

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – March 16, 2021

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, March 16, 2021. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

Also present via teleconference: General Manager Matthew Stone, General Counsel Tom Bunn and Joe Byrne, 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, Communications Manager Kathie Martin, GIS Manager Jose Huerta, Principal Engineers Brent Payne and Jason Yim, Senior Engineer Shadi Bader and Jim Leserman, Engineer Orlando Moreno, Associate Engineer Elizabeth Sobczak, Senior Management Analyst Kim Grass, Financial Analyst Darine Conner, Water Resources Planner Sarah Fleury, Customer Services Manager Kathleen Willson, Executive Assistant Leticia Quintero, Senior Office Assistant Terri Bell, Accounting Tech II Kyle Arnold, and members of the public.

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

Upon motion of Vice President Mortensen, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved the Agenda pulling Item 5.3 from the Consent Calendar to be voted on separately and with that adjustment the Agenda was approved by the following roll call votes (Item 4):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	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 Vice President Gladbach and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar excluding Item 5.3 and including Resolution Nos. SCV-202 and SCV-203 by the following roll call votes (Item 5):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	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

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-202

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
AWARDING A CONTRACT TO GSE CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. FOR THE
VALLEY CENTER WELL PFAS GROUNDWATER TREATMENT
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-031621-Resolution-No.-SCV-202.pdf>

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-203

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
CONCURRING IN THE NOMINATION OF JO MACKENZIE
TO THE CSDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-031621-Resolution-No.-SCV-203.pdf>

Upon motion of Director Colley, seconded by Director Armitage and carried, the Board approved the General Manager to execute a change order in the amount of \$40,500 for the Newhall Tank 2 Interior Recoat and Repair to Simpson Sandblasting & Special Coatings, Inc. by the following roll call votes (Item 5.3):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	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 Orzechowski, seconded by Vice President Mortensen and carried, the Board approved (1) Resolution No. SCV-204 awarding a construction contract to Pacific Tank and Construction Inc., in the amount of \$3,906,870, with a condition that the project complies with the adopted supplemental Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and approved the General Manager's change order authority to be increased to ten percent (10%) of the original contract amount, (2) a work authorization to Cannon Corporation for construction management, inspection services, and material testing, in the amount of \$496,015, (3) a work authorization to Kennedy/Jenks for engineering construction support services, in the amount of \$126,000 and (4) a work authorization to Geolabs Westlake Village for geotechnical observation and testing services, in the amount of \$106,000 by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	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

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-204

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
AWARDING A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO
PACIFIC TANK AND CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE
PHASE 2B RECYCLED WATER TANKS AT CHERRY WILLOW DRIVE PROJECT**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-031621-Resolution-No.-SCV-204.pdf>

Water Resources Planner Sarah Fleury gave a presentation on the status of water supplies (Item 7.1).

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

The General Manager stated the following:

- SCV Water was notified by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services that we have been allocated a grant of \$249,854 under their Public Safety Power Shutoff (2020 Community Power Resiliency Allocation to Special Districts Program). These funds are anticipated to be used to replace and update the emergency backup power generator at Earl Schmidt Treatment Plant. This generator will meet EPA and South Coast Air Quality Management District requirements.
- Just about one year ago (March 20, 2020), the Agency transitioned to operations under the Safer at Home Order. We continue to practice the workplace precautions we have implemented and developed over the ensuing 12 months.
 - Just a few months ago we were experiencing the highest peak in cases, and that event touched a number of Agency staff. Fortunately, our precautions and some good fortune resulted in no indication of spread within the workplace.
 - The news is improving over the last several weeks. Case rates, hospitalizations, and deaths continue to decline, as well as the percentage of positive tests in Los Angeles County.
 - As of today, more than 3 million Los Angeles County shots have been received by Los Angeles County residents. In the last few days, the average has been 100,000 shots a day.
 - Also, as of this week, water utility workers were added to the eligible categories under Phase 1B. Since each county has some level of administrative involvement, it

may take a few days for eligibility to filter through the various online enrollment systems, but I have heard of some who reside in Ventura County getting their first shot, and we hope Los Angeles County won't be far behind (they may have caught up today, but he hadn't had a chance to check).

- We have a virtual all staff meeting next week on March 24, 2021 and look forward to the opportunity to thank every one of our staff for their efforts to get through this last year.
- As we move closer to these goals, we will also be looking to how our transition back will work, as well as what measures and tools we may deploy for productivity moving forward, such as virtual meetings, electronic document handling, etc.

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 and events.

AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 11).

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

Director Cooper reported that he attended the ACWA 2021 Virtual Legislative Symposium held on March 11, 2021.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

Director Reports (Item 12).

Director Armitage reported that a group of students from Valencia High School reached out to her to ask for information for a project they are working on as part of a Nanovation Competition hosted by UCLA. The project is related to water quality microplastics and they have been chosen as finalists. They were able to connect with Mike Alvord and Rafael Pulido to get their questions answered pertaining to water treatment. She just wanted to extend a thank you to both of them for taking the time to speak with some of our local students. She thinks it was a nice community connection and wishes the students luck on their competition.

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:57 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 9:00 PM.

Tom Bunn, Esq., reported there were no 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.

Request for Future Agenda Items (Item 16).

Director Colley requested within the next few months that the Board discuss the redistricting that the Agency will need to do by next April 2021.

Director Plambeck requested a presentation for the new Board members in regards to the Devil's Den Water District, our involvement and why we are involved. She also asked that we look back into Committee meetings being recorded, she would like a presentation on the cost.

Director Armitage asked that when we go back to live meetings that we evaluate using some kind of platform where the public can still participate remotely to hear what is being discussed in our Board meetings. This would allow for more participation from the public.

She also asked for a follow-up on what communications have been given to schools regarding water quality issues when reopening.

Director Kelly mentioned that he had asked in the past and still wanted to see the Central Park contract looked at, he is asking for some feedback on this. President Martin confirmed that Director Kelly was asking that we look at the Central Park Lease to see if we could tighten up the language when it comes to future memorial installations.

Director Atkins asked, when it is appropriate, he would like to know what staff will be doing regarding future sandblasting work on tanks.

There were no other requests for future Agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM (Item 17).

April Jacobs
April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

Gray Martin
President of the Board

