




BOARD MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 19, 2024
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Steve Cole 
Assistant General Manager
SUBJECT: January 18, 2024 Public Outreach and Legislation Committee Meeting Recap Report

The Public Outreach and Legislation Committee met at 5:30 PM on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at the Engineering Services Section (ESS) Boardroom located at 26521 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. In attendance were Committee Chair Maria Gutzeit, Directors Kathye Armitage, Beth Braunstein and Ed Colley. Staff members present were Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Communications Manager Kevin Strauss, Executive Assistant Eunie Kang and Information Technology Tech II Jonathan Thomas. Attending virtually were Senior Public Affairs Specialist Lindsey Gibson, Event Coordinator Casey Gordon, and Consultant Geoff Bowman from Van Scoyoc Associates, Consultant Dennis Albiani and Annalee Akin Augustine from California Advocates, and members of the public were present. A copy of the Agenda is attached.

Item 2: Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Item 3: Legislative Consultant Reports – Staff and the Committee reviewed the federal legislative report by Geoff Bowman and the state legislative report by Dennis Albiani and Annalee Akin Augustine.

Item 4: Outreach Year in Review Presentation and Year Forward – The Outreach team received appreciation from the Committee for their excellent performance and accomplishments in the previous year. The Committee also asked staff to select the most suitable regular Board meeting to present the Outreach Year in Review presentation to the full Board.

Item 5: Review of Agency's Sponsorship Guidelines – Staff and Committee reviewed and discussed the sponsorship guidelines, and the Committee agreed to keep them unchanged.

Item 6: Communications Manager Activities – Kevin Strauss announced the progress of the SCV Water 5 Year Strategic Plan, which is expected to be approved by the Board on February 20, 2024. He also congratulated Laura Gallegos for being accepted into the Water Education Foundation's Leadership Program and receiving the John P. Frazier Water Leaders Fellowship from Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA). He introduced Soundbite, a new communication tool that provides brief video messages to the staff and social media.

Item 7: Committee Planning Calendar – Staff and Committee reviewed the Planning Calendar.

Item 8: Committee Requests for Future Agenda Items – Director Armitage requested an Agenda item to discuss how the Agency communicates with the public on various matters, such as CEQA notification and public comment on different reports and plans.

Item 9: Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

The meeting recording is available on the SCV Water Agency website or by clicking the following link: [Public Outreach and Legislation Committee Meeting Recording](#).

Attachment

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Date: January 11, 2024

To: **Public Outreach and Legislation Committee**
Maria Gutzeit, Chair
Kathye Armitage
Beth Braunstein
Ed Colley

From: Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager *SC*

The **Public Outreach and Legislation Committee** meeting is on **Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 5:30 PM** at **26521 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 in the Engineering Services Section (ESS) Boardroom**. Members of the public may attend in person or virtually. To attend this meeting virtually, please see below.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

This meeting will be conducted in person at the addresses listed above. As a convenience to the public, members of the public may also participate virtually by using the **Agency's Call-In Number 1-833-568-8864, Webinar ID: 160 275 3445 or Zoom Webinar by clicking on the scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1602753445**. Any member of the public may listen to the meeting or make comments to the Committee using the call-in number or Zoom Webinar link above. However, in the event there is a disruption of service which prevents the Agency from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using either the call-in option or internet-based service, this meeting will not be postponed or rescheduled but will continue without remote participation. The remote participation option is being provided as a convenience to the public and is not required. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting in person.

Attendees should be aware that while the Agency is following all applicable requirements and guidelines regarding COVID-19, the Agency cannot ensure the health of anyone attending a Committee meeting. Attendees should therefore use their own judgment with respect to protecting themselves from exposure to COVID-19.

Members of the public unable to attend this meeting may submit comments either in writing to ekang@scvwa.org or by mail to Eunie Kang, Executive Assistant, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. All written comments received before 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Committee members and posted on the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency website prior to the start of the meeting. Anything received after 4:00 PM the day of the meeting, will be made available at the meeting, if practicable, and will be posted on the SCV Water website the following day. All correspondence with comments, including letters or emails, will be posted in their entirety.

MEETING AGENDA

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1. <u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u>	
2. <u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u> – Members of the public may comment as to items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Agency that are not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this Agenda may do so at the time each item is considered. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Committee Chair, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.) To participate in public comment from your computer, tablet, or smartphone, click the “raise hand” feature in Zoom. You will be notified when it is your turn to speak, please unmute when requested. To participate in public comment via phone, dial *9 to raise your hand. When it is your turn to speak, dial *6 to unmute.	
3. * Legislative Consultant Report	
3.1 Van Scoyoc Associates (10 minutes)	1
3.2 California Advocates (10 minutes)	5
4. Outreach Year in Review Presentation and Year Forward	
5. * Review of Agency’s Sponsorship Guidelines	39
6. * Communications Manager’s Report	47
7. * Committee Planning Calendar	57
8. Committee Requests for Future Agenda Items	
9. Adjournment	
* Indicates Attachment	
◆ Indicates Handout	

NOTICES:

Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Eunie Kang, Executive Assistant, at (661) 297-1600, or email to ekang@scvwa.org or by writing to Eunie Kang, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that Agency staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation

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should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the Agency to provide the requested accommodation.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Committee less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's Internet Website, accessible at yourSCVwater.com.

Posted on January 11, 2024

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