



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

NON-AGENDA

May 23, 2025

Board Policy EL-7 Communication and Support to the Board

The BAOs shall inform and support the Board in its work.

| Page | <u>CEO BULLETIN & NEWSLETTERS</u> |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3 | CEO Bulletin: 05/22/25 |
| | <u>BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS & INFORMATIONAL ITEMS</u> |
| | BMR/IBMR Weekly Reports: None |
| | <u>INCOMING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE</u> |
| 6 | Board Correspondence Weekly Report: 05/21/25 |
| 7 | Email from Bob Siegfried to the board, dated 05/15/25, sharing an article titled <i>The paradox of irrigation efficiency</i> . C-25-0083 |
| 8 | Email from Shaunn Cartwright to the board, dated 05/20/25, regarding the City of San Jose and Valley Water homeless encampment sweep on Autumn Parkway. C-25-0084 |

CEO BULLETIN

To: Board of Directors
From: Melanie Richardson, Interim CEO

Weeks of May 9, 2025 – May 22, 2025

Board Executive Limitation Policy EL-7:

The Board Appointed Officers shall inform and support the Board in its work. Further, a BAO shall 1) inform the Board of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, or material external and internal changes, particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established and 2) report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board.

| Item | IN THIS ISSUE |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>1</u> | Safe, Clean Water Mini-Grant Closeout: San José State University Research Foundation's Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful BioBlitz and Connection to Nature Project |
| <u>2</u> | Safe, Clean Water Standard Grant Closeout: Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's Reducing the Impacts of Litter Along the Guadalupe Trail Project |
| <u>3</u> | Scheduled Repairs to South Bay Aqueduct (SBA) and Temporary Operational Adjustments, May 19 to May 28, 2025 |

1. Safe, Clean Water Mini-Grant Closeout: San José State University Research Foundation's Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful BioBlitz and Connection to Nature Project

In Fiscal Year 2020, Valley Water awarded San José State University Research Foundation (Grantee) a \$5,000 Safe, Clean Water Program D3 Mini-Grant for their Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful BioBlitz and Connection to Nature project. The Grantee completed the project on November 8, 2023, and submitted the final invoice items in June 2024, allowing for grant closeout.

The San José State University Research Foundation is a nonprofit organization that assists in externally funded research for faculty to pursue educational and research partnerships. The Grantee collaborated with Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful to host the Project, conduct research analysis, and gather data on measuring participants' sense of connection to nature. The Grantee used a pre-study and post-event survey to explore the relationship with nature among the 156 event participants who responded to the survey.

Key Outcomes:

- Conducted pre- and post-event surveys of 156 event participants.
 - Results showed that at least 74% of BioBlitz event participants experienced increased connection to nature following event participation.
- Conducted an extensive review of 57 professional literature publications on topics related to the key research question.
- Applied social science statistical analysis techniques to compile and develop a final project report.

For further information, please contact Rachael Gibson at (408) 630-2884.

2. Safe, Clean Water Standard Grant Closeout: Guadalupe River Park Conservancy's Reducing the Impacts of Litter Along the Guadalupe Trail Project

In Fiscal Year 2020, Valley Water awarded Guadalupe River Park Conservancy (Grantee) a \$90,049 Safe, Clean Water Program F9 Standard Grant for their Reducing the Impacts of Litter along the Guadalupe River Trail Project (Project). Grantee completed the Project on September 30, 2023, and submitted the final invoice items on February 16, 2024, allowing for grant closeout.

The Project provided enhanced stewardship over a two-year period along the four-mile segment of the Guadalupe River Trail from Virginia Street to Skyport Drive in downtown San Jose through litter pickup and debris removal, outreach to the unhoused, light landscaping, and community education.

Key Outcomes:

- Organized 45 community volunteer cleanups and removed 362,340 pounds of trash.
- Identified potential pollutant threats to waterways and addressed or reported them.
- Conducted outreach to 756 unhoused individuals living along the Guadalupe River and delivered 617 trash bags for their use.
- Recruited 16 volunteer trail ambassadors to improve public awareness and promote personal stewardship in the unhoused community.

For further information, please contact Rachael Gibson at (408) 630-2884.

3. Scheduled Repairs to South Bay Aqueduct (SBA) and Temporary Operational Adjustments, May 19 to May 28, 2025

On May 13, 2025, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) notified Valley Water of a minor leak identified on the South Bay Aqueduct (SBA) pipeline. In response, DWR scheduled repair activities to begin as soon as possible. The dewatering of the SBA pipeline began at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, May 19, 2025. Repair activities are expected to be completed by Wednesday, May 28, 2025.

To support this effort and facilitate the transition of source water for the Penitencia Water Treatment Plant (PWTP) from the SBA to San Luis Reservoir, water treatment operations at PWTP were temporarily suspended from 7:00 a.m. to noon on Monday, May 19, 2025.

