

MINUTES  
GOVERNING BODY MEETING

GOVERNING BODY  
EAST SALEM SERVICE DISTRICT  
3:02 PM, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026  
COMMISSIONERS BOARD ROOM  
MARION COUNTY COURTHOUSE SQUARE

MEETING OPENED: Commissioner Danielle Bethell opened the meeting and noted the following attendance:

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners Kevin Cameron, Danielle Bethell and Colm Willis  
Scott Norris and Andrew Mittendorf - Office of Legal Counsel  
Commander Jason Bernards and Commander Jeremy Landers - Sheriff's Office  
Brian Nicholas, Dennis Mansfield, Cory Swartwout, Stephanie Pulvers, Ashley Gonzalez and Lily Gimby - Public Works  
Kathy Rogers (via Zoom), Michael Johnson, Sharma Owens and Dave Lindley (via Zoom) - ESSD Advisory Committee members  
Chris Eppley, Trevor Lane and Toni Whittler – Board's Office

ACTION: **MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved to nominate Commissioner Willis as Chair. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved approve minutes for June 18, 2025 Regular meeting. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to reappoint Michael Johnson to the ESSD advisory and budget committee. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved to appoint Sharma Owens to the ESSD Advisory committee and budget committee. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to reappoint Kathy Rogers to the ESSD advisory committee. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cameron moved to appoint Kathy Rogers to ESSD budget committee. Commissioner Bethell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Results: A voice vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

#### OPERATIONS UPDATE:

##### **Law Enforcement**

Commander Jason Bernard stated that in 2025, 157 illegal firearms were seized in ESSD, primarily related to unlawful possession and felon in possession charges. Using the bullet trap system purchased earlier in the year, 55 firearms were tested, resulting in nine matches to other shootings through shell casing analysis. These cases are under active investigation by detectives, and testing continues as time allows due to backlog.

##### **Santana Update**

Dennis Mansfield provided background on the park's history, noting that the county originally acquired it in the 1970s through a Land and Water Conservation grant, which requires the property to remain a park in perpetuity. In 2012, ownership was transferred to the Santana Village Park Association (SVPA), a nonprofit that has maintained the park since then. The county now needs to regain ownership to comply with grant requirements, and SVPA has submitted its

first proposal outlining how they envision continuing to manage the park under a new agreement.

The proposal suggests SVPA would retain autonomy over day-to-day operations, while the county would oversee capital assets, structural engineering, ADA compliance, and major maintenance. It includes a five-year term with annual budget reviews, a conflict resolution process, and a termination clause allowing SVPA to return full responsibility to the county with three months' notice. Commissioners raised concerns about funding, equity among parks, and potential liabilities, emphasizing the need for clarity on standards, costs, and expectations before moving forward. No decisions were made; further discussion will occur at work session and upcoming special ESSD meeting.

### **Stormwater Update**

Stephanie Pulvers reported that since July, the team has completed 21,000 feet of ditch maintenance, catching up on previous backlogs, and logged 62 maintenance and 45 inspection records. Infrastructure work included cleaning 147 structures and 173 pipes (over 17,000 feet), 158 outfall inspections, and 24 camera inspections, with more scheduled. Stormwater facilities received 206 maintenance records for planter boxes and accepted 83 new planter boxes this fiscal year, with efforts to improve aesthetics and explore community involvement. Street sweeping covered 872 miles at a cost of about \$14,000 per month under a three-year contract, with discussions about future cost analysis and potential equipment purchase. The team is also preparing for a new MS 4 permit and improving GIS systems for better tracking and prioritization of repairs.

**ADDITIONAL COMMENT:** Kathy Rogers expressed appreciation for the new flashing lights installed at Hayesville Elementary, noting they improved safety and were completed sooner than expected. She also suggested adding trees and shade structures at Parkdale Park and was advised to contact the East Salem Rotary for assistance. Kathy reported minor flooding during recent storms, graffiti reappearing near 45th and Silverton Road, and concerns about food carts operating in residential areas. Overall, the neighborhood is pleased with progress, citing fewer gunshots, reduced graffiti, and improved park

conditions.

OTHER: None

NEXT MEETING: The next governing body meeting is June 18, 2026 @ 3:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm



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Chair, Governing Body  
East Salem Service District