

July 31, 2023

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE & REQUEST FOR RSVP**TO: AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE****Jurisdiction**

District 1
District 2
District 4
District 5
District 6
Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District
Santa Clara County Farm Bureau

Representative

Erin Gil
James Provenzano
Sheila Barry
Jan F. Garrod
Tim Chiala
Peter Van Dyke
Dhruv Khanna

Representative

Mitchell Mariani

Brent Bonino
Trevor Garrod
Robert Long

The special meeting of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held on **Monday, August 7, 2023, at 1:30 p.m., at Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.**

Enclosed are the meeting agenda and corresponding materials. Please bring this packet with you to the meeting. Additional copies of this meeting packet are available on our new website at <https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-advisory-committees>.

A majority of the appointed membership is required to constitute a quorum, which is fifty percent plus one. A quorum for this meeting must be confirmed at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date or it will be canceled.

Further, a quorum must be present on the day of the scheduled meeting to call the meeting to order and take action on agenda items.

Members with two or more consecutive unexcused absences will be subject to rescinded membership.

Please confirm your attendance no later than **12:00 p.m., Thursday, August 3, 2023**, by contacting Ms. Glenna Brambill at 1-408-630-2408, or gbrambill@valleywater.org.

Enclosures



Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Meeting

Public and Non-presenting staff may Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/98850905996>

Meeting ID: 988 5090 5996

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,98850905996# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 988 5090 5996



Santa Clara Valley Water District Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Meeting

**Headquarters Building Boardroom
5700 Almaden Expressway
San Jose CA 95118**

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, August 7, 2023
1:30 PM**

District Mission: Provide Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment and economy.

COMMITTEE: Jan Garrod, Chair Peter Van Dyke, Vice Chair	All public records relating to an item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Clerk of the Board at the Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118, at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. Santa Clara Valley Water District will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to attend Board of Directors' meeting. Please advise the Clerk of the Board Office of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.	Vincent Gin Darin Taylor, (Staff Liaisons)
BOARD REPRESENTATIVES: Director Jim Beall Director Richard P. Santos Director John L. Varela		Glenna Brambill, (COB Liaison) Management Analyst II gbrambill@valleywater.org 1-408-630-2408

Note: The finalized Board Agenda, exception items and supplemental items will be posted prior to the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act.

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Agricultural Water Advisory Committee
SPECIAL MEETING
AGENDA

Monday, August 7, 2023

1:30 PM

Headquarters Building Boardroom
5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose CA 95118

*****IMPORTANT NOTICES AND PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS*****

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors/Board Committee meetings are held as a “hybrid” meetings, conducted in-person as well as by telecommunication, and is compliant with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public have an option to participate by teleconference/video conference or attend in-person. To observe and participate in the meeting by teleconference/video conference, please see the meeting link located at the top of the agenda. If attending in-person, you are required to comply with Ordinance 22-03 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT SPECIFYING RULES OF DECORUM FOR PARTICIPATION IN BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS located at <https://s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/valleywater.org.if-us-west-2/f2-live/s3fs-public/Ord.pdf>

In accordance with the requirements of Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a), members of the public wishing to address the Board/Committee during public comment or on any item listed on the agenda, may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the “Raise Hand” tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself in order to speak, at the time the item is called. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board/Committee.

- Members of the Public may test their connection to Zoom Meetings at: <https://zoom.us/test>
- Members of the Public are encouraged to review our overview on joining Valley Water Board Meetings at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TojJpYCxXm0>

Valley Water, in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), requests individuals who require special accommodations to access and/or participate in Valley Water Board of Directors/Board Committee meetings to please contact the Clerk of the Board’s office at (408) 630-2711, at least 3 business days before the scheduled meeting to ensure that Valley Water may assist you.

This agenda has been prepared as required by the applicable laws of the State of California, including but not limited to, Government Code Sections 54950 et. seq. and has not been prepared with a view to informing an investment decision in any of Valley Water’s

bonds, notes or other obligations. Any projections, plans or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this agenda are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from any such statement. The information herein is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations and investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by Valley Water on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures and Valley Water's Investor Relations website, maintained on the World Wide Web at <https://emma.msrb.org/> and <https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/financebudget/investor-relations>, respectively.

