



RECYCLED WATER COMMITTEE MEETING

---

# MINUTES

---

**SPECIAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024  
12:00 PM**

(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 12:00 p.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, Antonio Alfaro, Hossein Ashktorab, Bart Broome, Lakeisha Bryant, Rick Callender, Adelina Del Real, Jiana Escobar, Rachael Gibson, Vincent Gin, Walter Gonzalez, Jason Gurdak, Zachary Helsley, Girlie Jacobson, Candice Kwok-Smith, Elise Latedjou-Durand, Nicole Merritt, Carlos Orellana, Leslie Orta, Melanie Richardson, Mario Rivas, Nastaran Basiri, Don Rocha, Diahann Soleno, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, and David Tucker.

Public in attendance were: Pete Carrillo, Molly Culton and Katja Irvin (Sierra Club), Phillippe Daniel (Liquisti LLC), Jan Davel (CDM Smith), Valley Water Director Rebecca Eisenberg, (District 7), Pedro Hernandez (City of San Jose), Brian Pecson and Shane Trussell (Trussell Technologies), and Jason.

**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.

2.1. Election of 2024 Recycled Water Committee (RWC) Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Recommendation: Nominate and elect the 2024 RWC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Public Comments:  
None.

The Committee deferred this item until the Board's approval of the 2024 Board Committee Member Appointments.

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

#### **3.1. Approval of December 6, 2023 Recycled Water Committee Meeting Minutes.**

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the December 6, 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 San Jose/Santa Clara and Provide Feedback.**

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

- A. Collaboration effort with the Cities of San Jose and Santa Clara;
- B. Development of a roadmap to develop needed agreements, including mutual objectives, timelines, and resources needed to complete agreements within two years; and
- C. Outreach

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

Kirsten Struve and Melanie Richardson were available to answer questions.

Public Comments:  
None.

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

- The Committee noted their support for staff's continued community outreach.
- Director Beall requested staff follow up on exploring the opportunities for available federal/state funding and fast-tracking projects which is scheduled on the RWC Work Plan for upcoming Spring 2024.

- The Committee confirmed an upcoming Washington D.C. trip on April 15 – 17, 2024 and requested having the Sacramento Legislative office provide an update on funding discussions with legislators at a future meeting.

4.2. Receive Purified Water Program Update Including Partnerships with Cities of Palo Alto/Mountain View and Provide Feedback.

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

- Recommendation: A. Collaboration effort with the Cities of Palo Alto and Mountain View;  
B. Public Private Partnership; and  
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 noted the update on collaboration efforts, progress of agreements, cost estimate for the 8.3 MGD facility, and continued public and private tours of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center.

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

Recommendation: Receive an update and provide feedback on South Santa Clara County Water Reuse Collaboration.

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

Dave 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 Heath McMahon as the new Utility Director for the City of Gilroy, who will assist with the collaboration of completing the Master Plan process and South County agreements.
- The Committee noted staff's direct collaboration with the Cities of Gilroy and Morgan Hill to confirm planning and timelines for potential future purified and recycled water expansion.
- The Committee noted agricultural needs outside of Gilroy in South County is using 40% of the recycled water from the South County Recycled Water Authority (SCRWA) treatment plant.

- The Committee confirmed that staff will reach out to the County, Open Space Authority, and California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCO) if any future water expansion needs go beyond SCRWA's property.
- Director Santos requested staff to confirm if there is any interest for San Martin to become a part of SCRWA for an increase of recycled water.
- The Committee confirmed the new northern South County pipeline extension will be paid for by the developer; and noted a future update on the amount of increased water storage at an upcoming meeting.

4.4. Receive Potential Water Reuse Goal Update Based on Water Supply Master Plan 2050 and Recommend to Valley Water's Board a Potable Reuse Goal.

Recommendation: Receive potential water reuse goal update recommend to Valley Water's Board a potable reuse goal of 24,000 Acre Feet per Year (AFY) by 2035 for inclusion in the Water Supply Master Plan 2050.

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

Zachary Helsley 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 confirmed that the Water Supply Master Plan is updated every 5 years and staff is utilizing a phased approach to the potable reuse goal of 24,000 AFY to be increased up to 45,000 AFY in the future per achieved success.
- Director Beall requested staff follow up on providing information that confirms that a phased approach is most cost effective.
- The Committee confirmed that the Board can assist with increasing the potable reuse goal quicker by partnerships with local wastewater authorities for future agreements and projects.
- The Committee noted staff's concern for the importance of carefully balancing water conservation and water recycling in the Water Supply Master Plan.
- The Committee noted support for the Water Supply Plan to have a maximized potable reuse goal with a phased approach to prompt city partners to accomplish larger reuse water goals.
- The Committee requested for this item to return on a future agenda for further discussion.

4.5. Receive and Accept the 2024 Proposed Recycled Water Committee Work Plan, And Provide Feedback on Upcoming Discussion Items, and 2024 RWC Meeting Schedule.

Recommendation: Receive and accept the 2024 proposed RWC Work Plan, and provide feedback on upcoming discussion items and the 2024 RWC meeting schedule.

The Committee considered this Item without a staff presentation.

Kirsten Struve and Nicole Merritt and was available to answer questions.

Public Comment:

None.

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

- The Committee noted support for canceling the February 2024 RWC meeting and including the return of the Water Supply Master Plan 2050 agenda item for further discussion and a presentation on the Palo Alto project at the March 2024 RWC meeting.
- The Committee noted the upcoming April 2024 meeting of the Joint Recycled Water Policy Advisory Committee Meeting with City of San Jose and Santa Clara.

**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.*

None.

**6. Adjourn:**

6.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 12:00 p.m. on February 28, 2024.

Chairperson Estremera adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m., to the regular meeting at 12:00 p.m. on March 27, 2024 per the Committee supporting the cancellation of the February meeting.

Nicole Merritt  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date Approved: March 27, 2024

**THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**