

Solid Waste Management Authority Hearing Officer Administrative Hearing

MEETING MINUTES

Southern Nevada Health District

280 South Decatur Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 Red Rock Trail Conference Room 9:00 AM – Thursday, May 8, 2025

SNHD STAFF PRESENT:

Donna Houston, Sr. EH Specialist
Edward Wynder, Associate General Counsel
Talibah Abdul-Wahid, Law Clerk
Jennifer Luther, Sr. Admin. Assistant
Brian Northam, EH Manager
Will Thompson, EH Supervisor
Jonathan Dalton, EH Specialist
Giovanni Delgadillo, EH Specialist
Rebecca Dunne, EH Specialist

Bruno Stephani, EH Supervisor Andy Chaney, EH Supervisor Nancy Cadena, Admin. Specialist Jason Garcia, Sr. EH Specialist Brittany Lewis, Sr. EH Specialist Darren Zinser, EH Specialist Summer Holloway, EH Specialist Erik Sumera, EH Specialist

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Susan Watters – SW24-870/K6 Timothy Halifax – SW24-870/K6 Bruce Flammey – SW25-470/Z3 Evelyn Halifax – SW24-870/K6 Manuel Huerta – SW24-870/K6

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Hearing Officer, Henry Melton, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

III. MATTERS REQUIRING HEARING OFFICER ACTION:

A. <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR HEARING OFFICER MEETINGS</u>

1. March 13, 2025 SWMA Hearing – MINUTES APPROVED

B. NOTICES OF VIOLATION WITH CONTESTED FACTS:

1. **Paradise Spa Owners' Association** – NOV #SW25-174/K6- For 1) operating a disposal site in Clark County, Nevada, without a permit issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on or about September 25, 2024; and 2) failure to comply with the Order issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on October 2, 2024.

SNHD and the respondent reached a compromised settlement of the case. The details of the agreement were stated on the record and approved and ordered by Hearing Officer Melton. Hearing Officer Melton found Paradise Spa Owners' Association in violation of 2), and imposed an administrative penalty of \$500. Corrective action is ordered to remove and properly dispose of all solid waste on the property and provide SNHD with a written receipt showing proof of proper disposal within one hundred and eighty (180) days. Failure to comply will result in the original penalty of \$2,000 as initially sought in the Notice of Violation.

 JDH Enterprises LLC – NOV #SW25-515/G4- For 1) operating a disposal site in Clark County, Nevada, without a permit issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on or about January 3, 2025; and 2) placing, depositing or dumping or causing to be placed, deposited or dumped solid waste upon the property located at 228 South 16th Street, Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada on or about January 3, 2025.

The case was continued to the June 12, 2025 Hearing.

3. **Timothy Halifax and Evelyn Halifax** – NOV #SW24-870/K6- For 1) operating a disposal site in Clark County, Nevada, without a permit issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on or about June 6, 2024; and 2) failure to comply with the Order issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on June 12, 2024 with extensions of the Order deadline to August 26, 2024.

