



RECYCLED WATER COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2023
11:00 AM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A special meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Recycled Water Committee (Committee) was called to order in the Valley Water Headquarters Building Boardroom at 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, and by Zoom teleconference, at 11:00 a.m.

1.1. Roll Call.

Committee members in attendance were District 4 Director Jim Beall, District 3 Vice Chairperson Richard P. Santos, and District 6 Director Tony Estremera, Chairperson presiding, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance were: Brandon Adriano, Karen Adriano, Aaron Baker, Nastaran Basiri, Lakeisha Bryant, Vincent Gin, Walter Gonzalez, Andrew Gschwind, Brian Hopper, Girlie Jacobson, Michele King, Emelia Lamas, Dave Leon, Nicole Merritt, Tony Ndah, Steve Peters, Don Rocha, Medi Sinaki, Diahann Soleno, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, David Tucker, and Beckie Zisser.

Public in attendance were: Phillippe Daniel (Liquisti LLC), Jan Davel (CDM Smith), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club), Ramana Chinnakotla (City of Sunnyvale), and XXX-XXX-8150.

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 who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of September 27, 2023 Recycled Water Committee Meeting Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the September 27, 2023 Committee meeting.

Public Comments:
None.

It was moved by Vice Chair Santos and seconded by Director Beall, and unanimously carried that the minutes be approved.

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4.1. Receive Purified Water Program Update Including Partnerships with Cities of Palo Alto/Mountain View and San Jose/Santa Clara and Provide Feedback.

Recommendation: Receive an update and provide feedback on the following topics:

- A. Collaboration effort with partners
 - Cities of Palo Alto and Mountain View
 - Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara
- B. Public Private Partnership
- C. Outreach

Kirsten Struve reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

Kirsten Struve was available to answer questions.

Public Comments:
None.

The Committee received and noted the information and took no formal action; and Director Santos expressed support for the continued purified water education opportunities assisting the public with becoming more receptive.

- 4.2. Receive South Santa Clara County Water Reuse Collaboration Update and Provide Feedback.

Recommendation: Receive an update on Technical Work Group discussions and provide feedback.

David Tucker reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and per the information contained in Attachment 1.

David Tucker and Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:
None.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted the following:

- The Committee noted the total cost for the whole South County system project for the past 10 years as roughly \$48 million and half a million to be spent this year on extending pipelines with the approved capital project funding by the Board in 2014.
- The Committee directed staff to return with a future agenda item possibly for the RWC December 2023 meeting to include a further detailed update that includes the history with a breakdown of the funding sources, the plant's capacity and buyers for the recycled water, and confirmation of the role of the County to provide clarity on the current South Santa Clara County partnerships.

4.3. Receive Update on the Environmental Feasibility Study for Seawater Desalination in Santa Clara County.

Recommendation: Receive update and information on the environmental feasibility of constructing a seawater desalination plant in Santa Clara County and discuss next steps.

Medi Sinaki reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and per the information contained in Attachment 1.

Medi Sinaki and Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:

Katja Irvin requested clarification regarding the amount of outreach to local environmental groups for the environmental feasibility study.

Kirsten Struve confirmed that this was a preliminary study based on existing documents with no outreach completed at this time with additional details to be provided as this item progresses since potable reuse is the current focus for staff because it utilizes wastewater and less energy.

The Committee received the information, took no formal action, and noted the following:

- Director Beall noted for staff to follow up on including public input once the contractor is selected around March 2024 and once the contractor's report is available.
- Director Santos requested staff to follow up on the option of using the brine from desalination to address the challenges of non-native vegetation by discharging it into the Alviso Slough or rivers and the recycled water options for addressing sea-level rising.
- The Committee directed staff to follow up on looking into options for touring other local desalination facilities and confirmed support of including a status update on desalination in the Water Supply Plan portfolio for the Board.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS:

This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.

Nicole Merritt confirmed there were no Items for Board consideration, but confirmed staff direction for a future agenda item regarding a further detailed update for the South County Water Reuse Collaboration under Item 4.2, and follow up from staff into touring options for the local desalination facilities, and noted support of a report on the status of desalination to the Board.

6. CLOSED SESSION:

6.1. CLOSED SESSION CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Conference with Real Property Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8 Setting Negotiation Parameters for Price and Terms of Payment for Purchase, Sale, or Exchange of Property Interest in APNs 116-01-013 and 008-05-005

Agency Negotiators: Rick Callender, Melanie Richardson, Aaron Baker, Kirsten Struve, Girlie Jacobsen

Negotiating Parties: City of Palo Alto

6.2. District Counsel Report on Closed Session.

Brian Hopper reported that in regard to Item 6.1., the Committee met in Closed Session with all members participating and took no reportable action.

7. Adjourn:

6.1. Adjourn to Special Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on December 6, 2023.

Chairperson Estremera adjourned the meeting at 12:09 p.m., to the special meeting at 10:00 a.m. on December 6, 2023.

Nicole Merritt
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date Approved: December 6, 2023