



SCV
WATER



SCV WATER AGENCY WATER RESOURCES AND WATERSHED COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021

START TIME: 5:30 PM (PST)

Join the Committee meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:
<https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1607833626>

-Or-

Listen in Toll Free by Phone at 1-(833)-568-8864
Webinar ID: 160 783 3626

To participate in public comment from your computer, tablet, or smartphone:

When the Chair announces the agenda item you wish to speak on, click the “**raise hand**” feature in **Zoom***. You will be notified when it is your turn to speak.

To participate in public comment via phone:

When the Chair announces the agenda item you wish to speak on, **dial *9 to raise your hand**. Phone participants will be called on by the **LAST TWO digits** of their phone number. **When it is your turn to speak, dial *6 to unmute**. When you are finished with your public comment dial ***6 to mute**.

Can't attend? If you wish to still have your comments/concerns addressed by the Committee, all written public comments can be submitted by 4:00 PM the day of the meeting by either e-mail or mail.** Please send all written comments to Cheryl Fowler. Refer to the Committee Agenda for more information.

*For more information on how to use Zoom go to support.zoom.us or for “raise hand” feature instructions, visit <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/205566129-Raise-Hand-In-Webinar>

**All written comments received after 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be posted to yourscvwater.com the next day. Public comments can also be heard the night of the meeting.


Disclaimer: Pursuant to the Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Newsom, public may not attend meetings in person. Public may use the above methods to attend and participate in the public meetings.

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Date: March 3, 2021

To: **Water Resources and Watershed Committee**
Jeff Ford, Chair
B.J. Atkins
Edward Colley
William Cooper
E.G. "Jerry" Gladbach

From: Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager 

The **Water Resources and Watershed Committee** is scheduled to meet via teleconference on **Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 5:30 PM**, call-in information is listed below.

**TELECONFERENCE ONLY
NO PHYSICAL LOCATION FOR MEETING**

TELECONFERENCING NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 17, 2020, any Director may call into an Agency Committee meeting using the Agency's **Call-In Number 1-(833)-568-8864, Webinar ID: 160 783 3626** **or Zoom Webinar by clicking on the link <https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1607833626>** without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconferencing requirements.

Pursuant to the above Executive Order, the public may not attend the meeting in person. 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. Please see the notice below if you have a disability and require an accommodation in order to participate in the meeting.

We request that the public submit any comments in writing if practicable, which can be sent to cfowler@scvwa.org or mailed to Cheryl Fowler, Management Analyst II, 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 meeting. Anything received after 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be posted on the SCV Water website the following day.

MEETING AGENDA

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>PAGE</u>
1.	Public Comments – Members of the public may comment as to items not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this Agenda may do so now or at the time each item is considered. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Committee Chair, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.)	
2. *	Recommend Authorizing General Manager to Execute an Amendment Extending the Term of the Recycled Water Purchase Agreement with the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District	5
3.	Water Resilience Initiative Planning	
4.	Water Resources Director’s Report	
	4.1 Update on Urban Water Management Plan	
	4.2 Status of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation	
	4.3 Staff Activities	
5.	Sustainability Manager’s Report	
* 5.1	Update on Conservation Activities & Performance	7
5.2	Water Conservatory Garden and Education Experience: Site Design Check-In	
6. *	Committee Planning Calendar	11
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 Cheryl Fowler, Management Analyst II at (661) 297-1600 Ext 260, or in writing to Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, 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 <http://www.yourscvwater.com>.

Posted on March 3, 2021.

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COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 18, 2021

TO: Water Resources and Watershed Committee

FROM: Dirk Marks *DM*
Director of Water Resources

SUBJECT: Authorize the General Manager to Execute an Amendment Extending the Term of the Recycled Water Purchase Agreement with the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District

SUMMARY

SCV Water staff has negotiated a five-year extension of its existing contract with the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District (SCVSD) for the purchase of recycled water. Under the extension, pricing will be subject to a Consumer Price Index adjustment.

DISCUSSION

The existing July 24, 1996 recycled water purchase agreement incorporated a term of 25 years. It was entered into by one of SCVWA's predecessor agencies, Castaic Lake Water Agency as well as SCVSD predecessor agencies County Sanitation Districts Nos. 26 and 32. The amendment would update the participants' information as well as extend the term by five years through July 24, 2026. The pricing for recycled water will be fixed at the current rate of \$167 per acre-foot, subject to Cost of Living Index adjustment that would be capped at a maximum of 5% per year. The amendment also identifies SCVWA as the exclusive purchaser of recycled water from SCVSD.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The operating budget contains funds for anticipated recycled water purchases under this agreement.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (CEQA) COMPLIANCE

Execution of the contract amendment would be exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Section 15061(b)(3), the common-sense exemption, as well as, alternatively, Section 15301, as the amendment does not alter the quantity of recycled water provided for under the contract and does not authorize any construction or expansion of new or existing facilities.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Water Resources and Watershed Committee recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to Execute an amendment extending the term of the Agreement with the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District.

