

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – May 17, 2022

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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, May 17, 2022. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kathye Armitage, B. J. Atkins (Arrived at 6:01 PM), Beth Braunstein, Ed Colley, William Cooper, Jeff Ford, Maria Gutzeit, R. J. Kelly (Arrived at 6:10 PM), Gary Martin, Piotr Orzechowski and Lynne Plambeck.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Jerry Gladbach.

Also present: Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Eric Campbell, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Controller Amy Aguer, Director of Finance and Administration Rochelle Patterson, Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Alvord, Director of Technology Services Cris Perez, General Counsel Joe Byrne, General Manager Matthew Stone, Interim Director of Water Resources Dirk Marks, Senior Information Technology Technician Emmanuel Adinkra, Senior Management Analyst Kim Grass, Water Resources Planner Sarah Fleury, 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 5.2 would be moved to the June 7, 2022 regular Board meeting to allow for full Board participation and Item 12.2 Closed Session related to Whittaker Corporation would be pulled. There were no other changes to the May 17, 2022 regular Board meeting Agenda and it was accepted with those changes. (Item 4).

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The Ceremonial Oath of Office was given to Director Gutzeit and she took her seat (Item 5.1).

Item 5.2 Election of Second Vice President was pulled and will be put on the June 7, 2022 Board Agenda.

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Upon motion of Director Plambeck, seconded by Director Colley and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar with the following change:

April 26, 2022 meeting minutes under General Managers Report Item 8, 7<sup>th</sup> paragraph down, 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence to say "This includes one well that was part of the former Newhall County Water District."

by the following roll call votes (Item 6):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	Director Colley	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Ford	Abstain

Vice President Gladbach	Absent	Director Gutzeit	Abstain
Director Kelly	Abstain	President Martin	Yes
Director Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

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Upon motion of Director Gutzeit, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, the Board authorized, pursuant to exemption under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the General Manager to enter into a Short-Term Water Exchange Agreement with Irvine Ranch Water District as described in Exhibit A of the staff report by the following roll call votes (Item 7.1):

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

Upon motion of Director Kelly, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-276 revising the FY 2022/23 Budget by the following roll call votes (Item 7.2):

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

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 276**

#### **RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS REVISING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022/23**

**<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-051722-Resolution-SCV-276.pdf>**

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Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie gave a presentation on the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (Item 8).

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#### **General Manager's Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 9).**

The General Manager reported the following:

He mentioned that earlier this month, Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Chief Engineer Courtney Meal and himself along with representatives from the City hosted a site tour with

Senator Feinstein's Field Representative Marco Enriquez. Tour sites included the Cemex Area, Arundo and the Valleys' PFAS Treatment Facilities. Staff provided a briefing on PFAS and the larger challenges related to that issue.

He informed the Board that he attended the ACWA 2022 Spring Conference and gave a brief report on his attendance.

He then updated the Board on the May 10, 2022 SCV Water Virtual Drought Forum which covered the following topics:

- 411 on statewide and regional extreme drought conditions and forecast
- How SCV Water plans for water supply in wet and dry years
- What we can do together to save water
- Live Q & A session

Lastly, he thanked and acknowledged the team for all their hard work in getting the recent Meter Grant that was mentioned earlier this evening by Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Alvord. He ended by noting that we may be applying for another grant through WaterSMART next year.

The full General Manager's report can be heard at [https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Board\\_Recording\\_051722-Part-1.mp3](https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Board_Recording_051722-Part-1.mp3).

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#### **President's Report (Item 10).**

The President updated the Board on upcoming meetings, events and Board reminders.

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#### **AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 11).**

Written reports were submitted by Directors Armitage, Ford and Plambeck which were included in the Board packet. Additional written reports were submitted by President Martin and Director Armitage which were posted on the SCV Water website and are part of the record.

Director Armitage reported that she attended a virtual one-on-one meeting with General Manager Stone on May 10, 2022 and attended the virtual Special Districts Association of North Los Angeles County Executive Board meeting (a written report was also submitted) on April 27, 2022.

Director Braunstein stated that she did not have a written report to submit at this time but did attend the ACWA 2022 Spring Conference held in Sacramento on May 3-5, 2022.

Director Kelly reported that he attended the ACWA 2022 Spring Conference held in Sacramento on May 3-5, 2022.

Director Atkins reported that he attended the ACWA 2022 Spring Conference held in Sacramento on May 3-5, 2022.

Director Cooper reported that he attended the ACWA 2022 Spring Conference held in Sacramento on May 3-5, 2022.

Director Orzechowski reported that he attended the SCV Water Virtual Drought Forum on May 10, 2022 and attended the virtual Innovative Technologies for Decentralized and Small Systems hosted by the Water Research Foundation on May 10, 2022.

Director Orzechowski also reported, as a Directors report, that he had volunteered at the LA County Department of Parks and Recreation in collaboration with Friends of Castaic Lake; Fishing and Fun for Kids Day held at Castaic Lake on May 7, 2022.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

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The Board went into Closed Session at 8:34 PM to discuss Items 12.1 and 12.2 (Item 12).

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 stay on the current teleconference line and once Closed Session has ended, the Board would reconvene for Closed Session announcements and the conclusion of the meeting.

President Martin reconvened the Open Session at 8:50 PM.

Joe Byrne, Esq., reported that regarding Item 12.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9, Claim of Thomas Overstreet, against Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, Claim for Property Damage, Date of Claim March 4, 2022, the Board unanimously voted to reject the claim and submit it to the Agency's Joint Powers Insurance Authority, upon motion of Director Colley, seconded by Director Kelly and carried, by the following roll call votes:

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

There were no other actions taken in Closed Session that were reportable under the Ralph M. Brown Act (Item 13).

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#### **Director Requests for Future Agenda Items (Item 14).**

Director Braunstein requested that she receive more information on recycled water and/or our recycled water program. She would also like to know how we can expand it and what the plans are for the future.

In addition, she wants to learn more about our connection with the city and how we can improve it in terms of development and other issues, as we don't authorize development but must be able to provide water. She wants to know a little bit more about that relationship, interaction between the two, and how we might be able to improve it.

Director Kelly would like an update on Central Park and the activities that are taking place.

Director Atkins wants an update, when ready, on Bouquet Creek pertaining to the Steering Committee selection, grant funding and definition of the project.

There were no other requests for future Agenda items.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM (Item 15).

  
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April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

  
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President of the Board

