

**JOINT RECYCLED WATER POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CITY OF SAN JOSÉ/SCVWD/CITY OF SANTA CLARA**

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# MINUTES

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**THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023  
10:00 AM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

A special meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (Committee) was called to order via Zoom video teleconference at 10:10 a.m.

**1.1 Roll Call.**

Valley Water Board Committee members in attendance were District 4 Director Jim Beall, District 3 Director Richard Santos, and Chairperson presiding District 6 Director Tony Estremera.

City of San José/Santa Clara members in attendance were City of San José Councilmembers David Cohen and Peter Ortiz; and Ms. Kerrie Romanow, Director of Environmental Services, and City of Santa Clara Councilmember Kathy Watanabe. Not present was City of Santa Clara Councilmember Karen Hardy.

Valley Water staff members in attendance were A. Baker, S. Bogale, L. Bryant, A. Fulcher, V. Gin, C. Hakes, L. Hong, E. Llamas, M. Richardson, M. Rivas, D. Rocha, M. Sinaki, K. Struve, C. Sun, D. Taylor, S. Tran, D. Tucker, Z. White, and B. Zisser.

City of San José/Santa Clara staff members in attendance were J. Davis, E. Gamboa, P. Hernandez, H. Louie, L. Nguyen, J. Provenzano, M. Tolnay, and G. Welling.

Public member guests were Brisa Moreno and Ryan Castillo.

**2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Chairperson Estremera declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no one present who wished to speak.

Chairperson Estremera requested staff and Committee members to introduce themselves.



### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- 3.1 Approval of May 1, 2019, and May 3, 2021 Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes.

It was moved by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Councilmember Peter Ortiz, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of May 1, 2019, and May 3, 2021 Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee City of San José/SCVWD/City of Santa Clara-TPAC meetings, as presented.

### **4. REGULAR AGENDA:**

- 4.1 Elect 2023 Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (SDVWD/San Jose/Santa Clara - TPAC) Chairperson.

Recommendation: Elect 2023 Chairperson for the Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee.

It was moved by Director Richard Santos, seconded by Councilmember Dave Cohen, and unanimously carried, to nominate and reelect Chairperson Tony Estremera as 2023 Chairperson.

- 4.2 Collaboration between Santa Clara Valley Water District and the Cities of San José and Santa Clara Pertinent to the Expansion of Water Reuse.

Recommendation: Receive information and update on the collaboration between the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) and the Cities of San José and Santa Clara (Cities) pertinent to the expansion of water reuse.

Kirsten Struve, Assistant Officer, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1; gave a background of the expansion of recycled water between Valley Water and the City of San José and the current collaboration that included the City of Santa Clara to develop a locally controlled, drought-proof water supply for a climate uncertain future; and announced that this Committee conducts yearly reviews of the proposed budgets for SVAWPC and SBWR as well as grant opportunities and other potential future expansion work.

With regard to the submitted USBR grant application, Valley Water's application was supported with letters from each city. The grant would fund implementation of LOI and would benefit all three agencies.

The Committee members asked if Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) was being explored for a future project which staff confirmed. Committee members supported using more wastewater for potable and non-potable reuse and developing agreements to do so. Valley Water sent a letter to mayors and councils for both San José and



Santa Clara on accelerating the expansion of reuse. It was noted that this letter would be agendaized at a TPAC meeting and that Valley Water would be invited.

The Committee noted the information without taking formal action.

4.3. Review Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budgets for Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center and South Bay Water Recycling System.

Recommendation: That the Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (Committee) makes recommendations to the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors and the City of San José (San José) City Council on their respective proposed budgets for the ensuing fiscal year in regards to the maintenance, expansion, replacement, improvement, and operation of the South Bay Water Recycling (SBWR) system and the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (Purification Center).

Kirsten Struve reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1 were reviewed by staff as follows: Medi Sinaki, Senior Engineer—Recycled and Purified Water Unit, reviewed Slides 1 through 6; Sam Bogale, Deputy Operating Officer, reviewed Slides 7 through 10; and Jeff Provenzano reviewed Slides 11 through 16.