MGS

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COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 3, 2021
TO: Water Resources and Watershed Committee
FROM: Matthew S. Dickens, MPA *MSD*
Sustainability Manager
SUBJECT: Update on Conservation Activities and Performance

SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

Status of Conservation Projects

Department of Water Resources – Landscape Area Measurement Evaluation

In advance of implementation of the Conservation Long-term Framework (AB 1668 and SB 606), the Department of Water Resources (DWR) provided water suppliers with landscape area measurements for residential parcels in January and February 2021. The Landscape Area Measurements are a key component to determining the annual Urban Water Use Objectives for residential landscape beginning in 2022. In response, staff formed a workgroup with GIS and Water resources to coordinate evaluation and validation of the provided data. Initially, DWR requested feedback and comments by March 1, 2021. However, due to the volume of analysis, i.e. statewide review, DWR extended the comment period to mid-April 2021. In addition to the internal analysis conducted by the workgroup, staff has coordinated with ACWA and other industry partners to compare findings and develop a coordinated response when and where applicable. The workgroup expects to continue its evaluation work and will prepare a response to DWR in April 2021.

AB 1668 & SB 606 – Implementation Workgroups

In addition to the Landscape Area Measurement process previously described, staff continues to work with DWR on methodologies and standards for use in the Conservation Long-term Framework. Recently, staff participated in DWR workgroups to assess variances and efficient water needs for urban landscapes. Regarding variances, DWR intends to provide opportunities for agencies to modify their Urban Water Use Objectives when specific needs beyond the primary components have been identified. Variances could include evaporative coolers, livestock, seasonal populations, high salinity for recycled water, soil compaction, ponds and lakes, fire protection, and significant use for gardens (food crops). Regarding efficient water needs for residential landscapes, DWR segregated parcels into three (3) categories: Not Irrigated (NI), Irrigable Irrigated (II), and Irrigable Not Irrigated (INI) areas. DWR is developing water efficient standards for II areas and a process to include INI in the annual objective. The methodologies and efficient water use standards are expected to be finalized by October 2021.

Lawn Replacement Program Evaluation

SCV Water's Lawn Replacement Program (LRP) was introduced during California's most recent drought in 2013 with the goal of providing customers with incentives to convert their turf grass lawns to water efficient plants with efficient irrigation equipment. During the peak of the drought, there was high customer participation in the program, but participation slowly declined after the drought ended. Considering decreasing program participation and in light of future water use efficiency requirements (AB 1686 and SB 606 – Conservation Long-Term Framework) Conservation identified a need to revamp, rebrand, and modify the current LRP in order to create a standing program that incentivizes customers to participate, even when a drought has not been declared. SCV Water partnered with a consultant to perform a thorough analysis on other agency LRPs to compare to SCV Water's current LRP and supporting resources, including the "30 Hottest Plant Guide." Interviews with local nurseries and contractors were conducted to address challenges and opportunities in the supply chain, and SCV Water customers were surveyed to gain insight on customer needs and interest in the program.

During the February 18, 2021 Public Outreach and Legislation Committee meeting, staff presented an overview of SCV Water's current Lawn Replacement Program, the comprehensive LRP analysis, identified findings and recommendations, and Conservation's proposed vision for the new LRP. Members of the Committee and public provided comments on the evaluation and recommendations ranging from increased community collaboration, expanded use of native plants, and continued assessment of the existing program. Staff, with external consultant support, is finalizing the evaluation and will provide a comprehensive report, logic model, action plan, and performance measurement and management framework for Committee and Board consideration. The finalized report is expected to be completed by June 2021.

Status of Sustainability Projects

Sustainability & Climate Action Plan

Following the adoption of SCV Waters' Five (5) Year Strategic Plan in 2018, staff initiated efforts to assess, design, and develop a sustainability framework in support of salient strategic goals. To date, such efforts included collaboration with USC's Sol Price School of Public Policy to identify sustainable smart practices, the designation of a cross-agency Green Team, a first year Sustainable Action Plan, and evaluation of water industry sustainability measures (American Water Works Association). However, these efforts were temporarily paused due to COVID safe-at-home working protocols. In February 2021, the Green Team reconvened to discuss sustainability elements resulting from COVID-related impacts, establish its 2021 quarterly meeting schedule, and review a proposal to develop SCV Waters' Sustainability & Climate Action Plan (Plan). The proposal would include development of the Plan, a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory, GHG Forecasting, GHG Target Setting, Analysis of Reduction Measures, Stakeholder Engagement, access to tools to track and monitor performance, and support for annual reporting. Staff will provide an overview of work conducted to date and planning support recommendations to the Committee in April 2021.

