

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – November 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, November 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: Accounting Tech II Kyle Arnold, Administrative Technicians Terri Bell, Bonnie Lytle, and Theresa Whatley, Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Communications Manager Kathie Martin, Controller Amy Aguer, Customer Service Manager Kathleen Willson, 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, Executive Assistants Eunie Kang and Leticia Quintero, General Counsel Tom Bunn, General Manager Matthew Stone, Management Analyst II Cheryl Fowler, Principal Engineer Jason Yim, Senior Management Analyst Kim Grass, Sustainability Manager Matt Dickens, Water Conservation Specialists I Julia Grothe and Chavon Halushka, Water Conservation Specialist II Janet Keith, Water Resources Planners Sarah Fleury and Rick Vasilopoulos, EPA WaterSense Branch Chief Veronica Blette, Nossaman LLP Attorneys Fred Fudacz and Byron Gee, 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 Kelly and carried, the Board approved the Amended Agenda 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 |

EPA WaterSense Branch Chief Veronica Blette gave a presentation on the WaterSense Award. The US EPA WaterSense Excellence Awards are presented annually to WaterSense partners that contribute to the program's success by enhancing the market for water efficient products, practices and services. Each year WaterSense recognizes those partners who have gone above and beyond in support of WaterSense. Ms. Blette awarded SCV Water with the 2021 WaterSense Excellence Award for the work it completed promoting the EPA EnergyStar Portfolio Manager Water Score Tool for Multifamily Apartments (Item 5).

Sustainability Manager Matt Dickens then gave an additional presentation on Water Efficiency Works and an explanation of the Multifamily Apartment project and EPA Energy Star Portfolio Manager Water Score tool.

Upon motion of Director Plambeck, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar which included Resolution No. SCV-242 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 | Yes |
| Vice President Gladbach | Yes | Director Kelly | Yes |
| President Martin | Yes | Vice President Mortensen | Yes |
| Director Orzechowski | Yes | Director Plambeck | Yes |

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-242

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY AUTHORIZING
AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING BY THE BUREAU
OF RECLAMATION'S WATERSMART WATER ENERGY
EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE AUTOMATED
METER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT -
PHASE I**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-111621-Resolution-No.-SCV-242-2.pdf>

Upon motion of Director Plambeck, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, the Board authorized the General Manager to purchase 4,969 meters in the amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 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 | Yes | Director Kelly | Yes |
| President Martin | Yes | Vice President Mortensen | Yes |
| Director Orzechowski | Yes | Director Plambeck | Yes |

Upon motion of Director Atkins, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute Change Order Number 2 to the contract with R.C. Becker to increase the construction contract amount by \$33,360.79 to \$338,360.79 for the Decoro Drive Pavement Repair project by the following roll call votes (Item 7.2):

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|
| 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 Atkins, seconded by Vice President Gladbach and carried, the Board adopted Resolution No. SCV-243 Enacting Stage 1 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance with a change to the wording on the tenth recital of the Resolution to state that "SCV Water customers have a history of successfully meeting water conservation", by the following roll call votes (Item 7.3):

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|
| 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 |

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-243

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
DIRECTING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO IMPLEMENT
STAGE 1 OF THE WATER SHORTAGE
CONTINGENCY PLAN AND DECLARE A STAGE 1 WATER SHORTAGE CONDITION
PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 2**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-111621-Resolution-No.-SCV-243.pdf>

Upon motion of Director Plambeck, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board voted to continue virtual meetings pursuant to AB 361 for an additional 30 days based on the findings that (1) found that a state of emergency related to COVID-19 is currently in effect and (2) Los Angeles County officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing by the following roll call votes (Item 7.4):

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

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

There was no General Manager's Report.

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

There were no comments on the recap reports.

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 Vice Presidents Gladbach and Mortensen which were included in the Board packet. Additional written reports were submitted by President Martin which were posted on the SCV Water website and are part of the record.

Director Armitage reported that she virtually attended a meeting with the new Executive Board of the Special Districts Association of North Los Angeles County on November 3, 2021.

Director Cooper reported that he virtually attended a meeting with ACWA Representatives and the new Chairwomen for the Region 8 area Gloria Grey regarding ACWA Committee Assignments on November 15, 2021.

Director Plambeck reported that she attended the SCV Chamber of Commerce Patriots Program held at the Bella Vida Senior Center on November 10, 2021 and attended the ACWA Webinar on Responding to PFAS Contamination in California: Shifting Costs from Water Suppliers to Polluters on November 3, 2021.

Vice President Mortensen reported that he attended the City of Santa Clarita State of the City held at the Canyon Country Community Center on November 4, 2021, a written report was also submitted and was included in the November 16, 2021 regular meeting Board packet.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

Director Reports (Item 12).

Due to the late hour and Closed Session ahead, Item 12.1 was moved to the December 7, 2021 regular Board meeting.

Item 12.2 was not discussed.

Director Armitage mentioned that she has enjoyed the staff presentations that have been given at the Committee meetings in the last few weeks. It has been great to hear from the different staff members on the various issues that the Agency faces. She wanted to thank management for encouraging their staff to make presentations to the Board, since it is beneficial for the Board to meet the employees of the Agency.

President Martin mentioned that it was his honor to attend the SCV Chamber of Commerce Patriots Program and make the presentation to SCV Water Director Cooper, who was on one of the honorees at this years program. He also wanted to acknowledge Directors Colley and Kelly and thank them for their service.

There were no other Director reports.

The Board went into Closed Session at 9:57 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 10:56 PM.

Tom Bunn, Esq., reported that pertaining to Item 13.2 Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9, Application for Leave to Present Late Government Claim of Boucher LLP on Behalf of Multiple Claimants, Dated October 1, 2021, the Board voted to grant the Application for Leave to Present Late Government Claim and deny the claim upon motion of Vice President Mortensen, seconded by Vice President Gladbach and carried, by the following roll call votes:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-----|
| Director Armitage | Yes | Director Atkins | Yes |
| Director Braunstein | Yes | Director Colley | Yes |
| Director Cooper | Not Present | 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 Orzechowski would like to request that on a monthly basis, the Board review the November 16, 2021, adoption of a resolution to enact Stage 1 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance, and that each month staff reports on its effectiveness.

Director Kelly requested that the General Manager continue to provide more details during his reports.

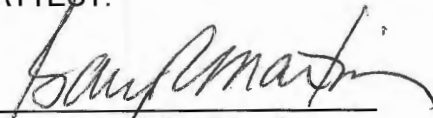
Director Plambeck inquired about the date of the next Ad Hoc Board Technology and Remote Public Participation Committee meeting. She also wanted to know when water service letters are delivered and when they will be submitted to the Board. Finally, she is curious about the approval process for water supply assessments.

Director Colley asked that a presentation from staff to assess whether the last acre foot of water we send to a customer is a net gain or loss of income for the agency, given the drought circumstances we are experiencing or may face in the coming years. Is it a financial benefit to the agency or not for that last acre foot of water if we draw it from the most costly bank and then have to replenish it to the most expensive bank (treatment and all necessary criteria) and then sell it for the fixed price with the present rate structure?

There were no other requests for future Agenda items.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 PM (Item 17).


April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

President of the Board

