

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – August 15, 2023

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, August 15, 2023. 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, Maria Gutzeit, Dirk Marks (Virtually), Gary Martin and Ken Petersen.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Piotr Orzechowski.

Also present: Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Communications Manager Kevin Strauss, Director of Water Resources Ali Elhassan, General Counsel Joe Byrne, Information Technology Technician II Jonathan Thomas, Sustainability Manager Matt Dickens, Attorneys from Nossaman, LLP Fred Fudacz and Byron Gee (Virtually) and Attorney from Cossich Sumich Parsiola & Taylor, LLC Brandon Taylor (Virtually), as well as additional SCV Water Agency staff (Virtually), and members of the public (In Person and Virtually).

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

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board approved Director Marks request to attend tonight’s regular Board meeting remotely due to “Emergency Circumstances” and approved the second Amended Agenda by the following roll votes (Item 4).

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Absent
Director Petersen	Yes		

Item 8 Fleet and Warehouse Update was pulled from tonight’s second Amended Agenda and will be presented at a future meeting, there were no additional changes to the August 15, 2023 second Amended Agenda and it was approved as shown (Item 4).

President Martin opened the Public Hearing on the Rio Vista Water Treatment Plant Battery Storage Project – SGIP at 6:11 PM (Item 5.1).

A presentation was given by Sustainability Manager Matt Dickens and TerraVerde Consultant David Burdick. Public comments were received and the Board was given an opportunity to make comments and ask questions regarding the presentation.

President Martin closed the Public Hearing at 6:59 PM.

Upon motion of Director Armitage, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-378 making the required findings and authorizing and approving the General Manager to execute the Energy Services Agreement with Pacifico Power, LLC as well as the Services Order with Stem US Operations, Inc., and authorizing the execution and delivery of other documents and other actions requested in connection therewith by the following roll call votes (Item 5.2):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Absent
Director Petersen	Yes		

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-378

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
RESOLUTION MAKING FINDINGS ON ENERGY SAVINGS
AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION WITH
AN ENERGY SERVICES AGREEMENT AND SERVICES ORDER**

[Link to Resolution SCV-378](#)

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Vice President Gutzeit and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar including Resolution No. SCV-379 by the following roll call votes (Item 6):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes*
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Absent
Director Petersen	Yes		

*Director Braunstein abstained from voting on Item 6.1.

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-379

**JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ACTING IN BEHALF OF LOS ANGELES
COUNTY GENERAL FUND, LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY, LOS ANGELES
COUNTY ROAD DISTRICT #5, LOS ANGELES COUNTY CONSOLIDATED FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT, LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL,
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION
DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, AND THE GOVERNING BODIES
OF GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT,
ANTELOPE VALLEY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT,
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY, APPROVING AND ACCEPTING
NEGOTIATED EXCHANGE OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUES RESULTING**

**FROM ANNEXATION TO SANTA CLARITA VALLEY SANITATION DISTRICT
ANNEXATION NO. 1122**

[Link to Resolution SCV-379](#)

Item 7 was pulled from the Agenda and will come back to the Board at its September 5, 2023 regular Board meeting.

Item 8 was pulled from the Agenda and will come back to the Board at a future meeting.

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

General Manager Stone reported on the following:

He updated the Board on the recent SCV Water Intern Program and mentioned that we currently have three interns that he and the Assistant General Manager Steve Cole had a breakfast meeting. He mentioned each intern by name and gave a bit of their background.

He then mentioned the Strategic Planning process and some of the items that will be covered at the upcoming Strategic Planning workshop.

He advised the Board that the results of the recently completed Employee Survey will be coming soon.

To hear the full report, please refer to the Board recording by clicking on the following link: [Board Meeting Recording](#).

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

There were no comments on the recap report.

President's Report (Item 11).

President Martin updated the Board on upcoming meetings and events.

AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 12).

A written report was submitted by Vice President Gutzeit which was included in the Board packet.

Director Armitage reported that she virtually attended the Executive Committee meeting of the Special Districts Association of North Los Angeles County on August 9, 2023.

Director Petersen reported that he virtually attended a Strategic Planning SWOT meeting with Ed Means on August 11, 2023.

Director Colley reported that he virtually attended a Strategic Planning SWOT meeting with Ed Means on July 26, 2023.

President Martin reported that he virtually attended a One-on-One meeting with the General Manager on August 7, 2023, virtually attended the monthly meeting with DCA Director Graham Bradner on August 8, 2023, virtually attended the DCA Briefing on August 9, 2023 and attended the Ad Hoc Committee meeting related to the potential facility name change in recognition of Jerry Gladbach held at the Agency on August 14, 2023.

Director Cooper reported that on August 14, 2023, an Ad Hoc Committee meeting was held to discuss a potential SCV Water facility name change in recognition of Jerry Gladbach. He stated the Ad Hoc Committee consisted of President Martin and Directors Armitage and Colley as well as himself and staff members General Manager Matt Stone and Assistant General Manager Steve Cole. He gave a brief update on the meeting and advised the Board that a recommendation would be brought back to the Board for consideration at its September 5, 2023 regular Board meeting to consider renaming the RVWTP in recognition of Jerry Gladbach. To hear the full report, please refer to the Board recording by clicking on the following link: [Board Meeting Recording](#). (Item 12.2)

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:22 PM to discuss Item 13.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9), Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency v. 3M Company, et. al., Case No: 2:20-cv-3771-RMG (Item 13).

The Zoom meeting was put on hold while the Board went into Closed Session. President Martin advised the public and staff for those who wanted to stay, to remain on the current teleconference line and once Closed Session ends, the Board would reconvene for Closed Session announcements and the conclusion of the meeting.

President Martin reconvened the Open Session at 8:46 PM.

Joe Byrne, Esq., reported that there were no actions taken in Closed Session that were reportable under the Ralph M. Brown Act (Item 14).

Director Requests For Future Agenda Items (Item 15).

There were no requests for future Agenda Items.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM in memory of those who lost their lives in the Maui Fire this past week (Item 16).


April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:



President of the Board

