



## ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE

# MINUTES

**THURSDAY, March 13, 2025**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special scheduled meeting of the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Meeting was held on March 13, 2025, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**1.1. ROLL CALL**

Committee Board Members in attendance were: Director Jim Beall (District 4), Director Nai Hsueh (District 5), and Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Antonio Alfaro, Ricardo Barajas, Audrey Beaman, Mark Bilski, Kendra Boutros, Rita Chan, Jen Codianne, Omar El-Qoulaq, Racheal Gibson, Anthony Gonzalez, Chris Hakes, Nick Ingram, Candice Kwok-Smith, Dave Leon, Becky Manchester, Deyanira Martinez, Nicole Merritt, Carlos Orellana, Max Overland, Shanika Richards, Don Rocha, Stephanie Simunic, Ron Snyder, and Kristen Yasukawa.

Public in attendance were: XXX-XXX-8214, Cupid Alexander, Aurelia Bailey, Rebecca Gallardo, Susan Glendening, Imtiaz-Ali, Katja Irvin, Josh, Kevithom, Jamie Marcil, Gail Osmer, Rebecca's iPhone, Kevin Richardson, Rick, Daniel Sanchez, Shawn, Jeffery Shore, Debra Townley, and Olympia Williams.

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

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

**2.1. ELECT 2025 ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE OFFICERS**

Recommendation: Nominate and elect the 2025 Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

It was moved by Director Hsueh and seconded by Director Beall, and unanimously carried, to re-elect Director Santos as Chairperson.

It was moved by Chairperson Santos and seconded by Director Beall, and unanimously carried, to elect Director Hsueh as Vice Chairperson.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3.1. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 29, 2024 COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Recommendation: Approve the August 29, 2024 meeting minutes.

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Hsueh and seconded by Director Beall, and unanimously carried, to approve the August 29, 2024 Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee meeting minutes as submitted.

**4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

**4.1 RECEIVE UPDATE ON VALLEY WATER'S ENCAMPMENT CLEANUP OPERATIONS**

Recommendation: Receive updates and provide feedback on the following topics:

- A. City of San José interim housing update.
- B. San José Police Department update.
- C. Encampment cleanup schedule.
- D. Encampment cleanup costs and funding.
- E. Trash and debris project costs and accomplishments.
- F. Recent encampment cleanups.
- G. 2025 encampment and unsheltered individual count.

Jennifer Codianne reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1. Jennifer Codianne, Olympia Williams, Deputy Director - Community Services Division, City of San Jose, and Deputy Chief Brandon Sanchez, City of San Jose, were available to answer questions.

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

- Request for information relating to the number of unhoused individuals in the geographic area affected by the City of San Jose's "sit/lie" ordinance
- Request for information relating to arrests made at encampments beyond trespassing charges
- Request for information relating to encampment fires
- Request for a chart indicating preconstruction costs and unhoused individuals regarding the Coyote Creek project
- Request for a presentation relating to the types of restoration projects in which Valley Water is participating

Public Comments: The following members of the public spoke regarding the item: Shawn, Gail Osmer, and Jeffery Shore.

#### **4.2 UPDATE ON VALLEY WATER'S WATER RESOURCES PROTECTION ZONES (WRPZ) ORDINANCE IMPLEMENTATION**

Recommendation: Receive updates and provide feedback on the following topics:

- A. WRPZ Ordinance and encampment cleanup operations
- B. Ordinance education and outreach
- C. Ordinance Adaptive Implementation Team (OAIT)

Mark Bilski 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.

Public Comments: The following members of the public spoke regarding the item: Shawn and Gail Osmer.

Discussion ensued relating to feedback from those impacted by the implementation plan, including concerns from stakeholders, and educational outreach to unhoused individuals to give them an understanding of the implementation plan, and Valley Water's outreach efforts to unhoused individuals who are in active construction zones.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

#### **4.3 RECEIVE INFORMATION ON THE PROPOSED WATER RESOURCES ENCAMPMENT INSPECTION REPORT PROCESS**

Recommendation: Receive information on the proposed Water Resources Encampment Inspection Report process and provide feedback, as necessary.

Mark Bilski reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 through 5.

Mark Bilski and Chris Hakes were available to answer questions.

Public Comments: None.

Discussion ensued relating to the case-by-case handling of unhoused individuals with severe disabilities or children.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

#### **4.4 REVIEW OF VALLEY WATER'S AGREEMENTS AND COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS FOR UNHOUSED SERVICES**

Recommendation: Review Valley Water's agreements with the County of Santa Clara and the City of San José related to services for unhoused individuals and help identify proactive collaborative methods that can be pursued to collectively make meaningful progress with the unhoused living along the waterways in Santa Clara County.

Mark Bilski 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.

Public Comments: The following members of the public spoke regarding the item: Shawn,

Gail Osmer, Jeffery Shore, and Rebecca Gallardo.

Discussion ensued relating to Agreements with the County of Santa Clara and the City of San Jose regarding case management of unhoused individuals living on Valley Water lands, and an agreement with the San Jose Police Department relating to patrols ensuring the safety of Valley Water staff and members of the public.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

**4.5 RECEIVE INFORMATION FROM THE YOUTH COMMISSION'S POLICY WRITING AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON THE PROPOSED PLAN TO ADDRESS THE GROWING CONCERNS OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS IN RELATION TO THE UNHOUSED POPULATION IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

Recommendation: Receive information from the Youth Commission's Policy Writing Ad-Hoc Committee on the proposed plan to address the growing concerns of environmental impacts in relation to the unhoused population in Santa Clara County.

Kristen Yasukawa, Mark Bilski, and Ricardo Barajas reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1, and were available to answer questions.

Public Comments: None.

Discussion ensued relating to support of the Youth Commission's Board-approved proposal and the Commission's efforts to prepare materials for presentations to various foundations.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

**4.6 REVIEW THE ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE (ECCC) WORK PLAN.**

Recommendation: Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation.

The Committee considered this item without a staff presentation.

Public Comments: None.

With no discussion, the Committee received the information and took no formal action.

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

The Committee took no action.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**6.1 ADJOURN**

Chairperson Santos adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Submitted by:

Dave Leon  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date Approved: June 27, 2025

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