

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – January 21, 2020

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A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency was held at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, January 21, 2020. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: B. J. Atkins, Tom Campbell, Ed Colley, William Cooper, Robert DiPrimio, Jeff Ford, Maria Gutzeit, R. J. Kelly, Gary Martin, Dan Mortensen and Lynne Plambeck.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Kathy Colley and Jerry Gladbach.

Also present: Matthew Stone, General Manager; Joe Byrne, General Counsel; April Jacobs, Board Secretary; Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager; Eric Campbell, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer; Keith Abercrombie, Chief Operating Officer; Rochelle Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration; Kathie Martin, Public Information Officer; Jeff Herbert, Senior IT Technician; Kyle Arnold, Accounting Technician I; Terri Bell, Administrative Assistant; Ichiko Kido, RDN Consulting; and members of the public.

President Cooper called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. A quorum was present.

Upon motion of Director Atkins, seconded by Director DiPrimio and carried, the Agenda was approved by the following electronic votes (Item 4):

Director Atkins	Yes	Director Campbell	Yes
Director E. Colley	Yes	Director K. Colley	Absent
President Cooper	Yes	Director DiPrimio	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

Upon motion of Director Mortensen, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar by the following electronic votes (Item 5):

Director Atkins	Yes	Director Campbell	Yes
Director E. Colley	Yes	Director K. Colley	Absent
President Cooper	Yes	Director DiPrimio	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

The Board reviewed and discussed the revised Facility Capacity Fees and recommended that staff bring this item back to the Board for consideration with the proper reports and the administrative record being fully documented and presented (Item 6.1).

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

General Manager Stone updated the Board on the January 8, 2020 All Employee Staff meeting. Topics presented to staff were the top five things going on in the organization which were presented by five different managers. This gave staff an opportunity to hear from different managers and get updates on what is happening in the Agency. He also mentioned the recognition for staff anniversaries, explaining that those who receive awards have been with the Agency for 5, 10, 15, 20, etc. years. One notable award was given out to an employee who had been with the prior entity and the Agency for 35 years.

General Manager Stone continued his update on the upcoming Strategic Planning Session scheduled for February 11, 2020. The session will include a review of the six key goals identified by staff and the Board last year and will cover a refresh/update on those goals. It won't be a full scale review just a tune-up. Ed Means will be facilitating.

He mentioned that our Chief Engineer Brian Folsom would be retiring at the end of February 2020 and that they are currently working on a recruitment plan. He informed the Board that the Assistant General Manager Steve Cole and Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie will be covering the Engineering Department once Brian has retired.

General Manager Stone continued with an update on the State Water Contractors recent meeting. He mentioned three areas of discussions.

- Regulatory issues pertaining to permits to operate the State Water project.
- Contracts in which each of the State Water Contractors have a contract with the Department of Water Resources and they are periodically amended and adjusted as the situation dictates.
- Status of current amendments:
  - **Contract Extension Amendment** – Most Agencies have approved and they are currently waiting for approvals from many of the remaining Agencies. The importance of this, is that the current contract sunsets in 2035 and the extension will change the horizon for financing new capital.
  - **Water Management Tools Amendment** – Entails an effort to clarify what some believe is already in the discretion of the department and Director of the department in the existing contract to permit longer term transfers between contractors rather than one or two year transfers. The Administration wanted to do a formal amendment and get CEQA approval and implement it. An agreement in principle has been reached and the attorneys are writing the language for the Amendment. They are hopeful it will come back for a vote by each of the organizations including SCV Water sometime this year. The importance of this is that it may help facilitate the orderly function of the contract over time as more agriculture entities are under more pressure financially and may wish to contract with the longer term transfers among urban entities or themselves.

- o **Delta Conveyance Facility Amendment** – This amendment is not quite as far along, however it would put in place the means in which the Contractors will commit to paying a share of that project and outline some of the operating principles for the project once the Delta Conveyance Facility is online.

General Manager Stone also reported that consistent with the authority granted to the General Manager in Section 5.2 of the SCV Water Purchasing Policy and under State law, he informed the Board that he determined, based on the reasons and detail described in the attached memo (Attachment 1), that there was an emergency that required immediate action and that it was necessary to dispense with public bidding requirements. He stated that on January 16, 2020, there was an emergency repair of a 14" mainline that ruptured on Dickason Drive by Valencia High School. The repair of the mainline was completed by SCV Water staff and an outside contractor was used to make paving repairs. A report was sent to the SCV Water Board President and Vice Presidents on January 21, 2020 and is included as an attachment to these minutes.

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**President's Report (Item 8).**

President Cooper reminded the Board of upcoming special Board meetings which include Ethics Training on February 3, 2020 and the Strategic Planning Session on February 11, 2020. He also reminded the Board of upcoming events.

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**AB 1234 Reports (Item 9).**

Director Ford reported that he attended a lunch meeting with General Manager Stone on January 21, 2020.

Director Plambeck reported that she attended a lunch meeting with General Manager Stone on January 10, 2020.

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**Director Reports (Item 10).**

There were no Director reports.

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Upon motion of Director E. Colley, seconded by Director Mortensen and carried, the Board went into Closed Session at 8:23 PM to discuss the item listed on the Agenda by the following electronic votes (Item 11):

Director Atkins	Yes	Director Campbell	Yes
Director E. Colley	Yes	Director K. Colley	Absent
President Cooper	Yes	Director DiPrimio	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes

Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

Upon motion of Director Campbell, seconded by Director Kelly and carried, the Board voted to come out of Closed Session at 8:26 PM by the following electronic votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Director Campbell	Yes
Director E. Colley	Yes	Director K. Colley	Absent
President Cooper	Yes	Director DiPrimio	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

President Cooper reconvened the Open Session at 8:26 PM.

Joe Byrne, Esq., reported that pertaining to Item No 11.1 – Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9, Claim of Monica Shive against Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, claim for personal injury and property damage, date of claim October 16, 2019, the Board voted to reject the claim by motion of Director Mortensen, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, by the following voice votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Director Campbell	Yes
Director E. Colley	Yes	Director K. Colley	Absent
President Cooper	Yes	Director DiPrimio	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

There were no other actions taken in Closed Session that were reportable under the Ralph M. Brown Act (Item 12).

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**Director Requests For Approval For Event Attendance (Item 13).**

There were no Director requests for event attendance.

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**Request For Future Agenda Items (Item 14).**

Director Atkins requested that staff give a presentation on the Dickason Drive mainline break or any of the recent breaks explaining the sequence of events and how staff and the community acted. He mentioned maybe a Maintenance Moment from the Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Alvord. Vice President Gutzeit wanted to add that they include in this presentation, what we can do to prevent this in the future and do we have upcoming

replacements planned. Director Plambeck also wanted to see a presentation on this as well. There were no other requests for Future Agenda Items (Item 14).

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Upon motion of Director E. Colley, seconded by President Cooper and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM by the following electronic votes (Item 15):

Director Atkins	Yes	Director Campbell	Yes
Director E. Colley	Yes	Director K. Colley	Absent
President Cooper	Yes	Director DiPrimio	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gladbach	Absent
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
Vice President Martin	Yes	Director Mortensen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

  
April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

  
President of the Board