Under the Brown Act, members of the public are not required to provide identifying information in order to attend public meetings. Through the link below, the Zoom webinar program requests entry of a name and email address, and Valley Water is unable to modify this requirement. Members of the public not wishing to provide such identifying information are encouraged to enter "Anonymous" or some other reference under name and to enter a fictional email address (e.g., attendee@valleywater.org) in lieu of their actual address. Inputting such values will not impact your ability to access the meeting through Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/98850905996>

Meeting ID: 988 5090 5996

Join by Phone:

1 (669) 900-9128, 98850905996#

1. CALL TO ORDER:

1.1. Roll Call.

- 2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.** *Notice to the public: Members of the public who wish to address the Board/Committee on any item not listed on the agenda may do so by filling out a Speaker Card and submitting it to the Clerk or using the "Raise Hand" tool located in the Zoom meeting application to identify yourself to speak. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Board/Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Board/Committee. Speakers' comments should be limited to two minutes or as set by the Chair. The law does not permit Board/Committee action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Board/Committee action is requested, the matter may be placed on a future agenda. All comments that require a response will be referred to staff for a reply in writing. The Board/Committee may take action on any item of business appearing on the posted agenda.*

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of Minutes.

[23-0784](#)

Recommendation: Approve the April 3, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 04032023 Ag Wtr DRAFT Mins](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.1. Untreated Surface Water Program Activities and Water Master Charge Overview.

[23-0785](#)

Recommendation: Receive information on the Untreated Surface Water Program activities and Water Master Charge overview.

Manager: Greg Williams, 408-630-2867

Attachments: [Attachment 1: Surface Water Permittees Map](#)
[Attachment 2: PowerPoint Presentation](#)

Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes

4.2. Consider Proposed Amended Requirements for Metering of Wells in All Valley Water Groundwater Benefit Zones.

[23-0786](#)

Recommendation: Receive feedback on proposed amended requirements for the metering of wells in all Valley Water Groundwater Benefit Zones; recommend adoption of amended requirements to full Board.

Manager: Aaron Baker, 408-630-2135

Attachments: [Attachment 1: GW Benefit Zones Map](#)
[Attachment 2: PowerPoint Presentation](#)

Est. Staff Time: 15 Minutes

4.3. Review Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.

[23-0787](#)

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

Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

Attachments: [Attachment 1: AWAC 2023 Work Plan August 2023](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

5.1. Standing Items Report.

[23-0816](#)

Recommendation: Standing Items Report

This item allows the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the Board's Fiscal Year 2023 Work Plan Strategies. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information and/or provide collective input to the assigned Board Committee.

Manager: Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

Attachments: [Attachment 1: Board Work Plan Standing Items Report](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

6. 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.

7. REPORTS:

7.1. Director's Report

7.2. Manager's Report

7.3. Committee Member Report

7.4. Information Links:

<https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-committees>

- Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC)
- Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC)

<https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-advisory-committees>

- Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC)

<https://www.valleywater.org/your-water/water-supply-planning/monthly-water-tracker>

- Water Tracker:

8. ADJOURN:

8.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 1:30 p.m., on Monday, October 2, 2023.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 23-0784

Agenda Date: 8/7/2023
Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Approval of Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the April 3, 2023, Meeting Minutes.

SUMMARY:

A summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted for review and approval.

Upon Committee approval, minutes transcripts are finalized and entered into the District's historical records archives and serve as historical records of the Committee's meetings.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 04032023, Ag Water Draft Meeting Mins.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193



AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2023

A regular meeting of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee was held on April 3, 2023, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose CA 95118.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chair Jan Garrod called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

Members in attendance were:

Jurisdiction

District 1

District 2

District 4

District 5

District 6

Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District

Santa Clara County Farm Bureau

Representative

Erin Gil

Mitchell Mariani

James Provenzano

Sheila Barry

Brent Bonino

Jan Garrod

Trevor Garrod

Robert Long

Peter Van Dyke

Dhruv Khanna

Board members in attendance were: Director Jim Beall (District 4), Board Alternate, Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), and Director John L. Varela (District 1), Board Representatives.

Staff members in attendance were Jennifer Abadilla, Gina Adriano, Aaron Baker, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Usha Chatwani, Vanessa De La Piedra, Paola Giles, Vincent Gin, Jason Gurdak, Cindy Kao, Candice Kwok-Smith, Carmen Narayanan, Don Rocha, Ashley Shannon, Kirsten Struve, Darin Taylor, and Greg Williams

Public in attendance was: Hon. Rebecca Eisenberg (Valley Water Board Member-District 7).

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

Dhruv Khanna noted that Silicon Valley Bank being bailed out by the government, shows him that government could come up with a plan to assist farmers/agriculture.

Attachment 1

Page 1 of 4

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Peter Van Dyke, second by Sheila Barry, and carried by unanimous vote approved the January 9, 2023, Agricultural Water Advisory Committee meeting minutes, as presented.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

4.1 REVIEW PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION CHARGES AND RECEIVE COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

Carmen Narayanan reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee discussed the following: water master charges and their increased fees, affordable rates, climate change impacts, carbon sequestration, open space credit, project delays vs actual costs, eco systems, benefits of agriculture recharge, bringing water back to the aquifers, and fresh food and produce.

