

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – August 2, 2022

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, August 2, 2022. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kathy Armitage, Beth Braunstein, Ed Colley (Via Zoom), William Cooper, Jeff Ford, Maria Gutzeit, R. J. Kelly, Gary Martin, Piotr Orzechowski and Lynne Plambeck.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

Also present: Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Controller Amy Aguer, Director of Technology Cris Perez, General Counsel Joe Byrne and Tom Bunn, General Manager Matthew Stone, Information Technology Technician I Jonathan Thomas, Interim Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson, Principal Engineer Jason Yim, Right of Way Agent Kristina Jacob, as well as additional SCV Water Agency staff and members of the public.

President Martin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. A quorum was present.

President Martin announced that Item 12 Closed Session and Item 13 Closed Session Announcements would be pulled from tonight’s Agenda. There were no other changes to the August 2, 2022 Board Agenda and it was accepted with those changes (Item 4).

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Ford and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar which included Resolution Nos. SCV-291, SCV- 292, SCV-293, SCV-294, SCV-295 and SCV 296 by the following roll call votes (Item 5):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Vice President Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-291

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE ORDER TO KENNEDY JENKS
FOR INSPECTION PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE
CASTAIC CONDUIT PIPELINE REACHES 3 & 4 PROJECT**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-080222-Resolution-SCV-291.pdf>

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-292

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTING THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FOR THE WELL 205 GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PROJECT

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-080222-Resolution-SCV-292.pdf>

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-293

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE ORDER TO KENNEDY/JENKS CONSULTANTS FOR FINAL DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE WELL 205 GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PROJECT

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-080222-Resolution-SCV-293.pdf>

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-294

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY AUTHORIZING WATER SUPPLY CONTRACT PAYMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/23

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-080222-Resolution-SCV-294.pdf>

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-295

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY IN SUPPORT OF INCLUSIVE COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-080222-Resolution-SCV-295-.pdf>

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-296

JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT, AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT, THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, THE ANTELOPE VALLEY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT, AND THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY, APPROVING AND ACCEPTING THE NEGOTIATED EXCHANGE OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUE RESULTING FROM THE ANNEXATION OF

TERRITORY KNOWN AS REORGANIZATION 2020-01 (TESORO DEL VALLE) TO THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA, DETACHMENT FROM COUNTY ROAD DISTRICT NO. 5, AND WITHDRAWAL FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY, AND TRANSFER BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE COUNTY OF CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS, FACILITIES, ASSESSMENTS, AND OTHER RELATED ITEMS

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-080222-Resolution-SCV-296.pdf>

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Gutzeit and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-297 authorizing a purchase order to Hazen & Sawyer for an amount not to exceed \$1,525,000 for planning services for the Master Plan project by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

Director Armitage	No	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Vice President Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-297

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE ORDER TO
HAZEN & SAWYER FOR THE
MASTER PLAN PROJECT**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-080222-Resolution-SCV-297.pdf>

Upon motion of Director Gutzeit, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board (1) found that the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA under State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15301; (2) found that the exceptions to the categorical exemption contained in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 are inapplicable to the proposed project; (3) approved Resolution SCV- 298 executing Amendment No. 4 to the Ground Lease by and between the City of Santa Clarita and SCV Water relative to Central Park with the addition of language to Item 11.03 of the contract that makes it clear that, if requested by the City, small commemorative signs on park related equipment and fixtures, including benches, are allowed with the approval of the SCV Water General Manager; and (4) directed staff to file a Notice of Exemption within five (5) working days of approval, by the following roll call votes (Item 6.2):

Director Armitage	No	Director Braunstein	No
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Vice President Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

RESOLUTION NO. 298

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO THE GROUND LEASE WITH
THE CITY OF SANTA CLARITA RELATIVE TO CENTRAL PARK AND MAKING FINDINGS
THAT THE LEASE IS EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-080222-Resolution-SCV-298.pdf>

Director Kelly made a motion, seconded by Director Gutzeit, to direct staff to begin the appointment process for the Division 2 seat (Item 6.3).

Director Plambeck, seconded by Vice President Orzechowski made an amended motion to have the General Manager contact Supervisor Barger's office and see if she would be willing to commit to not appointing anyone to the Division 2 Seat and allow the voters to choose their representative in the November 2022 General Election. If she would agree then the SCV Water Board would not appoint, however if staff does not hear back within a week from tonight or Supervisor Barger does not agree, then staff would move forward with the appointment process.