Case called. Timothy Halifax and Evelyn Halifax were sworn in. The Health District called Environmental Health Specialist Rebecca Dunne. EHS Dunne testified regarding her investigation of excessive solid waste and rotting food being stored in the front yard of a residential property. EHS Dunne described the photos taken on her initial site visit and the Order issued to the property owner instructing the removal and proper disposal of solid waste on the property. Photos and order submitted as exhibits. EHS Dunne explained that she returned for a follow-up site visit a month later, and some of the items were not present in the same area of the driveway but appeared to have been moved into vehicles that were parked on the property. No proof of proper disposal had been received. At that time, Mr. Halifax requested an extension to comply with the Order, and was granted another month, EHS Dunne testified that when she returned to verify compliance with the Order extension deadline, there were still containers and bags of rotting food and miscellaneous solid waste present. She confirmed that the food appeared to have been there for an extended period of time and was not recently put there. EHS Dunne testified that because the Order hadn't been complied with, she proceeded to issue an NOV. Ms. Dunne explained the violations and public health concerns, and the NOV and photos were submitted as exhibits. Mrs. Halifax acknowledged the issues on her property and apologized, and she explained that she had health issues and Mr. Halifax had injuries that prevented them from being able to remove the solid waste and clean the property. Mr. Halifax added that he had recently been cleared to work from his injury and requested two months to finish cleaning. At this time, Hearing Officer Melton opened the floor for Public Comment. Susan Watters, neighbor, spoke in regards to an increase in roaches, mice, and rats on her property immediately after the Halifax's moved in. She claimed their yard is continuously full of waste and there are rats everywhere which have caused significant damage to her property. Ms. Watters submitted photos and receipts for pest control. Manuel Huerta, another neighbor, explained how his property is also affected by the solid waste issues and vermin. After summation, Hearing Officer rendered decision. Hearing Officer Melton found Timothy Halifax and Evelyn Halifax in violation of 1) and 2), and imposed a penalty of \$1,000 for 1) and a penalty of \$500 for 2), for total administrative penalty of \$1,500. The Hearing Officer further ordered corrective action of removal and proper disposal of waste to be completed within thirty (30) days, including a status update to be reported to SNHD within two (2) weeks. A Cease and Desist order is issued to stop operating a solid waste disposal site without a permit issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority at this location or anywhere else in Clark County, Nevada.

4. Prochazka Family 1991 Trust, Roger Prochazka, Trustee, and Shirley Prochazka, Trustee – NOV #SW25-059/A0- For 1) causing or allowing sewage or accumulation of human excreta to overflow from the sewer riser cleanout for 3851 Pennwood Avenue onto the Las Vegas Public Right-of-Way located at the southwest corner of Pennwood Avenue and South Valley View Boulevard, adjacent to 3001 South Valley View Boulevard, Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada on or about July 26, 2024; and 2) failure to comply with the Order issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on July 26, 2024.

SNHD and the respondent reached a compromised settlement of the case. The details of the agreement were stated on the record and approved and ordered by Hearing Officer Melton. Hearing Officer Melton found Prochazka Family 1991 Trust, Roger Prochazka, Trustee, and Shirley Prochazka, Trustee in violation of 2), and imposed an administrative penalty of \$500, as well as an emergency plumbing reimbursement of \$410, for a total administrative penalty of \$910. The Hearing Officer further ordered corrective action of installing two (2) cleanout access risers in the lateral sewer line to allow access for maintenance, to be completed within one hundred and eighty (180) days. Failure to comply will result in the original penalty of \$2,410 as initially sought in the Notice of Violation.

5. Ethan Sanchez – NOV #SW25-356/R4- For 1) operating a disposal site in Clark County, Nevada, without a permit issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on or about November 21, 2024 and December 23, 2024; and 2) placing, depositing or dumping or causing to be placed, deposited or dumped solid waste upon the public right of way located at the cul-de-sac west of South Fort Apache Road and West Long Boat Key Avenue, Clark County, Nevada on or about November 21, 2024 and December 23, 2024.

SNHD and the respondent reached a compromised settlement of the case. The details of the agreement were stated on the record and approved and ordered by Hearing Officer Melton. Hearing Officer Melton found Ethan Sanchez in violation of 2) on November 21, 2024, and imposed an administrative penalty of \$500. A Cease and Desist order is issued to stop placing, depositing or dumping or causing to be placed, deposited or dumped solid waste upon property other than property designated or set aside for such purpose. Failure to comply will result in the original penalty of \$4,000 as initially sought in the Notice of Violation.

6. Villa Del Oro Owners Association – NOV #SW25-470/Z3- For 1) causing or allowing sewage or accumulation of human excreta to overflow on the property located at Villa Del Oro Owners Association Common Area near 4565 and 4571 Sirius Avenue, and Clark County right of way sidewalk along Sirius Avenue curbside west of Arville Street, Clark County, Nevada on or about December 11, 2024; and 2) failure to comply with the Order issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on December 11, 2024.