Darin Taylor was available to answer questions.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took the following actions:

1. It was moved by Dhruv Khanna, second by Peter Van Dyke, and carried by unanimous vote approved to continue keeping the groundwater production charges (rates) low.
2. It was moved by Dhruv Khanna, second by Robert Long, and carried by unanimous vote approved, have Vice Chair Peter Van Dyke of the subcommittee write a letter to the Board on behalf of the full committee regarding suggestions for keeping rates low and explaining the benefits of agriculture (farming).

4.2 DROUGHT EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

Kirsten Struve reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

Vincent Gin and Aaron Baker were available to answer questions on semi tropic water.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

4.3 PROVIDE FEEDBACK TO THE BOARD POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE ON THE COMMITTEE'S PURPOSE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SUGGEST AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT

Glenna Brambill reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda, along with Committee Vice Chair Peter Van Dyke.

Aaron Baker was available to answer questions on Mobile Irrigation Lab Program and water storage during summertime.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action

4.4 REVIEW AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS; AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Committee Chair Jan Garrod reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action; however, they would like the following items to be considered on a future agenda: Injection wells, carbon sequestration presentation, mobile lab updates, recharge/percolation ponds, and an update on the Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study. Kirsten Struve advised that the study has been completed.

The Committee took the following action:

It was moved by Peter Van Dyke, seconded by Robert Long to have a special meeting in August since July's meeting has been canceled, it carried unanimously to have a special meeting August 7, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

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

Glenna Brambill reported there was 3 actions for Board consideration:

Agenda Items:

Agenda Item 4.1:

1. The Committee by unanimous vote approved to continue keeping the groundwater production charges (rates) low.
2. The Committee by unanimous vote approved, have Vice Chair Peter Van Dyke of the subcommittee write a letter to the Board on behalf of the full committee regarding suggestions for keeping rates low and explaining the benefits of agriculture (farming).

Agenda Item 4.4:

The Committee unanimously approved having a special meeting Monday, August 7, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.

6. REPORTS

6.1 Director's Report

Director Richard P. Santos, thanked the committee for the actions taken regarding the rates.

Director Jim Beall reported on:

- He supports Valley Water utilizing their surplus lands for farm workers' housing.

6.2 Manager's Report

Aaron Baker also thanked everyone for the discussion and input on the rates.

6.3 Committee Member Reports

Peter Van Dyke shared some important articles on water.

Glenna Brambill gave an update on working to schedule the tour to Anderson Dam.

6.4 Informational Link Reports

Links were provided in the Committee's agenda packet.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Jan Garrod adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m. to the special meeting on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 1:30 p. m.

Glenna Brambill
Board Committee Liaison
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved:



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 23-0785

Agenda Date: 8/7/2023

Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Untreated Surface Water Program Activities and Water Master Charge Overview.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive information on the Untreated Surface Water Program activities and Water Master Charge overview.

SUMMARY:

On April 2, 1974, the Board adopted Resolution 74-28 establishing rules (Surface Water Rules) to offset groundwater pumping through the direct distribution of surface water, when available. Untreated surface water (surface water) is an interruptible source of supply for permittees. Currently there are around 60 permittees in the Untreated Surface Water Program (Program). Attachment 1 includes a map highlighting the Program diversion points throughout the County.

Surface water use averages around 2,500 acre-feet (AF) per fiscal year. This represents about 1 percent of Valley Water's total water use. Total Program revenue was around \$1.7 million, or about 0.6 percent of the Water Utility Enterprise's total revenue, in FY 2021-22.

The charge for water distributed under the Program (Surface Water Charge) is comprised of two components: the Basic User Charge (also called the Groundwater Production Charge) and the Surface Water Master Charge. Valley Water manages water conjunctively, with activities benefiting groundwater, surface water, and treated water. The Basic User Charge is a volumetric rate (\$/AF) and varies within each of the four (4) zones of benefit. Agricultural water customers benefit from a low agricultural rate, set at 10% of the lowest Municipal & Industrial (M&I) rate. The agricultural rate is the same in all four zones of benefit.

