



ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, January 27, 2025

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Committee) Meeting was held on January 27, 2025, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chair Charles Ice called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. A quorum was established with nine members present.

Members in attendance were:

District 1: Loren Lewis
District 2: Chairperson Charles Ice
District 3: Bill Roth
District 4: Bob Levy
District 5: Patrick Kwok
District 6: Eleni Jacobson, Rebecca Gallardo
District 7: Tess Byler, Vice Chairperson Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D.

Members not in attendance were:

District 1: Swanee Edwards
District 3: Charles Taylor*
District 5: Mike Michitaka
District 6: Jim Piazza

Board members in attendance were: Director Shiloh Ballard (District 2) and Director Nai Hsueh (District 5).

Staff members in attendance were: Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, John Bourgeois, James Downing, Chris Hakes, Candice Kwok-Smith, Dave Leon, Kurt Lueneburger, Becky Manchester, Nick Mascarello, and Kirsten Struve.

Public in attendance were: Ileana Alvarado, Jill Bicknell, Bryn, Tanya Carothers, Katja Irvin, and Peter Schultze-Allen.

*Member Taylor attended virtually as a member of the public.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

2.1. Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair.

Recommendation: Elect 2025 Committee Chair and Vice-Chair

It was moved by Member Byler and seconded by Member Kwok, and unanimously carried that Chairperson Ice and Vice Chairperson Keller continue to serve in their current respective positions.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

It was moved by Member Lewis, seconded by Vice Chairperson Keller, and carried by a vote of 8-0, to approve the October 21, 2024 Committee meeting minutes as submitted. Member Kwok abstained.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4.1. GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Recommendation: Receive an update on the status of Green Stormwater Infrastructure Implementation in Santa Clara County.

Jill Bicknell, EOA Inc., and Ileana Alvarado and Tanya Carothers, City of Morgan Hill, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1. James Downing, Jill Bicknell, Ileana Alvarado, and Tanya Carothers were available to answer questions.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.2 GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION PLAN UPDATE

Recommendation:

- A. Receive information on Santa Clara Valley Water District's Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan; and
- B. Provide input on Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan to Staff.

Lisa Bankosh and Nick Mascarello reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 and 2, and was available to answer questions.

Member Roth left the meeting at 6:59 p.m., and Member Byler left the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.3 REVIEW AND APPROVE 2024 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD

Recommendation:

- A. Approve the 2024 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board; and
- B. Provide comments to the Committee Chair to share with the Board as part of the Accomplishments Report presentation pertaining to the purpose, structure, and function of the Committee.

Dave Leon reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1, and was available to answer questions.

It was moved by Member Lewis, seconded by Vice Chairperson Keller, and carried by unanimous vote, to approve the 2024 Annual accomplishments Report as amended to incorporate minor grammatical edits and forward it to the Board for consideration.

4.4 REVIEW AND RECEIVE UPDATES ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUPS

Recommendation:

- A. Review and receive updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups, and
- B. Provide comments to the Board on implementation of Valley Water's mission applicable to working groups' recommendations.

Dave Leon and John Bourgeois reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1, and was available to answer questions.

Vice Chairperson Keller volunteered to serve as the Chairperson of the Water Supply Working Group and the Natural Flood Protection Working Group. Chairperson Ice noted that Member Byler volunteered to serve as the Chair of the Integrated Water Resources Management Working Group and as a member of the Natural Flood Protection Working Group. Member Gallardo volunteered to serve as a member of the Environmental Stewardship Working Group.

The Committee took no formal action.

4.5 REVIEW ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS, THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA, AND RECOMMEND THE PROPOSED 2025 EWRC WORK PLAN TO THE BOARD

Recommendation:

Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation; and recommend the proposed 2025 EWRC Work Plan to the Board.

Dave Leon and John Bourgeois reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 and 2 and were available to answer questions.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

It was moved by Member Lewis, seconded by Member Levy, and carried by unanimous vote, to approve the 2024 Annual Committee Work Plan as amended to incorporate minor grammatical edits and forward it to the Board for consideration.

5. STANDING ITEMS

5.1 DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Chairperson Ice congratulated Director Ballard on her election to the Board of Directors.

Director Hsueh noted that Director Estremera will attend the next Committee meeting.

Member Lewis noted the passing of former EWRC member Reverend Jethroe Moore II.

5.2 MANAGER'S REPORTS

No reports were given.

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS TO THE BOARD

The Committee took no action.

7. ADJOURNMENT

7.1 ADJOURN

Chairperson Ice adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Monday, April 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Dave Leon
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date approved: April 21, 2025