

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

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A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency was held via teleconference at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, July 21, 2020. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** B. J. Atkins, Ed Colley, Kathy Colley, William Cooper, Robert DiPrimio, Jeff Ford, Jerry Gladbach, Maria Gutzeit, R. J. Kelly, Gary Martin, Dan Mortensen and Lynne Plambeck via teleconference.

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** None.

Also present via teleconference: General Manager Matthew Stone, General Counsel Tom Bunn, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Eric Campbell, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Director of Finance and Administration Rochelle Patterson, Director of Water Resources Dirk Marks, Director of Tech Services Cris Perez, Senior Management Analyst Kim Grass, Management Analyst Erika Dill, Financial Analyst Darine Conner, Public Information Officer Kathie Martin, Administrative Technician Eunie Kang, IT Technician Jonathan Thomas and members of the public.

President Martin called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. A quorum was present.

Upon motion of Director Plambeck, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved the Amended Agenda by the following roll call votes (Item 4):

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

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

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

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Note Items 6 and 7 were taken in reversed order.

Director of Water Resources Dirk Marks gave a presentation/review on water management options to enhance reliability (Item 7).



Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Ford and carried, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute an Amendment to the Reservoir Agreement for the Sites Project, at a participation level of 5,000 acre-feet per year, to fund necessary planning costs through December 2021 by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

Director Atkins	No	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Director Mortensen	No	Director Plambeck	No

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**General Manager's Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 8).**

The General Manager reported that SCV Water had completed the successful sale of \$251 million in 2020A and 2020B Series Revenue Bonds (A and B refers to the nontaxable and taxable versions), with the following highlights:

- Refunded and refinanced existing debt resulting in nearly \$11 million in present value savings
- Incorporated call provisions to maintain future flexibility
- Secured \$55 million of those proceeds for new capital needs, with an all in true interest cost of 2.48%
- Credit rating from Fitch Rating of AA- with a positive outlook and a credit rating from Standard and Poors of AA with a stable outlook

He ended by thanking the staff and consultants for a job well done.

Further, he reported that SCV Water recently received the Award of Distinction from the California Association of Public Information Officers, which is their 2020 Excellence in Public Information and Communication Awards. We received this award under the category of Crisis Communications for SCV Water's PFAS Groundwater Communication and Response Plan completed by Kathie Martin, Lindsey Gibson and consultant Rachel McGuire from RMG Communications.

Lastly, the General Manager reported consistent with the authority granted to the General Manager in Section 5.2 of the Purchasing Policy, the General Manager hereby determined that, based on the reasons and details described below, there was an emergency that required immediate action and it was necessary to dispense with public bidding requirements.

On Friday, July 17, 2020 at approximately 10:30 AM, a 14" PVC mainline ruptured in the west bound lanes of Smyth Drive, approximately 700 feet west of Dickason Drive. All lanes (4 lanes), east bound and west bound of Smyth Drive were immediately closed by SCV Water staff. On-Call staff had the line isolated by 11:30 AM and operations crews began to mobilize for the repairs. One Fire Service for Valencia High School was out of service. Staff notified the local Fire Department. No other customers were out of water. Due to the importance of this roadway for traffic circulation in the Santa Clarita Valley, the City requested paving be completed immediately. Significant damage to large sections of the roadway on Smyth as well as portions



of Dickason was done by the break and subsequent flooding. There was also significant damage to sidewalks and one Catch Basin structure. Mobilized SCV Water crews immediately began the process of repair of the pipeline and restoration of the roadway. The local paving contractor (RC Becker) was contacted and arrived on scene to aid in assessment of damages and required paving repairs. Staff is also working with JP Arman to get the sidewalks and catch basin repaired. By 11:30 PM on Friday, July 17, 2020 the leak had been repaired. Paving crews completed demo and subgrade Friday, July 17, 2020 thru Saturday, July 18, 2020 and paving was completed Saturday July 18, 2020 with the roadway being reopened by midnight Saturday, July 18, 2020. It is expected that all sidewalk repairs will be made within the next few days.

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**President's Report (Item 9).**

President Martin updated the Board on upcoming events and advised the Board on a few upcoming Agenda items. One of which will come to the August 4, 2020 Board meeting is related to the Board Policy on attendance at single day events. President Martin mentioned that he would like the Board to consider suspending the limitations on single day events through December 31, 2020 and reevaluate in January 2021. In addition, the SCV-GSA Board appointments for both Directors and Alternate Directors for the term 2021-2023 will also be on the August 4, 2020 Board meeting Agenda.

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**AB 1234 Reports (Item 10).**

A written report was submitted by President Martin, was posted on the SCV Water website, OnBoard and is part of the record.

Director Atkins reported that he attended the Sites Reservoir Town Hall meeting webinar on July 14, 2020.

Director DiPrimio reported that he attended the Sites Reservoir Town Hall meeting webinar on July 15, 2020.

There were no further AB 1234 Reports.

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**Director Reports (Item 11).**

There were no Director reports.

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The Board went into Closed Session at 9:28 PM (Item 12).

The Board was instructed to disconnect from the current call and redial in on a separate teleconference line that was provided to them. President Martin instructed the public members and staff who wanted to stay on the call, to stay on the current teleconference line and once

Closed Session has ended, the Board will reconvene for Closed Session announcements and the conclusion of the meeting.

President Martin reconvened the Open Session at 9:44 PM.

The Board Secretary April Jacobs reported that pertaining to Item No. 12.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9, Claim of Christopher Ethakpemhi Against Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, Claim for Property Damage, Date of Claim June 27, 2020, the Board voted to reject the claim by motion of Director Kelly, seconded by Director Mortensen and carried, by the following roll call votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Director E. Colley	Yes
Director K. Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director DiPrimio	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	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 13).

**Director Requests for Approval for Event Attendance (Item 14).**

There were no Director requests for event attendance.

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**Request for Future Agenda Items (Item 15).**

Vice President Gutzeit asked that a report comes back to the Board on what may be happening in Valencia where we have so many main line breaks specifically around the Decoro area. She would like to see what we have planned for a capital replacement plan and what staff has heard about PVC lawsuits. She would also like to discuss looking at a simplified executive summary for the agenda staff reports and removing resolutions from the meeting minutes.

Similar to Vice President Gutzeit's request, Director Plambeck would like a report on PVC mainline breaks and how much it has cost the Agency, as well as what SCV Water will be doing to prevent future breaks. She would also like an itemization of what the costs are after the Facility District comes out in September 2020 specifically how much staff time, attorney time, and what other external costs, as well as who will be responsible for paying those costs.

There were no other requests for future agenda items.

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The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 PM.



  
April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

  
President of the Board

