

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – September 20, 2022

A regular 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, September 20, 2022. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kathye Armitage, Beth Braunstein, Ed Colley, William Cooper, Jeff Ford, Maria Gutzeit (Arrived at 6:04 PM), R. J. Kelly, Piotr Orzechowski, Ken Petersen and Lynne Plambeck (Arrived at 6:20 PM).

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Gary Martin.

Also present: Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Communications Manager Kathie Martin, Director of Technology Services Cris Perez, General Counsel Joe Byrne, General Manager Matthew Stone, Information Technology Technician I Jonathan Thomas and Principal Engineer Brent Payne, as well as additional SCV Water Agency staff and members of the public.

Vice President Orzechowski called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. A quorum was present.

There were no changes to the September 20, 2022 Board Agenda and it was accepted as shown (Item 4).

The Board Secretary administered the Ceremonial Oath of Office to Director Petersen (Item 5.1).

Upon motion of Director Gutzeit, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar by the following roll call votes (Item 6):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Abstain
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Absent
Director Petersen	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Yes
Director Plambeck	Not Present		

Upon motion of Director Gutzeit, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute a contract with TriPointe Homes Holdings, Inc. for SCV Water's fair share costs in the not-to-exceed amount of \$3,488,546 for construction of a 2.08 MG prestressed concrete tank for the Deane Zone at Skyline Ranch, including

construction quality assurance and control testing, construction inspections and engineering services during construction by the following roll call votes (Item 7.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Absent
Director Petersen	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

General Manager Stone gave the Strategic Plan Status Report (Item 8).

General Manager's Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 9).

The General Manager informed the Board that he and management staff attended an Incident Command System Course that started on Tuesday of this week and will conclude by the end of this week.

He then updated the Board on how the recent fire in Castaic and our current weather have affected the Agency's water system and turbidity as well as how *well staff has handled this situation*. To hear the full report please click on the following link https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Board_Recording_092022.mp3.

Committee Meeting Recap Report for Informational Purposes Only (Item 10).

There were no comments on the recap report.

President's Report (Item 11).

The Vice President updated the Board on upcoming community meetings and conferences and upcoming Board and Committee meetings.

AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 12).

Written reports were submitted by President Martin and Director Gutzeit which were included in the Board packet. Additional written reports were submitted by President Martin and Director Ford which were posted on the SCV Water Website and are part of the record.

Director Braunstein reported that she attended the ACWA Region 8 Program held at the Burbank Water and Power on September 19, 2022.

Director Kelly reported that he attended a virtual meeting with the ACWA Business Development Committee's A-Subcommittee on August 9 and 30, 2022 and September 7, 2022.

Director Cooper reported that he attended the SCVEDC's 2022 Economic Outlook Forecast held at the College of the Canyons Performing Arts Center on September 9, 2022 and attended the ACWA Region 8 Program held at the Burbank Water and Power on September 19, 2022.

Director Colley reported that he attended the SCVEDC's 2022 Economic Outlook Forecast held at the College of the Canyons Performing Arts Center on September 9, 2022 and attended the Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County's 27th Annual AWA Member and Policymakers Reception held at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library on September 15, 2022.

Director Armitage reported that she attended the ACWA Region 8 Program held at the Burbank Water and Power on September 19, 2022.

Director Plambeck reported that she attended the SCVEDC's 2022 Economic Outlook Forecast held at the College of the Canyons Performing Arts Center on September 9, 2022 and attended the ACWA Region 8 Program held at the Burbank Water and Power on September 19, 2022.

Vice President Orzechowski reported that he attended the SCVEDC's 2022 Economic Outlook Forecast held at the College of the Canyons Performing Arts Center on September 9, 2022 and attended the ACWA Region 8 Program held at the Burbank Water and Power on September 19, 2022.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

Director Requests for future Agenda Items (Item 13).

Director Gutzeit requested in writing the following two future agenda items:

She would like to request that the Agency consider how to engage more members of the public in a meaningful way. By meaningful she stated, she meant a two-way communication and active checking that our messages are presented in a way they understand AND that we understand what their concerns or questions are.

- The SCV GSA Stakeholder Group was a great success and resulted in changes to the GSA program and public presentations.
- CLWA used to have a blue-ribbon committee of involved stakeholders who received information and relayed it back to their organizations/constituencies.
- Multiple members of the public have said to me our website is confusing, in particular the part about rebates. These are business owners and lawyers saying it is confusing.
- A corporate accountant, who teaches accounting, said he could not understand our rate information that was prepared during the last ratepayer advocate process.
- We had talked about a day-long water forum with various speakers, include outside experts.

To see her full comments, please refer to the Board packet link under Item 13
<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SCV-Water-Regular-Board-Meeting-Packet-September-20-2022.pdf>.

Director Gutzeit also asked that we address the article on "EPA Proposes Designating Certain PFAS Chemicals as Hazardous Substances Under Superfund to Protect People's Health". She stated that it will be important to speak for water utilities so that they are not penalized for this from a liability standpoint. She asked that at some point when we have a light agenda it would be nice to hear how this will affect the water utilities and what they have concerns about.

Director Colley requested that the Finance and Administration Committee discuss expanding the Flex Workplace Policy and extending the number of days employees can work from home and then send it to the Board for consideration.

Director Colley also asked that the Board receive an overview and review of the Bill Pay options and potential actions to make changes, if necessary. Again, he stated that this should go to the Finance and Administration Committee for discussion first and then to the Board for consideration.

There were no other requests for future Agenda Items.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM (Item 14).


April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:


President of the Board