In order to recover costs as it relates to the Program, revenue is generated from the Surface Water Master Charge, which pays for the costs that are specific to surface water users only. These activities, and associated staff time across multiple units, include the following:

- Perform field meter reading monthly and transfer data into tracking system
- Engage and communicate with surface water customers
- Secure surface water customer turnouts
- Perform field inspections and assessments of water usage
- Test and replace meters as needed
- Attend periodic meetings related to the Program, both internal to Valley Water and with external stakeholders
- Review and validate meter usage prior to billing
- Complete surface water billing, typically on a semi-annual basis

The methodology to calculate the Surface Water Master Charge in any given fiscal year is equivalent to:

$$\text{Surface Water Master Charge (\$/AF)} = \frac{\text{Surface Water Program Project Budget (\$)}}{\text{Total Surface Water Use (AF)}}$$

Prior to FY 2021-22, revenues and costs related to the Surface Water Master Charge and associated activities were well aligned with some years seeing a slight overcollection and some years seeing a slight under collection (i.e., less than \$100,000 collection variance each year).

However, beginning in FY 2020-21, Water Utility management made a concerted effort to enhance and refine the Program. As such, the water master activity costs have increased significantly, such that for FY 2021-22 and beyond, staff is projecting an annual under collection of around \$300,000. In order to avoid an under collection, the staff analysis shows that the Surface Water Master Charge would need to be increased from the current adopted charge of \$54.00 per acre-foot to around \$200 per acre-foot. It should be noted that a roughly \$300,000 under collection is an insignificant amount relative to the entire revenue generated by the Water Utility, which is over \$300 million each year.

No changes have been made yet to the cost recovery method for the Program via the Surface Water Master Charge. Staff is currently considering alternatives to achieve full cost recovery that would likely include a graduated plan to increase the Surface Water Master Charge steadily over several years until full cost recovery is achieved.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Map

Attachment 2: PowerPoint Presentation

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

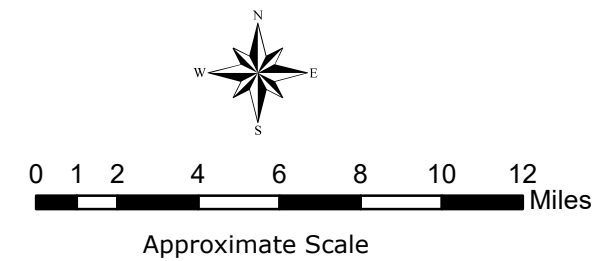
Greg Williams, 408-630-2867

Surface/Untreated Water Program Permit Locations

District Number	Director	Number of Permits
1	John L. Varela	52
2	Barbara F. Keegan	0
3	Richard P. Santos	4
4	Jim Beall	2
5	Nai Hsueh	1
6	Tony Estremera	1
7	Rebecca Eisenberg	2
Total:		62

Legend

- Surface/Untreated Water Program Permits (12/13/2022)
- Raw
- Treated
- ▭ Valley Water Board of Directors Districts



GIS themes are for illustration and general analysis purposes only and are not accurate to surveying or engineering standards. Information is not guaranteed to be accurate, current, or complete and use of this information is your responsibility.

Untreated Surface Water Program Activities & Water Master Charge Overview

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee – August 7, 2023

Presented by: **Greg Williams**, Deputy Operation Officer, Raw Water Division
Carmen Narayanan, Financial Planning & Revenue Manager

Surface Water Program

Background

On April 2, 1974, the Board adopted Resolution 74-28 establishing rules (Surface Water Rules) to offset groundwater pumping through the direct distribution of surface water, when available.



Annual average surface water deliveries around 2,500 acre-feet (about 1% of total).



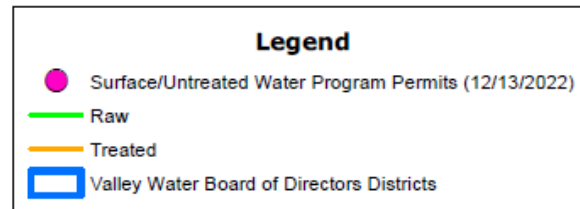
Surface Water is an interruptible supply.



Around 60 permittees in the program currently.

Surface/Untreated Water Program Permit Locations

District Number	Director	Number of Permits
1	John L. Varela	52
2	Barbara F. Keegan	0
3	Richard P. Santos	4
4	Jim Beall	2
5	Nai Hsueh	1
6	Tony Estremera	1
7	Rebecca Eisenberg	2
Total:		62



0 1 2 4 6 8 10 12 Miles

Approximate Scale



GIS themes are for illustration and general analysis purposes only and are not accurate to surveying or engineering standards. Information is not guaranteed to be accurate, current, or complete. Information is your responsibility.

