

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – November 21, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency was held at Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, November 21, 2023. 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, Dirk Marks, Gary Martin and Ken Petersen.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Maria Gutzeit and Piotr Orzechowski.

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 Water Resources Ali Elhassan, General Counsel Joe Byrne, General Manager Matthew Stone, Information Technology Technician II Jonathan Thomas, Attorneys from Nossaman, LLP Fred Fudacz and Byron Gee (Virtually) and Attorney from Cossich Sumich Parsiola & Taylor, LLC Brandon Taylor (Virtually), 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 November 21, 2023 Board Agenda and it was accepted as shown (Item 4).

Upon motion of Director Marks, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board pulled Item 5.3 for further discussion and approved the remaining items on the Consent Calendar including Resolution No. SCV-393 by the following roll call votes (Item 5):

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

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-393

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
AUTHORIZING THE GRANT APPLICATION, ACCEPTANCE, AND EXECUTION
OF A FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE NEWHALL WELLS (N11, N12, N13)
GROUNDWATER TREATMENT IMPROVEMENTS**

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

Upon motion of Director Armitage, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board pursuant to the previously adopted addendum to the adopted 2005 Groundwater Containment, Treatment, and Restoration Project MND and MMRP, approved Resolution SCV-394 authorizing a purchase order to Lee & Ro, Inc for an amount not-to-exceed \$600,000 for planning and final design services for Wells 206 and 207 Groundwater Treatment Improvements Project with the potential addition of certain exemption language related to CEQA planning and design, subject to legal review by General Counsel, by the following roll call votes (Item 5.3):

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

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-394

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
APPROVING, PURSUANT TO A PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED ADDENDUM TO THE ADOPTED
2005 GROUNDWATER CONTAINMENT, TREATMENT, AND RESTORATION PROJECT
MND AND MMRP, A PURCHASE ORDER TO LEE & RO, INC FOR PLANNING AND FINAL
DESIGN SERVICES FOR WELLS 206 AND 207 GROUNDWATER TREATMENT
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

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

General Manager's Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 6).

The General Manager reported on the following:

He mentioned next week's ACWA Conference and the opportunity (as a separate event) for the Directors and staff to get a briefing on the Delta Conveyance Project. He informed the Board that two of the SCV Water Board members and a few staff are planning to attend. He advised the Board, that if additional Directors would like to attend, to please let the Board Secretary know so there is no quorum issue.

He then gave an update on water supplies relating to current year banking and transfer activities. He mentioned that a presentation on this item was given to the Water Resources and Watershed Committee and that Committee asked the General Manager to present this information to the full Board.

Lastly, he thanked the Board for their feedback on his annual performance review that he received this past week from the Board officers and the consultants who facilitated the General Manager's review.

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 Report for Informational Purposes Only (Item 7).

There were no comments on the recap report.

President's Report (Item 8).

President Martin updated the Board on upcoming meetings and events.

AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 9).

Written reports were submitted by Director Marks and were included in the Board packet.

President Martin reported that he virtually attended the monthly meeting with DCA Executive Director Graham Bradner on November 15, 2023 and attended the final Water Academy Session held at the RVWTP on November 18, 2023.

Director Cooper reported that he virtually attended the evaluation meeting of the ACWA Executive Director on November 13, 2023 and attended the ACWA Board meeting in Sacramento on November 16 and 17, 2023.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

Director Reports (Item 10).

Director Armitage wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

President Martin updated the Board on the November 14, 2023 Ad Hoc Committee on Remodeling the Boardroom. He mentioned that the Ad Hoc Committee consisted of Vice Presidents Gutzeit and Orzechowski, Director Cooper and himself. He stated that this item will be coming to the December 5, 2023 regular Board meeting for consideration to move forward with a Request for Proposals on a Boardroom remodel.

There were no other Director reports.

The Board went into Closed Session at 6:26 PM to discuss Item 11.1:

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9), Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency v. 3M Company, et. al., Case No: 2:20-cv-3771-RMG

The Zoom meeting was put on hold while the Board went into Closed Session. President Martin advised the public and staff for those who wanted to stay, to remain on the current

November 21, 2023

Page 4 of 4

teleconference line and once Closed Session ends, the Board would reconvene for Closed Session announcements and the conclusion of the meeting.

President Martin reconvened the Open Session at 8:34 PM. Joe Byrne, Esq., reported that there were no actions taken in Closed Session that were reportable under the Ralph M. Brown Act (Item 12).

Director Requests For Future Agenda Items (Item 13).

There were no requests for future Agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM (Item 14).

Signature on File

April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

Signature on File

President of the Board

