

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – August 18, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency was held via teleconference at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, August 18, 2020. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: B. J. Atkins, Ed Colley, Kathy Colley, William Cooper (Left at 9:12 PM), Robert DiPrimio, Jeff Ford, Jerry Gladbach, Maria Gutzeit, R. J. Kelly (Left at 9:12 PM), Gary Martin, Dan Mortensen and Lynne Plambeck via teleconference.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

Also present via teleconference: General Manager Matthew Stone, General Counsel Tom Bunn, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Eric Campbell, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Director of Finance and Administration Rochelle Patterson, Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Alvord, Director of Water Resources Dirk Marks, Principal Engineer Brent Payne, Principal Engineer Jason Yim, Civil Engineer Orlando Moreno, Associate Engineer Elizabeth Sobczak, Senior Management Analyst Kim Grass, Administrative Analyst Cheryl Fowler, Financial Analyst Darine Conner, Public Information Officer Kathie Martin, Administrative Technician Eunie Kang, IT Technician Jonathan Thomas and members of the public.

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

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

Director Atkins	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Director Mortensen	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

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

Director Atkins	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Director Mortensen	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

Upon motion of Director Atkins, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-169 adopting the SCV Water Grant Management Policy and Procedures Manual by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

Director Atkins	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
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Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Director Mortensen	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-169

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
ADOPTING THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY GRANT
MANAGEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**

WHEREAS, the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (Agency) has received and currently manages grant funding from the State of California on planning and capital improvement projects, and

WHEREAS, the Agency, as Grantee, manages several Integrated Regional Water Management Grants under which there are subgrantees entities; and

WHEREAS, the Agency plans to pursue grant funding from state and federal funding sources for planning and construction of additional capital improvement projects and other projects; and

WHEREAS, state and federal funders administer grants under different policies, rules and regulations (grant administration requirements); and

WHEREAS, state and federal grant administration requirements may differ from each other and from the Agency's policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, there are significant negative consequences for failing to meet grant administration requirements; and

WHEREAS, a grant consultant was engaged to create a Grant Management Policies and Procedures Manual to assist and advise Agency staff regarding compliance with state and federal grant administration requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Management Policies and Procedures Manual has been reviewed by staff and peer reviewed by a second grant consultant; and

WHEREAS, federal and state grant administration requirements may change from time to time as guiding documents are revised, necessitating updates to the Grant Policy and Procedures Manual.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency adopts the attached Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Grant Management Policies and Procedures Manual.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Grant Management Policy and Procedures Manual shall be reviewed and updated at least every two years to ensure compliance with updates to state and federal grant guidance documents.

Upon motion of Director Atkins, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved reappointing to the SCV-GSA Board of Directors, Directors Atkins, Cooper, Gutzeit and Martin and alternate Directors, Directors Gladbach and Kelly and switched General Manager Matthew Stone with Director Plambeck by the following roll call votes (Item 6.2):

Director Atkins	Yes	Director E. Colley	No
Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Director Mortensen	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director E. Colley and carried, the Board authorized the General Manager to purchase the SCIEX 5500+ LCMSMS instrument in the amount of \$358,794 plus tax, by the following roll call votes (Item 6.3):

Director Atkins	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Director Mortensen	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

General Manager's Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 7).

The General Manager noted that this week marks 5 months of operations under COVID-19 conditions. He wanted to thank Santa Clarita Valley Water (SCV Water) staff and the team of managers for their resilience and dedication under sometimes challenging conditions and their ability to continue to complete their workload and serve the SCV Water customers (who are enduring this pandemic with their own set of challenges). He also mentioned that he appreciates the Board's continued adaptation as well.

The General Manager then updated the Board on last week's approval by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the MSR and Sphere of Influence update for Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency. The MSR was one of the LAFCO's Terms and Conditions adopted after the formation of the Agency in 2018. SCV Water was required to fund a study conducted by LAFCO. LAFCO selected Mulberg & Associates to complete the MSR report in June of 2019.

Part of the MSR process includes making recommendations for any adjustments to the Agency's Sphere of Influence. A Sphere of Influence is defined as "a plan for the probable physical boundaries and services area of a local agency, as determined by the Commission."

A number of sphere of influence adjustments were approved to reflect potential service needs and address islands within the agency. The staff report on the LAFCO website includes a number of exhibits and maps. Notable changes are inclusion of a number of adjacent parcels and island parcels, the Tesoro annexation area, and the small area served by VWC that was subject of an annexation application earlier this year to fulfill LAFCO terms and conditions. The

Tapia annexation area was not included in sphere adjustments pending further completion of revised plans and CEQA on that potential development.

In addition to Sphere of Influence changes, LAFCO staff recommended a number of future studies or actions to be considered:

- That SCV Water consider conducting an agency-wide rate study so residents of one division do not pay different rates from another division.
- That SCV Water should consider forming a Citizens Advisory Committee to work with the Rate Payer Advocate.
- That Kings or Kern LAFCO prepare an MSR/update for Devil's Den Water District to determine the best way to serve that area.
- That LAFCO consider consolidation with Los Angeles County Waterworks District #36 into the SCV Water, if both agencies are supportive of such a consolidation.

The MSR and the LAFCO staff report are available on the LA County LAFCO web site.

He also recognized the SCV Water team who worked on this process including Keith Abercrombie, Steve Cole, Kathie Martin, Dirk Marks, Rochelle Patterson and many others – job well done.

Committee Meeting Recap Report for Informational Purposes Only (Item 8).

There were no comments on the recap report.

President's Report (Item 9).

President Martin advised the Board that Directors K. Colley and DiPrimio would not be returning to the Board after the end of year, they had not pulled papers for the upcoming election. He wanted to thank them for their contributions and support to the water agency during their time on the Board. Although we will recognize them officially in the future, he wanted to wish them the best in their future endeavors.

AB 1234 Reports (Item 10).

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

Vice President Gutzeit reported that she attended the Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting on August 5, 2020 via video teleconference.

Director Cooper reported that he attended the ACWA Groundwater Committee Meeting on August 5, 2020 via video conference and attended the ACWA Water Quality Committee Meeting on August 11, 2020 via video conference.

There were no further AB 1234 Reports.

Director Reports (Item 11).

There were no Director reports.

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:53 PM (Item 12).

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 9:12 PM.

Tom Bunn, Esq., reported the following:

Pertaining to Item No. 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 Jeff Metelitz and any and all claims that arise from incident on August 4, 2020 against Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, Claim for Property Damage, Date of Claim August 7, 2020, the Board voted to reject the claim and send to JPIA for processing by motion of Director Atkins, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, by the following roll call votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Director Mortensen	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

Pertaining to Item 12.2, Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9, Claim of Sandridge Partners, LP against Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, Claim for Personal Injury and Property Damage, Date of Claim August 10, 2020, the Board voted to reject the claim and send to JPIA for processing by motion of Director Kelly, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, by the following roll call votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Director Mortensen	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

Pertaining to 12.5, Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) or (3) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 (One Case) – Amended Claim of Paul Halushka the Board voted to reject the claim by motion of Director Atkins, seconded by Director Mortensen and carried, by the following roll call votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Director Mortensen	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

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

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

There were no Director requests for event attendance.

Request for Future Agenda Items (Item 15).

Director Plambeck requested that the Board discuss making comments more often on projects that propose concreting and paving over groundwater areas. This Item will go to the Water Resources and Watershed Committee for further discussion.


There were no other requests for future agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 PM (Item 16).



April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:



President of the Board