During this period all Valley Water East Pipeline turnouts were supplied by the Santa Teresa Water Treatment Plant (STWTP), with the exception of San Jose Water Company's Dutard turnout. Service to this turnout resumed once PWTP was back online following the source change, at approximately noon on the same day.

Throughout the SBA repair period, the primary raw water supply to all three water treatment plants (Santa Teresa, Penitencia and Rinconada) will be provided by the San Luis Reservoir. In preparation for any unforeseen operational emergencies, the joint Valley Water-San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Intertie Facility will be placed on standby to provide emergency supply to the East Pipeline should any operational emergencies occur either at STWTP or raw water source.

For further information, please contact Sam Bogale at (408) 630-3505.

INCOMING BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Board Correspondence (open)

| Correspond No | Rec'd By District | Rec'd By COB | Letter To | Letter From | Description | Disposition | BAO/ Chief | Staff | Draft Response Due Date | Draft Response Submitted | Writer Ack. Sent | Final Response Due Date |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| C-25-0078 | 04/29/25 | 04/29/25 | All | PARHAM POURAHMA D | Email from Parham Pourahmad and Arnav Singhal, students at Los Gatos High School to the board, dated 04/29/25, Requesting permission to set up approximately 30 motion-activated trail cameras along creeks, such as Coyote Creek and Los Gatos Creek. | Refer to Staff | Hakes | Infante | 05/07/25 | 05/01/25 | n/a | 05/13/25 |

From: [Bob Siegfried](#)
To: [Board of Directors](#)
Subject: The paradox of irrigation efficiency
Date: Thursday, May 15, 2025 11:10:29 AM

*** This email originated from outside of Valley Water. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. ***

Dear Directors,

Prompted a few years ago by the initiative of a former member of the board, the District embarked on a "baseline" model of agricultural irrigation in, primarily, the Llagas Valley . At that time, the District's water use efficiency unit staff were unable to answer whether District data on groundwater levels and stream flows gave indication that agricultural irrigation was conducted inefficiently. Nor had the contractors considered this. The project appears to have been contracted on an assumption that growers in the District's service area were not sharing in the water conservation burden borne by other sectors.

I formerly (and enjoyably) worked at the District in agricultural irrigation efficiency, and in that capacity witnessed inefficient irrigation - too much and too little. However, farmers' inefficiencies do not sum to Llagas Valley-wide inefficiency, and I urge the board to clarify its effort in this area by being attentive to basin scale water data. To that end, I commend to you *The paradox of irrigation efficiency* (<https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.aat9314>). The article is paywalled, but the District's librarian either can obtain it from Science or from an alternate source.

Respectfully,

Bob Siegfried
Director, Carmel Area Wastewater District

From: [iq4rent.sc](#)
To: [iq4rent.sc](#)
Subject: Re: Joint Sweep at Autumn
Date: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 3:44:50 PM

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I sent that and maybe 30 minutes later there's a brush fire next to Heritage Rose Garden.

Talked to the firefighters again and they said the following:

1. They've repeatedly told the city how "dangerous" it is to have brush so high in that area and "they just ignore us. "
2. They've repeatedly told the city how "dangerous" it is not to have access to Spring St because of the K- rail and been ignored.
3. They bring their own tree trimmers to calls so they can get through on the trails because the trees are so poorly maintained. This slows response time.
4. I'll throw in my own, if you're turning left on Spring from Taylor, your view of oncoming traffic is almost completely obscured by the brush in the center island.

All of these could be chalked up to budget cuts, but it's strange that they all correlate to access to unhoused people, access to camps, and emergency response to them.

The Mahan- made disaster is illustrated so well here.

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

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From: iq4rent.sc [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 2:16:56 PM
To: me [REDACTED]
Subject: Joint Sweep at Autumn

VW swept people this morning from Julian to the RR tracks on Autumn Parkway, telling them they would be safe if they went across the street.

Right now, the City is sweeping all of their belongings, everything they saved from the first sweep. They are left with nothing. We had to fight to save two dogs and some puppies from Animal Control.

This is cruel. This is a Mahan-made disaster. This is why people don't engage with the city. This makes trauma and PTSD worse. Is that the goal? Some diabolical plan to make everyone crazy and angry so either you can arrest them or institutionalize them?

Do not blame unhoused people for how they do/ do not respond to you after this. You should be ashamed of these tactics, this cruelty, this abject disregard for the mental or physical wellbeing of unhoused people when tomorrow is going to be 86 degrees.

Nobody is being offered water, housing, safe parking, vehicle repairs, vehicle registration, on-site medical or mental health assistance.

Someone will surely die in the next few days in 95110/95112 and exposure will play a role. This is a Mahan-made disaster. Your silence is complicity.

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

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