



SAFE, CLEAN WATER AND NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM  
INDEPENDENT MONITORING COMMITTEE

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# MINUTES

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**WEDNESDAY, December 3, 2025**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program Independent Monitoring Committee was held on December 3, 2025 at the Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Vice Chairperson Susan Landry called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

**1.1. ROLL CALL**

A quorum was established with eight Members present.

**Members in attendance were:**

District 1: Marc Rauser

District 2: Erika Laguna and Greg Pollock

District 3: Will Ector

District 4: Vice Chairperson Susan M. Landry

District 5: Bill Hoeft and George Fohner (Member Fohner attended remotely)

District 6: Patrick Kwok

Members Bill Chuan, District 3, Rebecca Gallardo, District 6, and Forest Peterson, District 7, arrived as noted below.

Director Richard Santos, District 3, attended the meeting virtually.

Valley Water staff in attendance were: Lisa Bankosh, Mark Bilski, Wade Blackard, John Bourgeois, Jennifer Codianne, Jessica Collins, Meenakshi Ganjoo, Alexander Gordon, Chris Hakes, Wendy Ho, Dave Leon, Ryan McCarter, Nicole Merritt, Sophie Padilla, Luz Penilla, Kirsten Struve, Kristen Yasukawa, Bhavani Yerrapotu, and Tina Yoke.

Public in attendance were: Nai Hsueh, Andre Fall, John Mahoney, and John Varela.

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

There was no one who wished to speak.

**2.1. Elect 2025-2026 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.**

Recommendation: Elect 2025-2026 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Members Chuan and Gallardo arrived at 4:04 p.m.

It was moved by Member Ector, seconded by Member Kwok, and unanimously carried to elect Vice Chairperson Landry as Committee Chairperson.

It was moved by Member Kwok, seconded by Member Ector, and unanimously carried to elect Member Rauser as Committee Vice Chairperson.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3.1 APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 19, 2025 AND SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 IMC MINUTES**

Recommendation: Approve the minutes

It was moved by Member Gallardo, seconded by Member Ector, and unanimously carried to approve the February 19, 2025 and September 11, 2025 Committee meeting minutes as submitted. Member Fohner abstained from the September minutes.

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**4.1 INDEPENDENT MONITORING COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE SAFE, CLEAN WATER AND NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM'S FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT**

Recommendation:

- A. Receive an overview of the fourth year of implementation of the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Program (Safe, Clean Water Program) and the Fiscal Year 2024-25 (FY25);
- B. Determine whether to continue the existing process or establish a new process to review the Annual Report; and
- C. Consider and approve the schedule for finalizing the Independent Monitoring Committee's annual report on Santa Clara Valley Water District's FY25 Annual Report.

Meenakshi Ganjoo reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 through 7, and was available to answer questions.

Member Peterson arrived at 4:21 p.m.

The Committee agreed on consensus to continue the existing process to review the Annual Report.

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Rauser, seconded by Member Chuan, and carried by unanimous vote to approve the schedule for finalizing the Independent Monitoring Committee's annual report.

The Committee members then volunteered to serve on the various Subcommittees.

**4.2. RECEIVE INFORMATION ON JURISDICTIONAL COMPLEXITIES IMPACTS ON PROJECTS IN THE SAFE, CLEAN WATER AND NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM**

Recommendation: Receive information on jurisdictional complexities impacts on

projects in the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program.

Luz Penilla reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1. Luz Penilla and Chris Hakes were available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to scheduling, including permits and delays, complications that can arise from multiple agencies on a single project at the local, State, and Federal level and collaboration with other agencies to change or improve the process and address some of those conflicts, and permit streamlining initiatives.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

**4.3. RECEIVE THE SAFE, CLEAN WATER AND NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM INDEPENDENT PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT FOR THE PERIOD COVERING JULY 1, 2021, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024, WITH VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSE**

Recommendation: Receive the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program Independent Performance Audit Report for the period covering July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2024, with Valley Water management's response.

John Mahoney, Owner's Advisor Services, and Andre Fall, Colorado Independent Consultants Networks, LLC, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1, 2, and 3. John Mahoney, Andre Fall, Jessica Collins, Luz Penilla, and Chris Hakes were available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to the implementation date for changes, funding source discrepancies, Committee vacancies, reports to the Board Audit Committee relating to implementation, and updates regarding San Francisquito Creek and Conflict of Interest provision disclosures.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

**5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.**

The Committee took no formal action.

**6. ADJOURN.**

Chairperson Landry adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

Dave Leon  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II  
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved: January 29, 2026

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