Director Colley, seconded by Director Braunstein, moved to table the discussion and possible action regarding the vacant Division 2 Board seat. This motion failed by a vote of 5 Yes's and 5 No's as shown below (majority vote needed to pass this item was 6) (Item 6.3):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	No
Director Ford	No	Director Gutzeit	No
Director Kelly	No	President Martin	Yes
Vice President Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	No

Director Plambeck's motion to amend failed by a vote of 4 Yes's and 6 No's as shown below (majority vote needed to pass this item was 6) (item 6.3):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	No
Director Colley	No	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	No	Director Gutzeit	No
Director Kelly	No	President Martin	No
Vice President Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

Director Kelly's original motion to direct staff to begin the appointment process for the Division 2 seat failed by 4 Yes's and 6 No's as shown below (majority vote needed to pass this item was 6) (Item 6.3):

Director Armitage	No	Director Braunstein	No
Director Colley	No	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	No
Vice President Orzechowski	No	Director Plambeck	No

General Counsel Joe Byrne gave an informational presentation on the Surplus Land Act (Item 7).

General Counsel Joe Byrne discussed the Devils Den Water District Board of Directors vacancy and the process to fill it (Item 8).

General Manager’s Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 9).

Assistant General Manager Steve Cole reported the following past watermain breaks.

- On Monday, January 10, 2022 at approximately 3:30 PM, an 8” section of mainline started leaking in front of North Park Elementary School. Staff isolated the leak quickly and was able to avoid disruption at the school. However, approximately 33 homes and the school were out of water for approximately 5 hours. The mainline was repaired and service restored at approximately 8:00 PM.
- On Thursday, June 23, 2022 at approximately 3:45 PM, a 14” section of mainline ruptured at the intersection of Steinbeck Ave and The Old Road. Staff isolated the leak and minimized customer service outages to only a few fire services. The Fire Department was contacted as a precaution for Fire Watch. The mainline was repaired and service was restored by approximately 4:30 AM, Friday June 24, 2022.
- On Friday, July 15, 2022, at approximately 6:00 PM, a 14” section of mainline ruptured on Decoro Drive just West of the intersection with Dickason Drive. Staff quickly isolated the leak. The driver of one vehicle proceeded through the intersection and slipped into the sinkhole that was caused by the break, but according to the fire department there were no injuries. Valencia High School was initially out of water; however, the school was not in session. Staff was shortly able to return service to the school. Staff worked on repairing the mainline throughout the night and into the afternoon of July 16, 2022.

Committee Meeting Recap Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 10).

There were no comments on the recap reports.

Written Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 11).

Director Armitage had a comment on the Water Resources and Outreach Section report pertaining to the “Top 100 SCV Friendly Plant Guide”.

There were no other comments on the the written reports.

President's Report (Item 12).

The President deferred his report due to the lateness of the meeting.

AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 13).

Written reports were submitted by Director Plambeck which were posted on the SCV Water website and are part of the record.

Director Cooper reported that he attended virtually the ACWA Groundwater Committee meeting on July 26, 2022 and the the Water Quality Committee meeting on July 27, 2022 and attending the ACWA Board Workshop held in Sacramento on July 28, 2022 and the ACWA Board meeting held in Sacramento on July 29, 2022.

Director Kelly reported that he attended the VIA Cocktails and Conversation: An Evening with the Honorable Mike Garcia held at the El Trocadero in Newhall on July 25, 2022.

Director Armitage reported that she attended virtually the ACWA Water Quality Committee meeting held on July 27, 2022.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

Director Reports (Item 14).

There were Director reports given by Director Armitage and Director Cooper, to hear the full report please refer to the Board recording at https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Board_Recording_080222.mp3.

There were no other Director Reports.

Items 15 and 16 were not discussed.

Director Requests for Approval for Event Attendance (Item 17).

There was one request for approval for event attendance which was thought to be an ACWA Event and on the pre-approved list. The requested event for attendance, that was made by Vice President Orzechowski was not an ACWA Event as stated but an event put on by CA Data Collaborative, After the meeting President Martin approved the attendance of this event for Vice President Orzechowski.

The meeting was adjourned in memory of Sally Hill at 9:30 PM (Item 18).


April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:


President of the Board