During the presentation, the Committee noted and requested the following:

City of San José was onboarding a F.U.S.E. Fellow with the primary goal of developing and reaching out to stakeholders on the expansion of recycled water pipeline and alternative water supplies. Potential stakeholders mentioned were as follows: the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California and UA Local 393; downtown businesses interested in recycled water; disadvantaged areas identified on the Senate Bill 535 map (staff mentioned about planned outreach in these areas, and development of guiding principles); north San José, north Santa Clara and east San José.

With regard to the feasibility study in the San José area, the Committee requested that staff present options on a range of sizes including maximum expansion for a purification site instead of a pre-determined size.

With regard to agricultural use of recycled water, south county is supplied with recycled water by the South County Regional Wastewater Authority.

With regard to SVAWPC funding, the Sinking Fund Reserve intended to replace RO membranes and UV unit bulbs would not be carried anymore on future fiscal years and instead absorbed in Valley Water's regular budget cycle as opposed to setting up another reserve.

With regard to SBWR funding proposal, proposed funding presented at this meeting was only for regular maintenance and did not include recycled water expansion.



City of San José staff added that expansion of the South Bay Water Recycling would come from leveraging San José Water Company to do the build out, potential funds from Valley Water, and federal and state funds while Prop 218 restricts use of repair funds to expand recycled water. Director Beall shared his experience with Prop 218 related to ability to allocate funds to disadvantaged communities.

With regard to San José Water Company's master plan on recycled water, the plan was amended recently, and talks were ongoing with the City of San José on expansion to the east side of San José with still unidentified pipeline alignments. The Committee requested staff to consider inviting San José Water Company at a future meeting to present on their master plan.

Director Beall announced that he was willing to make a general presentation to any stakeholder organizations such as the West Valley Sanitation District and help in communication efforts and requested everyone to remember the recent passing of Santa Clara City Manager Don Von Raesfeld.

Councilmember Ortiz mentioned that with the City's policy on social economic equity, east San José should be included in the recycled water expansion project.

Motion: Accept status report on the Proposed Budgets FY 23-24 for SVAWPC and SBWR.  
Move to Approve: D. Cohen  
Second: T. Estremera

Director Santos requested the motion be amended to include that staff would report back with identifying areas for the expansion of SBWR and funding, and Director Beall requested a map that would identify opportunities.

Motion: Accept status report on the Proposed Budgets FY 23-24 for SVAWPC and SBWR and that staff would incorporate comments and directions on a plan to cover areas requested by the Committee including a detailed map.  
Move to Approve: D. Cohen  
Second: R. Santos

4.4. Review and Consider Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (City of San José/SCVWD/City of Santa Clara-TPAC) Name Update.

Recommendation: Review and approve the update on the Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (City of San José/SCVWD/City of Santa Clara -TPAC) name and eliminate reference to TPAC.

It was moved by Councilmember Ortiz, seconded by Chairperson Estremera and carried by roll call vote that the Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee would be renamed to Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee (City of San José/SCVWD/City of Santa Clara) and eliminate reference to TPAC.

**5. ADJOURN:**



Chairperson Estremera mentioned that a future agenda will include San José Water Company to present on their master plan. Councilmember Ortiz reminded everyone that there would be a conversation about an equity map and define what disadvantaged communities mean in relation to this project among Committee members. Director Jim Beall mentioned about a future brainstorming of potential users of recycled water such as schools, the airport, Caltrans, freeway landscaping and target these big potential users. Alternate Councilmember Watanabe requested to add water conservation in exploring water usage for future discussion.

Chairperson Estremera adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon. The next meeting would be scheduled within the next six months and after general counsel had provided comments on the Letter of Intent.

Eva M. Sans  
Assistant Deputy  
Clerk II

Approved: September 6, 2023



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