

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – June 20, 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, June 20, 2023. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Ed Colley.

Also present: Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson, Communications Manager Kevin Strauss, Director of Water Resources Ali Elhassan, General Counsel Tom Bunn, General Manager Matthew Stone, Information Technology Technician I Jonathan Thomas, 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 6:01 PM. A quorum was present.

There were no changes to the June 20, 2023 Board Agenda, it was noted the page numbers for Item 6.2 and 8.1 were incorrectly listed on the Agenda, with that the Agenda was approved (Item 4).

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Marks and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar including the change to the June 6, 2023 meeting minutes reflecting the correct spelling of the Communication Managers name and Resolution No. SCV-362 by the following roll call votes (Item 5.1):

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

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-362

**RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN SUPPORT OF THE NOMINATION OF
CATHY GREEN AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE POSITION OF
ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES PRESIDENT**

[Link to Resolution SCV-362](#)

Upon motion of Director Braunstein, seconded by Director Armitage and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-363 appointing Kathie Kurt (Martin) as an extra help retired annuitant with the adjustment to the final recital of the resolution correcting "Santa Clara Valley

Water Agency” to “Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency” and under Item 5 of the same recital changing “Santa Clara” to “Santa Clarita” and approved the proposed Employment Agreement by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

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

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-363

A RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY FOR EXCEPTION TO THE 180-DAY WAITING PERIOD IN ACCORDANCE WITH CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS 7522.56 AND 21224

[Link to Resolution SCV-363](#)

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Marks and carried, the Board approved Resolution No. SCV-364 (1) designating Piotr Orzechowski as a representative of SCV Water to be eligible to run for office and serve on the Devil’s Den Water District Board and (2) revoked the designation of former SCV Water Director R. J. Kelly effective upon the expiration of his existing term of office by the following roll call votes (Item 6.2):

Director Armitage	No	Director Braunstein	No
Director Colley	Absent	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Yes
Director Petersen	Yes		

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-364

DESIGNATION OF PIOTR ORZECZOWSKI AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY FOR PURPOSES OF SERVING AS DIRECTOR OF THE DISTRICT AND REVOKING THE DESIGNATION OF R. J. KELLY AS A REPRESENTATIVE EFFECTIVE AT THE END OF THEIR EXISTING TERM OF OFFICE

[Link to Resolution SCV-364](#)

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

General Manager Stone reported on the following:

- The upcoming bond financing which will be coming back to the Board next month;
- Valencia Retail Capacity Fee coming back to the Board for consideration at the July 18, 2023 SCV Water regular Board meeting;
- Last month’s State Water Contractors meeting;

- Litigation items pertaining to the ground water contamination with a Closed Session coming to the Board with updates in the near future;
- Recent Executive Staff meeting where they discussed training initiatives and needs and looking at some project management training for upcoming managers; and
- Yearly staff performance evaluations.

He briefly updated the Board on Kathie Martin's recent retirement function and took some time to introduce the new Communications Manager Kevin Strauss who came to us from the City of Santa Clarita.

Lastly, he advised the Board that consistent with the authority granted to the General Manager in Section 5.2 of the Purchasing Policy and based on the details about to be reported, there was an emergency that required immediate action and it was necessary to dispense with public bidding requirements. He stated that at approximately 3:00 PM on June 8, 2023, a leak occurred on a 12" pipeline in Newhall Avenue, south of Lyons Avenue in front of the DMV building. Staff quickly isolated the leak, however, water service was curtailed to approximately 7 apartment buildings, a few single family homes and the DMV building. Water service was restored within approximately 10 hours at 1:30 AM. The City of Santa Clarita shut down the section of Newhall Avenue between Lyons Avenue and 8th Street. Roadway restoration work was conducted on Friday, June 9, 2023 and the roadway was paved on Saturday, June 10, 2023 at a cost of approximately \$175,000.

To hear the full report in its entirety, please refer to the Board recording by clicking on the following link – [062023 SCV Water Board Meeting Recording](#).

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

Director Armitage commented on the 2023 Summer Scout Days Educational Summer Program planned for the Boys and Girls Scouts within Santa Clarita Valley, she was excited to see this program being offered. To hear the full comment please click on the following link [062023 SCV Water Board Meeting Recording](#).

There were no other comments on the recap report.

President's Report (Item 9).

The President updated the Board on upcoming meetings, events and miscellaneous items.

AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 10).

Written reports were submitted by President Martin, Vice President Gutzeit and Director Marks which were posted to the SCV Water website and are part of the record.

Director Cooper reported that he attended a One-on-One meeting with the General Manager held at RVWTP on June 7, 2023, virtually attended both the ACWA Infrastructure Task Force Meeting held on June 12, 2023 and the ACWA Finance Committee meeting held on June 13, 2023.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

Director Requests For Future Agenda Items (Item 11).

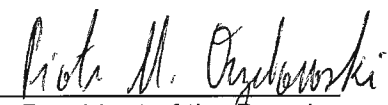
Director Braunstein would like the Board to consider including Director Reports and Requests for Future Agenda items to each Agenda instead of doing it once a month as it is now.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 PM (Item 12).



April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:



Vice President of the Board

