

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – July 11, 2023

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A special 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, July 11, 2023. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Kathy Armitage, Beth Braunstein, William Cooper, Maria Gutzeit, Dirk Marks, Gary Martin (Virtually), Piotr Orzechowski and Ken Petersen.

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Ed Colley.

Also present: Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson, Communications Manager Kevin Strauss, Director of Water Resources Ali Elhassan, General Counsel Tom Bunn, Information Technology Technician I Jonathan Thomas, Sustainability Manager Matt Dickens, Consultants from Means Consultants, Inc. Ed Means and Rincon Consultants Lauren Collar and Ryan Gardner, as well as additional SCV Water Agency staff (Virtually), and members of the public (In Person and Virtually).

Vice President Orzechowski called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. A quorum was present.

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board approved President Martin’s request to attend tonight’s special Board meeting remotely due to “Emergency Circumstances” and approved the Amended Agenda by the following roll votes (Item 4).

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

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Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Vice President Gutzeit and carried, with the exclusion of Item 5.2 “Approving adopting a resolution to deactivate the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2)” which was pulled by staff for a correction and discussion, the Board approved the remaining Consent Calendar items including Resolution Nos. SCV-366, SCV-367 and SCV-368, by the following roll call votes (Item 5):

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

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-366**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
SETTING SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY TAX RATE FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 AND REQUESTING LEVY  
OF TAX BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

[Link to Resolution SCV-366](#)

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-367**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
SETTING SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY TAX RATE FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 AND REQUESTING LEVY  
OF TAX BY VENTURA COUNTY**

[Link to Resolution SCV-367](#)

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-368**

**JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ACTING IN BEHALF OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY GENERAL FUND, LOS ANGELES COUNTY CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION, DISTRICT LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AND THE GOVERNING BODIES OF GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT, CITY OF SANTA CLARITA, SANTA CLARITA STREET LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICT NO. 2, SANTA CLARITA LIBRARY, AND SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY APPROVING AND ACCEPTING NEGOTIATED EXCHANGE OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUES RESULTING FROM ANNEXATION TO SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT "ANNEXATION NO. 1121"**

[Link to Resolution 368](#)

Sustainability Manager Matt Dickens informed the Board that there was a correction to the second page, first paragraph, last sentence of the staff report, it should have said it is recommended the Board of Directors adopt a resolution "deactivating the WSCP and Ordinance No.2" instead of "implementing Stage 1 of the WSCP (voluntary reduction up to 10%)." In addition, a change to the third page of the staff report under Financial Considerations, last sentence should have read "Moving from Stage 2 to No Shortage Stage has no impact on the budget." instead of "Moving from Stage 2 to Stage 1 is in alignment with normal year budgetary estimates and should lessen the potential impact from a reduction in revenues or the need to utilize financial reserves." With those changes and after a brief discussion, upon motion of Director Marks, seconded by Director Petersen and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-365 deactivating Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Ordinance No. 2 by the following roll call votes (Item 5.2):

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

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-365**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
TO DEACTIVATE STAGE 2 OF THE WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN  
AND ORDINANCE NO. 2**

[Link to Resolution SCV-365](#)

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Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Armitage and carried, the Board approved adopting the Sustainability Action Plan contingent upon having an introduction stipulating that it focuses on Climate Greenhouse Gas Emissions in general by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

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

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A Strategic Planning Kick Off presentation was facilitated by Ed Means from Means Consulting, Inc. (Item 7).

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

Assistant General Manager Steve Cole reported on the following:

He thanked Ed Means for his time with the Executive Staff earlier that day in which he went over the upcoming Strategic Planning process.

To hear the full report in its entirety, please refer to the Board recording by clicking on the following link [071123 SCV Water Board Meeting Recording](#).

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

Vice President Orzechowski had questions regarding the June 15, 2023 Public Outreach and Legislation Committee Meeting Recap Report pertaining to the delay of the Dickason and Smyth Pipeline Replacement. Chief Engineering Courtney Mael addressed his concerns.

To hear the full comment please refer to the Board recording by clicking on the following link [071123 SCV Water Board Meeting Recording](#).

There were no other comments on the recap reports.

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**Written Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 10).**

There were no comments on the written reports.

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**President's Report (Item 11).**

Vice President Orzechowski updated the Board on upcoming meetings and events.

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**AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 12).**

Director Marks reported that he attended the SCV Chamber 2023 Business Expo held at the Valencia Hyatt on June 28, 2023 and the VIA State of the State held at Dianne G. Van Hook University Center on June 30, 2023.

Director Cooper reported that he virtually attended the ACWA Infrastructure Task Force meeting on July 10, 2023.

President Martin reported that he attended the VIA After Five Networking Mixer held at Bulletproof Builders on June 22, 2023.

Vice President Orzechowski reported that he attended the VIA State of the State held at Dianne G. Van Hook University Center on June 30, 2023

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

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**Director Reports (Item 13).**

There were no Director reports.

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**Director Requests For Approval for Event Attendance (Item 14).**

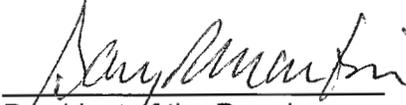
There were no requests for approval for event attendance.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM (Item 15).

  
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April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

  
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President of the Board

