




BOARD MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 14, 2023
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Steve Cole 
Assistant General Manager
SUBJECT: September 13, 2023 Water Resources and Watershed Committee Meeting Recap Report

The Water Resources and Watershed Committee met at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at the Engineering Services Section (ESS) Boardroom located at 26521 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. In attendance were Committee Chair Piotr Orzechowski, Directors William Cooper, Dirk Marks and Gary Martin. Staff members present were Assistant Manager Steve Cole, Director of Water Resources Ali Elhassan, Senior Water Resources & Data Scientist Najwa Pitois, Executive Assistant Eunie Kang, and Information Technology Technician II Jonathan Thomas. And present virtually Water Resources Planner Sarah Fleury. A copy of the agenda is attached.

Item 2: Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Item 3.1: Review GoldSim Scenario Assessing Benefits of AVEK High Desert Water Banking Program – Najwa Pitois presented a framework of the GoldSim Water Resources integration reliability model with various scenarios and methodology. The Committee recommended a presentation of the GoldSim development and assessment at a future Board meeting.

Item 3.2: Status Update of Water Banking and Exchange Program – Sarah Fleury presented an overview of the recent status of water supplies, demands, and Department of Water Resources operations and position analysis.

Item 3.3: Water Resources Director's Report

Staff Activities – Ali Elhassan reported on the following:

- Continued partnership and collaboration with United Water Conservation District, Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, and Semitropic Water Storage District.
- Partnership with California Department of Fish and Wildlife on stewardship of the Upper Santa Clara River groundwater sustainability and habitat restoration.
- Staff attendance at the Groundwater Resources Association of California (GRA) Annual Western Groundwater Conference on September 13, 2023.

Additionally, Steve Cole provided the Committee an update on Bouquet Creek Restoration grant award and collaboration with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers correlated to watershed and Arundo removal.

Item 4: Committee Planning Calendar – Staff and the Committee reviewed the Planning Calendar.

The Committee went into Closed Session at 7:15 PM to discuss item 5.1.

Item 5: CLOSED SESSION

- 5.1 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Section 54956.8)
Property: Proposed Single Year Transfer(s) (Calendar Year 2023) of SCV Water Agency State Water Project Supply (up to 35,000 acre-feet total)
Agency Negotiators: Matthew G. Stone, Stephen L. Cole, Ali Elhassan, and Sarah Fleury
Negotiating Parties: Westside Water Authority, United Water Conservation District, and Semitropic Water Storage District
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

Chair Orzechowski reconvened the Open Session at 7:40 PM.

Item 6: CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS – Steve Cole reported that there were no actions taken in Closed Session that were reportable under the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Item 7: Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

The meeting recording is available on the SCV Water Agency website or by clicking the following link: [Water Resources and Watershed Committee Meeting Recording](#).

Attachment

M65



Date: September 6, 2023

To: **Water Resources and Watershed Committee**
Piotr Orzechowski, Chair
William Cooper
Dirk Marks
Gary Martin

From: Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager

The **Water Resources and Watershed Committee** meeting for **Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 5:30 PM at 26521 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 in the Engineering Services Section (ESS) Boardroom**. Members of the public may attend in person or virtually. To attend this meeting virtually, please see below.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

This meeting will be conducted in person at the address listed above. As a convenience to the public, members of the public may also participate virtually by using the **Agency's Call-In Number 1-833-568-8864, Webinar ID: 161 199 5288 or Zoom Webinar by clicking on the link <https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1611995288>**. Any member of the public may listen to the meeting or make comments to the Committee using the call-in number or Zoom Webinar link above. However, in the event there is a disruption of service which prevents the Agency from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using either the call-in option or internet-based service, this meeting will not be postponed or rescheduled but will continue without remote participation. The remote participation option is being provided as a convenience to the public and is not required. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting in person.

Attendees should be aware that while the Agency is following all applicable requirements and guidelines regarding COVID-19, the Agency cannot ensure the health of anyone attending a Committee meeting. Attendees should therefore use their own judgment with respect to protecting themselves from exposure to COVID-19.

Members of the public unable to attend this meeting may submit comments either in writing to ekang@scvwa.org or by mail to Eunie Kang, Executive Assistant, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. All written comments received before 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Committee members and posted on the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency website prior to the start of the meeting. Anything received after 4:00 PM the day of the meeting, will be made available at the meeting, if practicable, and will be posted on the SCV Water website the following day. All correspondence with comments, including letters or emails, will be posted in their entirety.

MEETING AGENDA

ITEM

PAGE

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
 2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Members of the public may comment as to items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Agency that are not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this Agenda may do so at the time each item is considered. Members of the public wishing to comment on item covered in Closed Session before they are considered by the Committee must request to make comment at the commencement of the meeting at 5:30 PM. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Committee Chair, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.)
 3. Water Resources Director's Report
 - 3.1 Review GoldSim Scenario Assessing Benefits of AVEK High Desert Water Banking Program
 - 3.2 Status Update on Water Banking and Exchange Program
 - 3.3 Staff Activities
 4. * Committee Planning Calendar 1
 5. **CLOSED SESSION**
 - 5.1 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Section 54956.8) Property: Proposed Single Year Transfer(s) (Calendar Year 2023) of SCV Water Agency State Water Project Supply (up to 35,000 acre-feet total)
Agency Negotiators: Matthew G. Stone, Stephen L. Cole, Ali Elhassan, and Sarah Fleury
Negotiating Parties: Westside Water Authority, United Water Conservation District, and Semitropic Water Storage District
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
 6. **CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 7. Adjournment
- * Indicates Attachment
◆ Indicates Handout

NOTICES:

Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Eunie Kang, Executive Assistant, at (661) 297-1600, or email to ekang@scvwa.org or by writing to Eunie Kang, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that Agency staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the Agency to provide the requested accommodation.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Committee less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's Internet Website, accessible at yourSCVwater.com.

Posted on September 6, 2023

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