

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – December 20, 2022

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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, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Kathy Armitage, Beth Braunstein (Arrived at 6:07 PM), Ed Colley (Via Zoom), William Cooper, Jeff Ford, Maria Gutzeit, R. J. Kelly (Via Zoom), Gary Martin, Piotr Orzechowski, Ken Petersen and Lynne Plambeck.

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** None.

Also present: Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson, Communications Manager Kathie Martin, Controller Amy Aguer, Director of Operations and Maintenance Mike Alvord, General Counsel Tom Bunn, General Manager Matthew Stone, Information Technology Technician I Jonathan Thomas, Right of Way Agent Kristina Jacob, Andrew Taban Field Representative for Assemblywomen Pilar Schiavo as well as additional SCV Water Agency staff and members of the public.

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

There were no changes to the December 20, 2022 Board Agenda and it was accepted as shown (Item 4).

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Upon motion of Vice President Orzechowski, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-320 honoring and commending Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Director Jeff Ford for his service and dedication by the following roll call votes (Item 5.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Abstain	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Vice President Orzechowski	Yes	Director Petersen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-320**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
HONORING AND COMMENDING  
JEFF FORD  
FOR HIS SERVICE AND DEDICATION**

**<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-122022-Resolution-SCV-320.pdf>**

Upon motion of Director Braunstein, seconded by Director Armitage and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-321 honoring and commending Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Director Lynne Plambeck for her service and dedication by the following roll call votes (Item 5.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Abstain
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Vice President Orzechowski	No	Director Petersen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Abstain		

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-321**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
HONORING AND COMMENDING  
LYNNE PLAMBECK  
FOR HER SERVICE AND DEDICATION**

**<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-122022-Resolution-SCV-321.pdf>**

The Board recognized Directors Ford and Plambeck for their distinguished service (Item 5.2)

President Martin called for a short recess at 7:10 PM.

President Martin reconvened the meeting at 7:26 PM.

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Upon motion of Director Gutzeit, seconded by Director Ford and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar including Resolution Nos. SCV-322, SCV-323 (Revised), SCV-324 and SCV-325 by the following roll call votes (Item 6):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Vice President Orzechowski	Yes	Director Petersen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-322**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
(1) ADOPTING A LOCAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN AND (2) DIRECTING  
STAFF TO UPDATE THE LHMP EVERY FIVE YEARS**

**<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-122022-Resolution-SCV-322.pdf>**

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-323**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO PREPARE THE  
NECESSARY DATA, CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS, FILE A SUSTAINABLE  
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION, EXECUTE A  
FUNDING AGREEMENT AND ANY FUTURE AMENDMENTS THERETO, SUBMIT  
INVOICES, AND SUBMIT ANY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT  
OF WATER RESOURCES**

**<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-122022-Resolution-SCV-323-R1.pdf>**

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-324**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
AUTHORIZING THE GRANT APPLICATION, ACCEPTANCE AND EXECUTION  
FOR THE SCV WATER GROUNDWATER WELLS PROJECTS**

**<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-122022-Resolution-SCV-324.pdf>**

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-325**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE ORDER TO  
LEE & RO, INC. FOR PLANNING SERVICES  
FOR CATALA PUMP STATION AND PIPELINES PROJECT, AND FINDING THAT THE  
AUTHORIZATION IS NOT A PROJECT SUBJECT TO CEQA**

**<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-122022-Resolution-SCV-325.pdf>**

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Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board received and filed the revised SCV Water Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 by the following roll call votes (Item 7.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Vice President Orzechowski	Yes	Director Petersen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

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Upon motion of President Martin, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board approved an increase in the General Manager's salary from \$25,446 per month to \$27,000 per month, annual salary increased to \$324,000 which is about a 6.1 percent increase effective December 28, 2022, by the following roll call votes (Item 8.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Director Ford	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Kelly	Yes	President Martin	Yes
Vice President Orzechowski	Yes	Director Petersen	Yes
Director Plambeck	Yes		

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

General Manager Stone thanked the Board for the positive feedback and constructive comments in his recent performance evaluation. Looking ahead to 2023, he mentioned a range of general goal areas and noted that a key effort starting in mid-2023 will be an update to the SCV Water Strategic Plan. He also noted a few suggestions that came out of Board member comments in the evaluation that he will be working to continue and improve on in the areas of GM/Board communication, presentations to Board and Committees, Board awareness of Agency financial condition, launch of the Water Academy, and conducting another Employee Engagement Survey.

He then acknowledged Directors Ford, Plambeck and Kelly, who will be leaving the Board at the end of the year. He thanked them for their dedicated service and the time they have had to work together over the last several years.

He went on to advise the Board that he attended several State Water Contractor meetings last week.

Lastly, he thanked the EmpAct Committee of employees for creating such an enjoyable holiday luncheon, the first all staff holiday event since before the pandemic in 2019.

To hear the full report please click on the following link [https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Board\\_Recording\\_122022-Part-2.mp3](https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Board_Recording_122022-Part-2.mp3).

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

There were no comments on the recap reports.

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**President's Report (Item 11).**

The President updated the Board on upcoming community meetings and conferences and upcoming Board and Committee meetings as well as some miscellaneous informational items.

To hear the full report, please click on the following link [https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Board\\_Recording\\_122022-Part-2.mp3](https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Board_Recording_122022-Part-2.mp3).

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**AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 12).**

Written reports were submitted by President Martin and Directors Gutzeit and Plambeck which were included in the Board packet. An additional written report was submitted by Director Plambeck which was posted on the SCV Water website and is part of the record.

Director Armitage reported that she attended virtually the Executive Committee Meeting of the Special Districts of North Los Angeles County held on December 14, 2022.

Director Petersen reported that he attended a virtual one-on-one meeting with General Manager Stone on December 19, 2022.

President Martin reported that he attended the VIA Board Installation Luncheon held at the Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook University Center on December 13, 2022, attended the City Council's Reorganization meeting held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on December 13, 2022 and attended the virtual Delta Conveyance Authority Board of Directors meeting held on December 15, 2022.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

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The Board went into Closed Session at 8:26 PM to discuss Item 13.1 (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 8:53 PM.

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

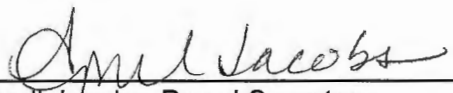
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**Director Requests for Future Agenda Items (Item 15).**

There were no requests for future Agenda Items.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM (Item 16).

  
April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

  
President of the Board