Case called. Environmental Health Specialist Erik Sumera and Bruce Flammey, attorney for the Homeowners' Association, were called. EHS Sumera was sworn in and explained his investigation regarding a sewage overflow that was affecting a property and public right of way. EHS Sumera testified that he contacted the HOA on his way to the site, and they said that they were aware of the sewage overflow. EHS Sumera described the photos taken during his initial site visit of sewage flowing in rocks and landscaping, and a Clark County vactor truck vacuuming sewage and clearing the sidewalk. Mr. Sumera explained that he contacted the property manager and sent an Order via email to stop the overflow, put up a barricade, and disinfect the area within

four (4) hours. EHS Sumera testified that he followed up with the property manager who stated that a plumber had not been approved by the HOA, and SNHD then sent Elliott's Plumbing out to clear the blockage to stop the overflow. Multiple site visits by EHS Sumera over December 11, 2025 and December 12, 2025 showed no changes to the area as there was no barrier put up, and sewage debris still on the ground. EHS Sumera testified that upon his site visit on December 13, 2025 the Order had been complied with as caution tape had been put up, the sewage debris was removed, and disinfectant lime was applied. EHS Sumera explained that the Order was to be complied with on December 11, 2025 by 10:00 p.m., and an NOV was issued for not complying with the deadline. EHS Sumera described the violations and public health concerns. After summation, Hearing Officer rendered decision. Hearing Officer Melton found Villa Del Oro Owners Association in violation of 1) and 2), and imposed a penalty of \$1,000 for 1) and a penalty of \$500 for 2), as well as an emergency plumbing reimbursement of \$192.75, for a total administrative penalty of \$1,692.75. A Cease and Desist order is issued to stop causing or allowing to cause any sewage or accumulation of human excreta to overflow and deposit at this property or any other property in Clark County, Nevada. The Hearing Officer further ordered Villa Del Oro Owners Association to implement policies and procedures to respond immediately to sanitary sewer overflows, clear the blockage in the sewer line and begin remediation.

7. **Jiho Song** – NOV #SW25-233/G4- For 1) failure to comply with the Order issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on November 6, 2024.

Case called. Environmental Health Specialist Jonathan Dalton was called and sworn in. EHS Dalton explained the process of his investigation of excessive solid waste at a residential property. EHS Dalton described photos from his initial site visit which included mattresses, trash, and miscellaneous solid waste. He explained that an Order was issued to the property owner to remove the solid waste, and upon his return to verify compliance with the Order additional solid waste including furniture, a table, boxes, and trash were present. EHS Dalton testified that because the Order had not been complied with, an NOV was issued to the property owner. EHS Dalton explained the violations and public health concerns. The photos, Order, and NOV were submitted as exhibits. After summation, Hearing Officer rendered decision. Hearing Officer Melton found Jiho Song in violation and imposed a penalty of \$1,000. Corrective action is ordered to remove and properly dispose of all solid waste on the property and provide SNHD with a written receipt showing proof of proper disposal within thirty (30) days.

C. NON-CONTESTED NOTICES OF VIOLATION:

 David Santalucia – NOV #SW25-250-/H3- For 1) operating a disposal site in Clark County, Nevada, without a permit issued by the Solid Waste Management Authority on or about October 4, 2024; and 2) placing, depositing or dumping or causing to be placed, deposited or dumped solid waste upon the property located at 7320 South Rainbow Boulevard, Clark County, Nevada on or about October 4, 2024.

SNHD and the respondent reached a compromised settlement of the case. The details of the agreement were stated on the record and approved and ordered by Hearing Officer Melton. Hearing Officer Melton found David Santalucia in violation of 2), and imposed an administrative penalty of \$500. A Cease and Desist order is issued to stop placing, depositing or dumping or causing to be placed, deposited or dumped solid waste upon property other than property designated or set aside for such purpose. Failure to comply will result in the original penalty of \$2,000 as initially sought in the Notice of Violation.

D. <u>NOTICES OF VIOLATION – FURTHER PROCEEDINGS:</u>

None.

IV. REPORT TO HEARING OFFICER

None

- V. Public Comment: None
- VI. ADJOURNMENT ADJOURNED BY THE HEARING OFFICER AT 12:11 P.M.