Status of Special Projects

Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Shortage Ordinance

Conservation staff, with support from A&N Technical Services, continue to work on the draft Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP), and with support of BBK, is developing the Water Shortage Ordinance (WSO). Both draft documents are expected to be released on March 12, 2021 for a 30-day public comment period. Following conclusion of the public comment process, staff will present findings and recommendations to the Water Resources and Watershed Committee at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 14, 2021. The final WSCP and WSO are scheduled for public hearing and adoption by the SCV Water Board of Directors at its special meeting on April 26, 2021. Pursuant to adoption by the SCV Water Board of Directors, the WSCP, and supplemental documents, will be attached the Urban Water Management Plan for submittal to the Department of Water Resources.

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**Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Water Resources & Watershed Committee and Board Calendar**

**ITEM NO.
6**

FY 2020/21

	Item	Jul 7 Board	Jul 8 Comm	Jul 21 Board	Aug 4 Board	Aug 12 Comm	Aug 18 Board	Sep 1 Board	Sep 9 Comm	Sep 15 Board	Oct 6 Board	Oct 14 Comm	Nov 4 Board <i>Rescheduled</i>	Nov 12 Comm <i>Rescheduled</i>	Nov 17 Board	Dec 1 Board	Dec 9 Comm	Jan 5 Board	Jan 13 Comm	Jan 19 Board	Feb 10 Comm	Feb 16 Board	Mar 2 Board	Mar 10 Comm	Mar 16 Board	Apr 6 Board	Apr 14 Comm	Apr 20 Board	April 26 Board <i>SPECIAL</i>	May 4 Board	May 12 Comm	May 27 BOD <i>SPECIAL</i>	Jun 1 Board	Jun 9 Comm	
26	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Issue a Work Authorization to Kennedy Jenks, Inc. for Preparation of the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan		C		C																														
27	Recommend Approving a Resolution Adopting the SCV Water Grant Policy and Procedure Manual		C				C																												
28	Devil's Den Semi-Annual Report		C																		C														
29	Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Apply for Grant Funding Under the WaterSmart Drought Response Program and Execute a Grant Agreement with the Federal Bureau of Reclamation				C																														
30	Update on Recycled Water Purple PREP					C																													
31	Update on Education Garden State Water Project Exhibit					C																													
32	Recommend Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Amend the GSI Water Solutions, Inc. Contract for Field Investigation of Potential Recharge Sites								C		C																								
33	Update on State Water Project Matters								C																										
34	Recommend Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Execute Amendment No. 6 to the Agreement for the Supply and Conveyance of Water by the Department of Water Resources of the State of California to the Participating State Water Project Contractors Under the Dry Year Water Purchase Program								C	C																									
35	Recommend Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Amend the GSI Water Solutions, Inc. Contract for Development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan on Behalf of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA)											C	C																						
36	Recommend Approval of Resolution Adopting CEQA Findings for State Water Project Water Management Tools and Authorizing the General Manager to Execute a Contract Amendment for the State Water Project Water Management Tools											C			C																				
37	Recommend Adopting a Resolution Authorizing General Manager to Enter into a Cost Sharing Agreement for Planning Activities for a Delta Conveyance Facility and Authorize SCV Water's Membership in the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority											C			C																				
38	Status of Watershed Recharge Feasibility Study													C							C														
39	Status of Water Shortage Contingency Plan															C					C														
40	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Implement the Purple PREP Pilot for Recycled Water Onsite Conversion Support															C							C												
41	Status of Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update															C																			
42	CLOSED SESSION: Real Property Negotiations																		C																
43	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Exedute an Construction Contract for Bridgeport Pocket Park - TBD																																		
44	Review of Water Management Options to Enhance Reliability			C																															

**Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Water Resources & Watershed Committee and Board Calendar**

**ITEM NO.
6**

FY 2020/21

	Item	Jul 7 Board	Jul 8 Comm	Jul 21 Board	Aug 4 Board	Aug 12 Comm	Aug 18 Board	Sep 1 Board	Sep 9 Comm	Sep 15 Board	Oct 6 Board	Oct 14 Comm	Nov 4 Board <i>Rescheduled</i>	Nov 12 Comm <i>Rescheduled</i>	Nov 17 Board	Dec 1 Board	Dec 9 Comm	Jan 5 Board	Jan 13 Comm	Jan 19 Board	Feb 10 Comm	Feb 16 Board	Mar 2 Board	Mar 10 Comm	Mar 16 Board	Apr 6 Board	Apr 14 Comm	Apr 20 Board	April 26 Board <i>SPECIAL</i>	May 4 Board	May 12 Comm	May 27 BOD <i>SPECIAL</i>	Jun 1 Board	Jun 9 Comm	
45	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Amendment to the Reservoir Agreement for Sites Reservoir to Fund Necessary Planning Costs			C																															

P = Planned
C = Completed
CNL = Cancelled
CNT = Continued Item