Surface Water Program Financial Update 4

- Program Cost Recovery via Surface Water Master Charge
- Cost recovery was well aligned prior to FY 22
 - Minor under or over collections in any given year
- Program Costs increased in FY 22 due to enhanced and refined program
- Staff projecting under collection of \$300K per year going forward
- Staff considering graduated plan to increase SW Master Charge over time to achieve full cost recovery

Surface Water Master Charge

- Surface Water Master Charge Methodology

$$\text{Surface Water Master Charge (\$/AF)} = \frac{\text{Surface Water Program Project Budget (\$)}}{\text{Total Surface Water Use (AF)}}$$

- FY2023-24 Example
 - FY2023-24 project budget is \$345,000
 - Estimated use is 2,500 AF
 - Calculated SW Master Charge is \$138.00/AF
 - Adopted charge of \$54.00/AF will under-collect by approximately \$210,000



Surface Water Program Field Work

Valley Water staff in the field – working on surface water meters and turnouts

Surface Water Program Field Work

Valley Water staff replace a water meter along a surface water turnout pipeline.





Surface Water Program Field Work

Valley Water staff in the field – working on surface water meters.

Surface Water Program Field Work

Valley Water staff replace a surface water meter in South County.



QUESTIONS





Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 23-0786

Agenda Date: 8/7/2023

Item No.: 4.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Consider Proposed Amended Requirements for Metering of Wells in All Valley Water Groundwater Benefit Zones.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive feedback on proposed amended requirements for the metering of wells in all Valley Water Groundwater Benefit Zones; recommend adoption of amended requirements to full Board.

SUMMARY:

Ordinance No. 87-1 (Amending Ordinance No. 70-1) sets forth rules and regulations governing the recording of groundwater production to ensure "that all production is reported with a maximum of accuracy and that consequently no one is unfairly burdened." The Ordinance requires that each owner or operator of a groundwater producing facility producing (a) agricultural water or (b) water other than agricultural water (non-agricultural water) in not less than an amount to be set for each category by the Board of Directors shall acquire and install a meter on each such facility.

Resolution No 91-53, adopted by the Board on September 10, 1991, sets forth metering requirements applicable to wells in Valley Water Groundwater Benefit Zones W-2 (North County) and W-5 (South County). Currently, in Zone W-2, wells which produce more than 4 acre-feet of agricultural water or more than 1 acre-foot of non-agricultural water must be metered; for wells in Zone W-5, wells which produce more than 20 acre-feet of agricultural water or more than 2 acre-feet of non-agricultural water must be metered.

In 2014, Valley Water commissioned a scientific study of its groundwater benefit zones based on up-to-date geologic studies, local groundwater data, and the services Valley Water provides. Based on the study results and extensive community outreach, on April 28, 2020, the Board of Directors adopted changes to Valley Water's groundwater benefit zones. These included adjustments to the boundary of North County Zone W-2 and a partitioning of the South County Zone W-5 into three zones: W-5 (generally Morgan Hill to the Pajaro River), W-7 (Coyote Valley), and W-8 (foothills below

Uvas and Chesbro Reservoirs).

To update the metering requirements to reflect the zone adjustments, staff will be recommending that the Board adopt a new Resolution, which will replace Resolution 91-53, and provides that the following wells must be metered:

- In North County Zone W-2, wells that produce more than 20 acre-feet of agricultural water or more than one (1) acre-foot of non-agricultural water (staff recommends revising the agricultural production threshold in Zone W-2 to align with all South County zones given the Board's recent history of setting agricultural groundwater charges equal amongst all zones.);
- In South County Zone W-5, wells that produce more than 20 acre-feet of agricultural water or more than 2 acre-feet of non-agricultural water;
- In South County Zone W-7, wells that produce more than 20 acre-feet of agricultural water or more than 2 acre-feet of non-agricultural water; and,
- In South County Zone W-8, wells that produce more than 20 acre-feet of agricultural water or more than 2 acre-feet of non-agricultural water.

The new zones went into effect July 1, 2020. Attachment 1 is a map showing all four groundwater benefit zones.

Table 1 below compares current metering requirements to proposed metering requirements by water use and acre-feet (AF).

Table 1.

Groundwater Benefit Zone	Current Metering Requirements		Proposed Metering Requirements	
	AG	Non-AG	AG	Non-AG
W-2 (North County)	4 AF	1 AF	20 AF	1 AF
W-5 (Llagas Subbasin)	20 AF	2 AF	20 AF	2 AF
W-7 (Coyote Valley)	N/A	N/A	20 AF	2 AF
W-8 (Uvas & Chesbro)	N/A	N/A	20 AF	2 AF

Revised metering requirements would not impact existing metered wells. For example, if a well in North County is used for agricultural purposes and already has a meter, that meter would continue to be read on a regular basis, even if producing less than 20 AF per billing period.

