

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – July 2, 2024

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A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency was held at Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 23780 Pine Street, Newhall, CA 91321 at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, July 2, 2024. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes. The meeting recording can be accessed by clicking on the following link: [Board Meeting Recording](#).

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kathye Armitage, Beth Braunstein, Ed Colley, William Cooper, Maria Gutzeit, Dirk Marks, Gary Martin, Piotr Orzechowski and Ken Petersen.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

Also present: 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 Tom Bunn, General Manager Matthew Stone, Informational Technology Supervisor Jeff Herbert, Information Technology Technician II Jonathan Thomas, Senior Financial Analyst Darine Conner, Fieldman Rolapp Consultant Lora Nichols (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.

There were no changes to the July 2, 2024 Board Agenda and it was accepted as shown (Item 4).

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Upon motion of Director Armitage, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar including Resolution Nos. SCV-435, SCV-436, and SCV-437 by the following roll call votes (Item 5):

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	Yes
Director Petersen	Yes		

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-435**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
SETTING SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY TAX RATE FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2024/25 AND REQUESTING LEVY  
OF TAX BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

**[FULL RESOLUTION MAY BE VIEWED BY VISITING THE SCV WATER WEBSITE](#)**

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-436**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
SETTING SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY TAX RATE FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2024/25 AND REQUESTING LEVY  
OF TAX BY VENTURA COUNTY**

**FULL RESOLUTION MAY BE VIEWED BY VISITING THE SCV WATER WEBSITE**

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-437**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
AUTHORIZING THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY TO ENTER  
INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER RESOURCES TO RECEIVE FUNDS FOR THE ARUNDO REMOVAL  
AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL  
MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE SANTA  
CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY**

**FULL RESOLUTION MAY BE VIEWED BY VISITING THE SCV WATER WEBSITE**

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A presentation was given by Fieldman Rolapp Consultant Lora Nichols on the Interim Obligations (Commercial Paper) for WIFIA projects. After the presentation and Board discussion, President Martin directed staff to move forward on the Commercial Paper as an interim financing option for the WIFIA loan program with an option to get a second opinion should staff desire or deem it necessary (Item 6.1).

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**General Manager's Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 7).**

The General Manager reported on the following:

He updated the Board on the Oroville Thompson fire and the impact it is having on the area.

He mentioned that tomorrow is his birthday and stated he has had 60 years of general experience and 40 years of water resources experience.

To hear the full report, please refer to the Board recording by clicking the meeting recording link on the first page of these minutes or visiting the SCV Water Website.

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**Committee Meeting Recap Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 8).**

There were no comments on the Committee Recap Reports.

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**Written Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 9).**

Director Armitage had comments on the following reports: (1) Finance, Administration and Information Technology Services Section Report – She was happy that staff participated in both the “Department of Homeland Security – FEMA sponsored Trainings on physical and cybersecurity” and the “Fleet Managers Forum”. (2) Treatment, Distribution, Operations and Maintenance Section Report – She stated that she was pleased to see no complaints for the month of May 2024. She also inquired about the Agency’s Emergency Response Plan and if the Board would be getting an update on the Plan. (3) Lastly, she commented on the Water Resources Section Report pertaining to staff’s presentation on “Understanding Water Quality in the SCV” which is part of the Newhall Library’s Health and Wellness and Summer Reading programs, she thought it was great that staff participated in this event.

There were no other comments on the written reports.

To hear full comments, please refer to the Board recording by clicking the meeting recording link on the first page of these minutes or visiting the SCV Water Website.

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**President’s Report (Item 10).**

President Martin updated the Board on upcoming meetings and events.

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**AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 11).**

Reports were submitted by Vice President Gutzeit and Director Marks that were posted to the SCV Water website, emailed and are part of the record.

Vice President Orzechowski reported that he attended the E. G. “Jerry” Gladbach Water Treatment Plant Dedication Ceremony held at the former RVWTP on June 27, 2024.

Director Martin reported that he attended the DCA Board meeting held in Sacramento on June 20, 2024.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

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**Director Reports (Item 12).**

Director Petersen reported that over this past weekend there were two fires in Castaic, one in Val Verde and the other down the street from his home. He watched the County Fire Department at work and was impressed by not only their work but also the use of the hose lines to put the fires out.

President Martin thanked staff for all their hard work on the E. G. "Jerry" Gladbach Dedication Ceremony that took place on June 27, 2024. He thought it was a beautifully done event.

There were no other Director reports.

To hear the full reports, please refer to the Board recording by clicking the meeting recording link on the first page of these minutes or visiting the SCV Water Website.

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**Director Requests for approval for event attendance (Item 13).**

There were no requests for event attendance.

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The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM (Item 14).

Signature on File

April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

Signature on File

President of the Board

