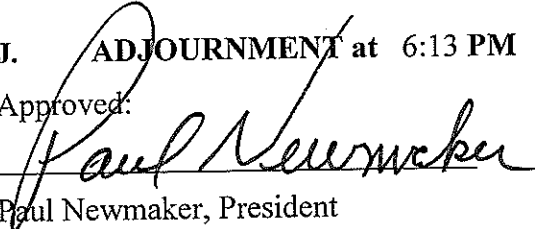
**Museum:** .

4. **Board Clerk's Report:** Working on getting quotes and proposals to update the CSD website
5. **District Legal Counsel's Report:** had a chance to look at the government code on the issue of the statutory increases that we talked about earlier, and just to update the board briefly, Government Code 53 756 is the statute that authorizes this. It is through a schedule of fees that the board would adopt for up to a period of five years. After five years, you would have to go through the process again, but it doesn't have a specific timeline for when you have to do this during the year, but because it's going to be tied into the budget, I think that most districts would include that in their budget, which then you know would take effect July one, or it could be the calendar year, depending on how the board wanted to handle that, but it effectively allows the board to increase rates based on the CPI and other other costs that have gone up as well, so it's something we definitely could talk about more, but when I said I think that it was capped at 5% many districts will cap it at an amount, but when I looked at the statute, it actually didn't have a cap, although I would say that most districts do rely on the CPI as a, as the basis for determining the, you know, the increase in costs, but again it also accounts for other increases in costs that aren't necessarily tied to inflation, and I know we've done it before, it's just been a number of years, so it's something that I'll follow up with Steve and Amber on that, and dust off the old resolutions to see when the last time it was, and what the increase was, there would be a protest vote available. We'd have to provide notice to the customers. They would have an opportunity to come in and submit written protests. If the written protests exceeded 50% of all customers, then the pass through would not be authorized.
6. **Engineer's Report:** None

I. **BOARD TRAINING:** None

J. **ADJOURNMENT** at 6:13 PM

Approved:

  
Paul Newmaker, President

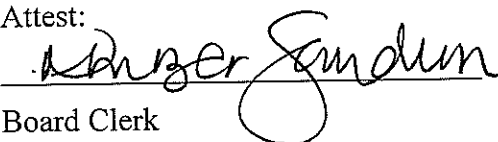
Board of Directors

Scotia Community Services District

Date

6/16/20

Attest:

  
Board Clerk

Scotia Community Services District

Date

6/16/20