

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-117

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH
ROBERT D. NIEHAUS, INC. (RDN) AS THE RATEPAYER ADVOCATE**

WHEREAS, Section 14(3)(b) of Senate Bill 634 (Chapter No. 833, 2017), the bill creating the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (the "Agency"), required the Agency to develop a rate-setting process that includes an independent ratepayer advocate; and

WHEREAS, the ratepayer advocate is to advise the Board of Directors and provide information to the public before the adoption of new wholesale and retail water service rates and charges; and

WHEREAS, the ratepayer advocate shall be selected by and report directly to the Board of Directors and shall be independent from Agency staff and advocate on behalf of customers within the Agency's boundaries to the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the ratepayer advocate shall have access to all pertinent Agency documents and information to independently advise the Board of Directors and inform the public; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors shall develop and adopt any necessary rules and procedures to further define the role of the ratepayer advocate; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors may not eliminate the ratepayer advocate role before January 1, 2023 and may only do so after that time by a four-fifths vote of the Board of Directors; and

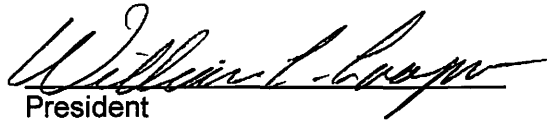
WHEREAS, the ratepayer advocate proposals were scored in four functional areas: (1) clarity of proposed scope of work, (2) clarity and scope of communication/outreach, (3) relevant experience and (4) cost; and

WHEREAS, the Finance and Administration Committee reviewed interested candidates' proposals to serve as ratepayer advocate and recommended the selection of Robert D. Niehaus, Inc. (RDN); and

WHEREAS, the recommended agrees that it presently has no interest, and covenants that will not acquire any interests, direct or indirect, financial or otherwise, that would conflict with the performance of the duties of the ratepayer advocate; and

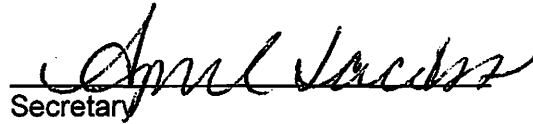
WHEREAS, the Board finds that, after considering the recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee, RDN offers services that meets Agency needs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency does authorize the General Manager to execute a contract in the amount not to exceed \$94,915 with RDN for ratepayer advocate services.


President

I, the undersigned, hereby certify: That I am the duly appointed and acting Secretary of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, and that at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency held on August 6, 2019, the foregoing Resolution No. SCV-117 was duly and regularly adopted by said Board, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended since the date of its adoption, and that it is now in full force and effect.

DATED: August 6, 2019


Secretary

