

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – March 19, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency was held at Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 23780 Pine Street, Newhall, CA 91321 at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes. The meeting recording can be accessed by clicking on the following link: [Board Meeting Recording](#).

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kathye Armitage, Beth Braunstein, Ed Colley, William Cooper, Maria Gutzeit, Dirk Marks, Gary Martin, Piotr Orzechowski and Ken Petersen.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

Also present: Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Communications Manager Kevin Strauss, Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Alvord, Director of Water Resources Ali Elhassan, General Counsel Tom Bunn, Information Technology Supervisor Jeff Herbert, Information Technology Technician II Jonathan Thomas, as well as additional SCV Water Agency staff (Virtually), and members of the public (In Person and Virtually).

President Martin called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. A quorum was present.

There were no changes to the March 19, 2024 Board Agenda and it was accepted as shown (Item 4).

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Vice President Orzechowski and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar including Resolution No. SCV-415 by the following roll call votes (Item 5):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Yes
Director Petersen	Yes		

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-415

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING BY THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION’S FY 2024 WATERSMART WATER ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE AUTOMATED METER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – PHASE 2

[FULL RESOLUTION MAY BE VIEWED BY VISITING THE SCV WATER WEBSITE](#)

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Armitage and carried, the Board approved a 4% cost-of-living adjustment for FY 2024/25 for all employees except the General Manager by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Yes
Director Petersen	Yes		

Upon motion of Vice President Orzechowski, seconded by Director Marks and carried, the Board approved receiving and filing the December 2023 Monthly and Mid-Year Budget Review (FY 2023/24 Q2 Oct – Dec 2023) by the following roll call votes (Item 6.2):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Yes
Director Petersen	Yes		

General Manager’s Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 7).

The General Manager reported on the following:

He informed the Board that the SCV Water Laboratory received commendation from the State of California’s Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program for its implementation of the TNI Standard quality management system in February 2023 of last year, which was ahead of the required compliance date of January 1, 2024.

To hear the full comments, please refer to the Board recording by clicking the meeting recording link on the first page of these minutes or visiting the SCV Water Website.

Committee Meeting Recap Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 8).

There were no comments on the recap reports.

President’s Report (Item 9).

President Martin updated the Board on informational items and upcoming meetings and events.

AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 10).

There was one report submitted by President Martin and three written reports submitted by Director Marks which were emailed, posted to the website and are part of the record.

Director Cooper reported that he virtually attended the ACWA Region 8 meeting on March 14, 2024.

Director Marks reported that he virtually attended a One-on-One meeting with the General Manager on March 18, 2024.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

Director Reports (Item 11).

There were no Director reports.

Director Requests for Future Agenda Items (Item 12).

Director Colley requested that the Finance and Administration Committee discuss the best data to use for establishing cost-of-living adjustments. He would like to see this happen sometime during this summer prior to the budget season next year.

There were no other requests for future Agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 PM (Item 13).

Signature on File

April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

Signature on File

President of the Board



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