

Minutes of the Adjourned Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – September 28, 2021

An adjourned meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency was held via teleconference at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, September 28, 2021. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kathy Armitage, B. J. Atkins, Ed Colley, William Cooper, Jeff Ford, Jerry Gladbach, R. J. Kelly, Gary Martin, Dan Mortensen, Piotr Orzechowski and Lynne Plambeck via teleconference.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Beth Braunstein.

Also present via teleconference: General Manager Matthew Stone, General Counsels Tom Bunn and Joe Byrne, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Director of Finance and Administration Rochelle Patterson, Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Alvord, Director of Technology Services Cris Perez, Director of Water Resources Dirk Marks, Controller Amy Aguer, Communications Manager Kathie Martin, Customer Service Manager Kathleen Willson, GIS Manager Jose Huerta, Human Resources Manager Ari Mantis, Water Systems Supervisor Gil Hermosillo, Principal Engineers Brent Payne and Jason Yim, Associate Engineer Elizabeth Sobczak, Water Resources Planner Rick Vasilopoulos, Senior Management Analyst Kim Grass, Management Analyst II Cheryl Fowler, Management Analyst I Liza Moncada, Financial Analyst Darine Conner, Executive Assistant Leticia Quintero, Administrative Technician Terri Bell, Accounting Tech II Kyle Arnold, Best Best and Krieger Attorney Lutfi Kharuf, and members of the public.

President Martin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. A quorum was present.

Upon motion of Director Atkins, seconded by Vice President Mortensen and carried, the Board approved the Agenda by the following roll call votes (Item 4):

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

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Plambeck and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar by the following roll call votes (Item 5):

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

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Ford and carried, the Board authorized the General Manager to enter into a contract with R.C. Becker in the amount of \$301,000 for the Decoro Drive Pavement Repair project by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

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

Upon motion of Director Plambeck, seconded by Director Armitage and carried, the Board approved the Flexible Workplace Program, Employee Manual Policy No. 40 by the following roll call votes (Item 6.2):

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

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, the Board approved the extension of SB 95 COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave and Emergency Administrative Leave Policy through the latter of December 31, 2021 or any extension of SB 95 by the State of California by the following roll call votes (Item 6.3):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Not Present
Director Braunstein	Absent	Director Colley	No
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Mortensen	No
Director Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

Upon motion of Director Armitage, seconded by Director Colley and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-235 finding that Los Angeles County officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing and that as a result of the COVID-19 emergency, meetings in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of those attending and by the following roll call votes (Item 6.4):

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

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-235

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
AUTHORIZING VIRTUAL BOARD AND COMMITTEE
MEETINGS PURSUANT TO AB 361**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-092821-Resolution-SCV-235.pdf>

No action was taken on Item 7.1 at this time.

General Manager's Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 8).

The General Manager reported that SCV Water was recently notified that the ELAP Certification process for conducting PFAS testing on our new equipment has been approved. He congratulated the team who worked so diligently to get through this process, which included Water Quality Laboratory Manager Jeff Koelewyn and Senior Water Quality Scientist Howard An who completed their training and certification process and Senior Facilities Maintenance Technician Chris Alexander from Building and Grounds who refitted the lab area to accommodate the new equipment.

He then acknowledged SCV Water's Information Technology, Administration and Public Information staff for their efforts in getting a functioning website alternative for the September 21, 2021 regular Board meeting. While it was not successful, the website is now back up and running with additional capacity. He informed the Board that Communications Manager Kathie Martin has also been leading a team to revamp the SCV Water website, with plans of a roll out later this year.

Committee Meeting Recap Report for Informational Purposes Only (Item 9).

There were no comments on the recap report.

President's Report (Item 10).

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

AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 11).

Written reports were submitted by President Martin, Vice President Gladbach and Directors Kelly and Plambeck which were included in the Board packet.

President Martin reported that he and Director Armitage attended the CSDA meeting to Create a Local Chapter for Antelope Valley and Santa Clarita held at Palmdale Water District on September 22, 2021.

Vice President Gladbach reported that he attended the ACWA Board meeting held on September 24, 2021.

Vice President Mortensen reported that he attended the 2021 Economic Outlook held at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons on September 17, 2021.

Director Atkins reported that he attended the virtual ACWA Water Quality Committee meeting held on September 20, 2021, attended the AWA/CCWUC Educational Program – Lead Free Drinking Water: Detecting Lead in Pipes on September 22, 2021 and the VIA Cocktails and Conversation with Kathryn Barger held at Valencia Hyatt on September 23, 2021.

Director Cooper reported that he attended the 2021 Economic Outlook held at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons on September 17, 2021, the virtual ACWA Water Quality Committee meeting on September 20, 2021, the virtual ACWA Region 8 – Innovation on the Colorado: Metropolitan’s Regional Recycled Water Program and Lower Basin Drought Resilience on September 22, 2021 and the virtual ACWA Board meeting on September 24, 2021.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

Director Reports (Item 12).

Director Armitage mentioned she virtually attended an event last week and connected with a representative from the California Water Efficiency Partnership in which that representative shared with her that SCV Water has an amazing conservation staff and is leading the way in conservation efforts.

She also mentioned that she attended another virtual event regarding the evolving science on atmospheric rivers and the piloting of upgrading technology for a number of reservoirs to use forecasting to improve reservoir operations and resiliency to droughts and atmospheric rivers which seems to be the trend that we are going to be getting our precipitation in the future. She would be happy to share this information with anyone interested.

There were no other Directors reports.

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:20 PM (Item 13).

The Board was instructed to disconnect from the current call and redial in on a separate teleconference line that was provided to them. President Martin instructed the public members and staff who wanted to stay on the call, to stay on the current teleconference line and once Closed Session has ended, the Board will reconvene for Closed Session announcements and the conclusion of the meeting.

President Martin reconvened the Open Session at 9:26 PM.

Joe Byrne, Esq., reported that pertaining to Item 13.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9, Claim of Southern California Edison, Against Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, Claim for Property Damage, Date of Claim August 12, 2021, the Board voted to reject the claim and refer it to the JPIA by motion of Director Ford, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, by the following roll call votes:

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Absent	Director Colley	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Mortensen	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 14).

Director Requests for Approval for Event Attendance (Item 15).

There were no Director requests for event attendance.

Director Requests for Future Agenda Items (Item 16).

Director Colley requested the following future Agenda items:

- Discussion on declaring a water shortage stage 1 or 2 in the near future
- Board review of the Board's policy on Director remote attendance
- Bottled water issues

There were no other requests for future Agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 PM (Item 17).


April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:


President of the Board

