

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – February 1, 2022

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, February 1, 2022. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kathy Armitage, B. J. Atkins, Beth Braunstein, Ed Colley, William Cooper, Jeff Ford, Jerry Gladbach, R. J. Kelly, Gary Martin, Dan Mortensen, Piotr Orzechowski and Lynne Plambeck via teleconference.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

Also present via teleconference: Accounting Tech II Kyle Arnold, Administrative Technician Terri Bell, Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Communications Manager Kathie Martin, Controller Amy Aguer, Director of Finance and Administration Rochelle Patterson, Director of Technology Services Cris Perez, Executive Assistants Eunie Kang and Leticia Quintero, Financial Analyst Darine Conner, General Counsel Tom Bunn, General Manager Matthew Stone, GIS Manager Jose Huerta, Interim Director of Water Resources Dirk Marks, Management Analyst I Liza Moncada, Principal Engineer Jason Yim, Right of Way Agent Kristina Jacob, Senior Engineers Shadi Bader and Jim Leserman, Senior Management Analyst Kim Grass, Water Resources Planner Sarah Fleury, Best Best and Krieger Attorneys Bennett Givens and Lutfi Kharuf, Robert D. Niehaus, Inc. Consultant Ichiko Kido, UNAVCO Representative Matt Burgess, and members of the public.

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

There were no changes to the February 1, 2022 Board Agenda and was accepted as shown (Item 4).

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Orzechowski and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar including Resolution No. SCV-251 and SCV-252 by the following roll call votes (Item 5):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	Director Colley	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Mortensen	Yes
Director Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-251

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
AUTHORIZING SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY TO
EXECUTE GEODETIC MONITORING STATION SITE LICENSE AGREEMENT
WITH UNAVCO; DESIGNATING AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-020122-Resolution-SCV-251.pdf>

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-252

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY
AUTHORIZING A PURCHASE ORDER TO KENNEDY/JENKS CONSULTANTS FOR FINAL
DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE WELL 201 VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS
GROUNDWATER TREATMENT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

<https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-020122-Resolution-SCV-252.pdf>

Upon motion of Director Armitage, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board voted to postpone approving a resolution revising wholesale water rates to a future meeting to allow staff time to gather additional information and answer Directors questions by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	Director Colley	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Mortensen	Yes
Director Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

Upon motion of Vice President Gladbach, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute the Third Amendment to the Reservoir Agreement for the Sites Project by the following roll call votes (Item 6.2):

Director Armitage	No	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	No	Director Colley	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Mortensen	Yes
Director Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	No

Upon motion of Director Plambeck, seconded by Director Colley and carried, the Board voted to continue virtual meetings pursuant to AB 361 for an additional 30 days based on the findings that (1) found that a state of emergency related to COVID-19 is currently in effect and (2) Los Angeles County officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing by the following roll call votes (Item 6.3):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	Director Colley	Yes
Director Cooper	No	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
President Martin	No	Vice President Mortensen	No
Director Orzechowski	No	Director Plambeck	Yes

Committee Meeting Recap Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 7).

Director Orzechowski thanked the Water Resources and Watershed Committee staff for providing continuous updates on the drought and precipitation levels.

There were no other comments on the recap reports.

Written Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 8).

Director Orzechowski had a question on the Finance, Administration and Information Technology Section Report.

Director Armitage had a comment on the Treatment, Distribution, Operations and Maintenance Section Report.

There were no other comments on the written reports.

President's Report (Item 9).

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

AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 10).

Written reports were submitted by President Martin, Vice President Gladbach and Director Ford which were included in the Board packet. Additional written reports were submitted by Directors Cooper and Plambeck which were posted on the SCV Water website and are part of the record.

Director Cooper reported that he attended the virtual ACWA Board meeting on January 5, 2022. A written report was also submitted which was distributed and posted to the website.

Director Atkins reported that he attended the virtual Southern California Water Dialogue meeting held on January 26, 2022.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

Director Reports (Item 11).

Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, the Board approved the nomination of Director E. G. "Jerry" Gladbach for the Independent Special District Voting Member to the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission by the following roll call votes (Item 11.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
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Director Braunstein	Yes	Director Colley	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Mortensen	Yes
Director Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

Director Orzechowski updated the Board on the January 27, 2022 Ad Hoc Board Technology and Remote Public Participation Committee meeting. He announced that Vice President Gladbach and Directors Armitage, Cooper, Plambeck and himself attended the meeting along with staff.

He stated that the goal of the second meeting was to develop a recommended policy for the Board to consider regarding the establishment of remote/virtual access for Board/Committee meetings for members of the public and staff (i.e. the "hybrid" option). Directors were asked to bring supporting materials that would help make their case in arguing for or against the "hybrid" option. Note: A full production option was already dismissed due to the high equipment and labor costs.

Further he mentioned the following:

- IT staff provided a thorough review of what is available at the Agency's Rio Vista Water Treatment Plant Boardroom and what needs to be added (in terms of software and hardware).
- Implementation costs have decreased since the last meeting.
- Staff confirmed that all costs associated with initial installation and annual upkeep are within the Agency's budget.
- Legal counsel confirmed that the hybrid option will adhere to the Brown Act (provided that Directors attend meetings in person).
- The Ad Hoc Committee reached a unanimous agreement.
- A full recommendation is tentatively planned to be presented to the Board at the February 15, 2022 regular Board meeting. The recommendation will outline all costs, legal considerations, general equipment layout/setup, and estimated timeline to completion (Item 11.2).

Director Armitage mentioned her experience with one of the SCV Water employees who reads the meters in her neighborhood, saying she was very pleased with his professionalism. She also mentioned that she was happy the Board passed Item 5.2 on tonight's Agenda.

There were no other Director reports.

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:44 PM to discuss Item 12.1, Item 12.2 was not discussed (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 9:01 PM.

Tom Bunn, Esq., reported that regarding Item 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 Caleb Burch and Any and All Claims that Arise from Agency Vehicle Accident Occurring January 5, 2022, Against Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, Claim for Personal and Property Damage, Date of Claim January 7, 2022, the Board unanimously voted to reject the claim and any other claims based on the same incident and submit it to the Agency’s Joint Powers Insurance Authority, upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Vice President Gladbach and carried, by the following roll call votes:

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	Director Colley	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Mortensen	Yes
Director Orzechowski	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).

Director Plambeck requested attendance at one of the the Planning and Conservation League’s 2022 California Environmental Assembly webinars being held on February 3, 2022. Upon motion of Director Braunstein, seconded by Director Kelly and carried, the Board approved Director Plambeck’s attendance at the February 3, 2022 webinar by the following roll call votes:


Director Armitage	Yes	Director Atkins	Yes
Director Braunstein	Yes	Director Colley	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Director Ford	Yes
Vice President Gladbach	Yes	Director Kelly	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Mortensen	Yes
Director Orzechowski	Yes	Director Plambeck	Yes

There were no other Director requests for event attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM (Item 15).


April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:


Paul Martin
President of the Board

