



BOARD POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

**Monday, June 5, 2023
2:00 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board Policy and Planning Committee (Committee) was called to order at 2:00 p.m. on June 5, 2023.

Board Members in attendance: Director Nai Hsueh – District 5; Director Tony Estremera – District 6; and Director Rebecca Eisenberg – District 7, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance: Lisa Bankosh, John Bourgeois, Bart Broome, Rick Callender, Theresa Chinte, Rachael Gibson, Chris Hakes, Brian Hopper, Michele King, Carlos Orellana, Melanie Richardson, Kirsten Struve, Greg Williams, and Tina Yoke.

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

Committee Chair Hsueh declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no one present who requested to speak.

3. 3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 6, 2023.

The Committee considered the draft minutes from the March 6, 2023, meeting. It was moved by Director Estremera, seconded by Director Eisenberg, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes as presented.

4. INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Review Board Governance Policies Related to the Election of the Board Chairperson/Vice Chairperson and the role of the Board Chairperson.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the election of the Board Chairperson/Vice Chairperson Board Governance Policy options.

Director Eisenberg stated she was in favor of an analysis of generally accepted and best practices for election of the Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson and the role of Board Chairperson, as well as clarifying current policy language.

It was moved by Director Hsueh, seconded by Director Estremera, with Director Eisenberg abstaining, to recommend to the Board that the Board Governance Policy be revised to state that the election of the Board Chairperson and Board Vice Chairperson requires a simple majority vote (4 votes) of the Board, and to ask the Board to provide clarification on the review of the role of the Board Chairperson.

4.2 Board Governance Encampments of Unsheltered People Ends Policy E-6.

Rechelle Blank, Deputy Operating Officer, reviewed the information on this item as outlined in the memorandum and proposed draft policy.

The Committee provided the following input:

Director Eisenberg stated that the policy needs to be reworded to have more ends-oriented objectives and goals. The policy needs to include ways that positive and successful collaborative relationships will be created and used.

Director Hsueh requested that the first paragraph under the title be revised to reflect higher level language and a more regional approach and suggested that Goal 6.1 could replace the introductory first paragraph. Under 6.1.2 remove “from internal working group recommendations.”

The Committee requested that staff incorporate the Committee’s suggestions and return in August with updated policy language.

4.3 Develop Draft Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24) Board Work Plan based upon the outcome of the May 3, 2023 Board Strategic Planning Meetings.

Theresa Chinte, Chief of Staff, reviewed the information on this item as outlined in the memorandum and Attachment 1.

The Committee provided the following input:

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Director Eisenberg suggested that the Objective should focus more on educating the public about our management of water resources and be less focused on public relations.

Katja Irvin, San Jose Resident, requested that consideration be given to adding to Objective 3, that a more robust community outreach plan be implemented within Santa Clara County to educate the public about various aspects of the Delta Conveyance Project, including discussions with stakeholders; and perhaps the Board could assign a committee to work with staff to develop such a plan.

WATER SUPPLY

Objective 1, Tactics Bullet Point 2, define and list what’s included in the “no regrets” package.

Director Hsueh suggested that the Recycled Water Committee consider changing their name to the Water Reuse Committee.

Director Eisenberg requested that Objective 5, Tactics Bullet Point 8, be reworded to state, “Make efforts” to obtain water use data from Valley Water Retailers.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Objective 2, Tactics - add new Bullet Point - Support legislation that puts restrictions on polluting, because of the increased cost to Valley Water.

Objective 3 – change from over 20 years to “over 25 years.”

CLIMATE CHANGE

Tactics section, add new Bullet Point - Explore opportunities in our programs and projects for carbon sequestration, including ecosystem regeneration and reforestation.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Request that the Board refer to the Diversity and Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee to review the current process used by staff to report concerns that is independent of line management.

It was moved by Director Estremera, seconded by Director Hsueh, with Director Eisenberg voting no, to recommend to the Board to approve the FY23 Board Work Plan, with revisions and additions identified by the Committee.

4.4 Review the Draft Board of Directors Code of Ethics and Conduct Policy and Provide Feedback or Other Direction..

BPPC Chair Hsueh continued this item to a special meeting in June.

4.5 Review Committee 2023 Work Plan and Meeting Schedule.

Michele King, Clerk of the Board, reviewed the updated work plan and meeting schedule.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.

Michele King acknowledged that the Committee had taken action on Items 4.1 and 4.3 for board consideration, and provided input on 4.2, for staff to update and return to the Committee in August.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Director Hsueh adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:40 p.m.



Michele L. King
Clerk of the Board

Approved: 8/10/23