Economic Considerations Regarding Meter Installation:

Valley Water has the legal authority to require all well owners to (themselves) install, calibrate, and maintain meters on their wells at their own expense, as well as to report their groundwater

extractions (pumping) on a periodic basis under penalty of perjury.

Nonetheless, Ordinance 87-1 provides that a well owner may request that Valley Water install and maintain a meter. Valley Water may deny such a request if “a meter is not economically justifiable and other acceptable means of measuring production exist...” Typically, Valley Water will install, maintain and read meters; occasionally a well owner will opt to undertake these activities themselves. All installed meters must pass a calibration test prior to being used for reads.

Since 1991, Valley Water has been using specific criterion that if a well both meets the provision of Resolution No. 91-53 and is economically feasible, then a meter installation is justified. Economic feasibility in this context is defined as:

1. Total cost of the meter and installation can be recouped through groundwater production charges over a period of ten years (assuming average annual production levels and current groundwater charges). Note: well owner is not charged directly for costs related to the meter or meter installation.
2. Annual costs of testing, overhaul, field surveillance and interest expense are included in the economic analysis.
3. Metering is estimated to produce 20% more revenue per year, when compared to estimated water production based on table of average uses.
4. Annual cost of metering any well should not exceed 30% of average annual gross revenue.

Metering Wells and Installing New Meters:

The current process for installing new meters is a close collaboration between the Water Revenue Unit and the Wells and Water Measurement Unit. Water Revenue staff review and analyze water production from all wells within the four zones. When water production is consistently above the metering limit over several consecutive billing periods, Water Revenue staff initiates the Meter Installation Request (MIR) process.

The MIR process includes determining economic feasibility of installing a meter, and collaborating with the well owner and/or operator to gain access to the well. Once installed, a meter is put on an established route and read on a schedule in alignment with the customers billing period (i.e., monthly or semi-annually).

Currently, there are about 4,200 active water supply wells in the four zones. In FY2021-22, groundwater production totaled about 130,000 AF. Due to several thousand domestic wells in South County (generally pumping less than 2 AF per year), metered wells comprise only about 25% of all wells within the four zones. However, 92% of total groundwater production is metered, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2.

Wells & Groundwater Production as a % of Total	Active Wells within a Zone	Groundwater Production (AF)
Non-Metered Wells		
North County	5%	1%
South County	70%	7%
Non-Metered Wells Total	75%	8%
Metered Wells		
North County	13%	58%
South County	12%	35%
Metered Wells Total	25%	92%

Staff estimates that nearly 300 wells are consistently producing groundwater above the metering requirements and would be eligible for meter installation. However, since staff are proposing that the same metering requirements that currently apply to Zone W-5 be adopted for Zone W-7 and Zone W-8, the total number of wells currently eligible for meter installation is expected to remain the same.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

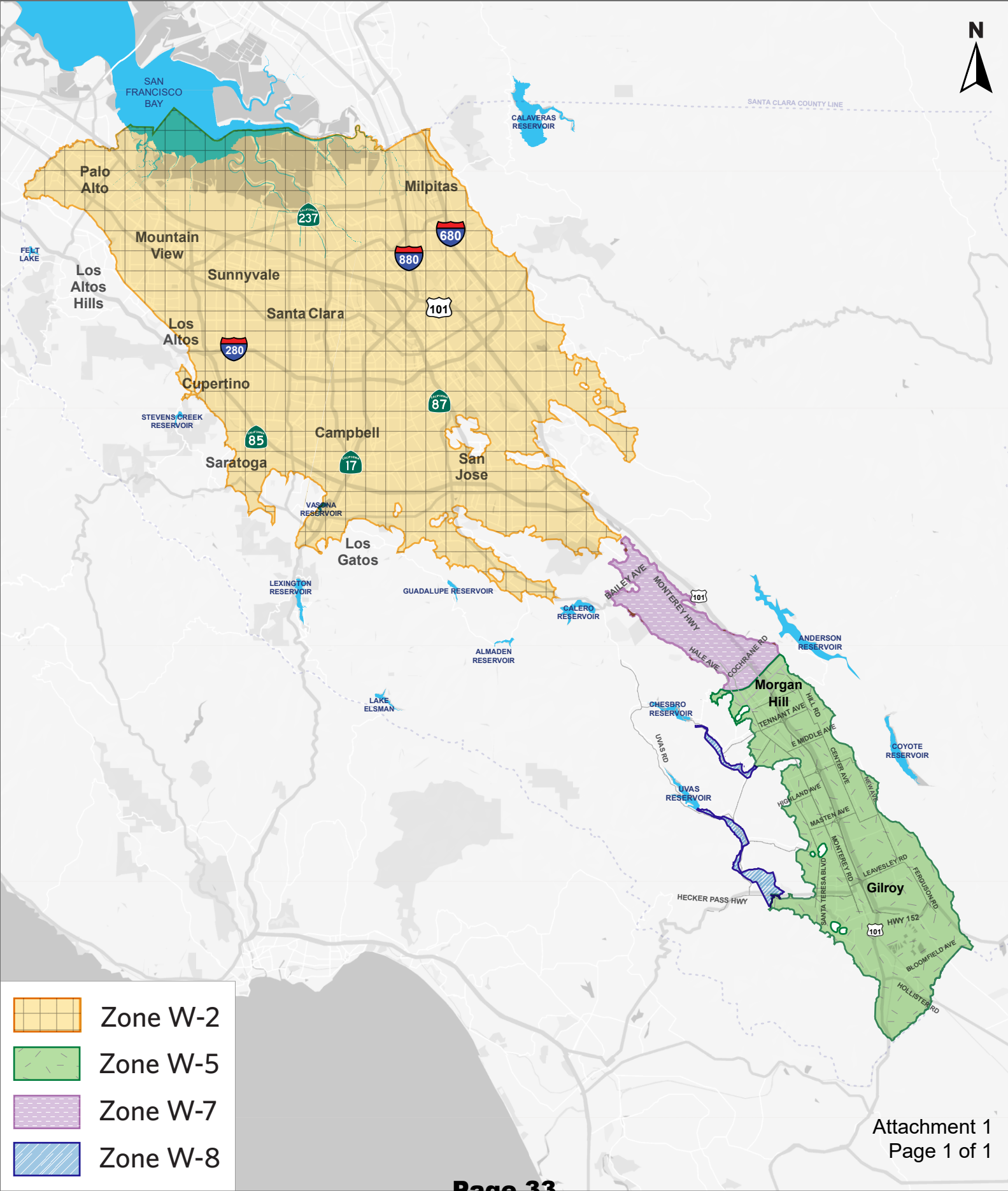
ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Map

Attachment 2: PowerPoint Presentation

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Aaron Baker, 408-630-2135





Setting Requirements for Metering Wells

Agricultural Water Advisory Committee – August 7, 2023

Presented by: Carmen Narayanan, Financial Planning & Revenue Manager

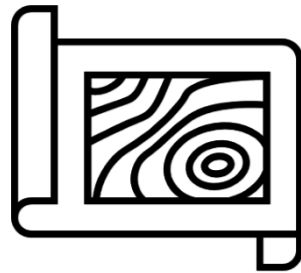


Metering Requirements Timeline



1970

Board establishes metering requirements based on production (AF) with Ordinances 70-01 & 87-1



1991

Resolution 91-53 establishes metering requirements by groundwater benefit zone



Valley Water has a long history of established metering requirements for groundwater benefit zones.



2020

Groundwater benefit zone study completed – 2 new zones established



2023

Staff recommends metering requirements for all established Groundwater benefit zones

Groundwater Benefit Zones

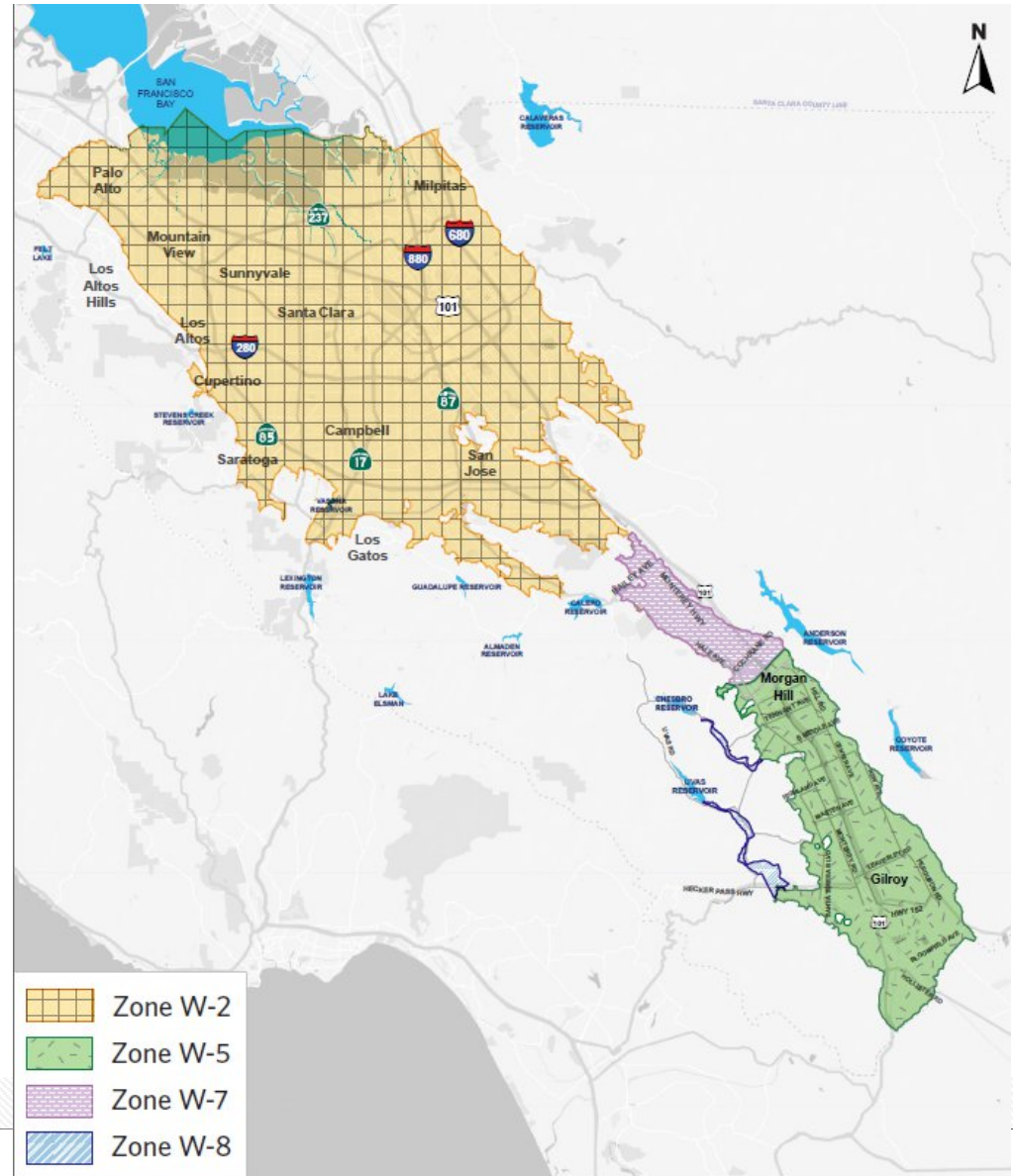
As of April 2020.

Zone W-2 North County

Zone W-5 South County
Llagas Subbasin
(Morgan Hill to
the Pajaro River)

Zone W-7 South County
Coyote Valley

Zone W-8 South County
Foothills below Uvas
& Chesbro Reservoirs



Staff Recommendation to the Board

- Establish metering requirements for Zones W-7 & W-8
- Revise Zone W-2 agricultural metering requirements
 - To be in alignment with all other zones

Groundwater Benefit Zone	Current Metering Requirements		Proposed Metering Requirements	
	AG	Non-AG	AG	Non-AG
W-2 (North County)	4 AF	1 AF	20 AF	1 AF
W-5 (Llagas Subbasin)	20 AF	2 AF	20 AF	2 AF
W-7 (Coyote Valley)	N/A	N/A	20 AF	2 AF
W-8 (Uvas & Chesbro)	N/A	N/A	20 AF	2 AF



AF = Acre-Foot or Acre-Feet. One (1) acre-foot of water is equivalent to 325,851 gallons.

Metering Status – All Zones

In FY 2021-22

4,200

Active Wells in All Zones

1,000

Wells with a meter (~25%)

130,000 AF

Total Groundwater Production

120,000 AF

Metered GW (~92%)



AF = Acre-Foot or Acre-Feet. One (1) acre-foot of water is equivalent to 325,851 gallons.

Impact of Installing Additional Meters

Based on proposed metering requirements:

- 250 wells currently eligible for meter installation
 - Majority in Zone W-5; 150 are agricultural wells
- Capture additional 5,000 AF (4.3%) in metered water usage
 - Total groundwater production that is metered would be over 95%
 - Largely agricultural groundwater production

Installing a Meter – Time & Average Costs

Does the well meet eligibility requirements?

Is it economically, and technically, feasible to install a meter?

Task	Resource	Rate / Cost	Total
Labor – Site Visit	2 hours	\$210	\$420
Labor – Office	3 hours	\$210	\$630
Labor – Meter Test (FAT)	1 hour	\$210	\$210
Labor – Installation	8 hours (2 staff x 4 hours)	\$210	\$1,680
Meter & Parts		\$2,000	\$2,000
Total Installation Cost Per Site			\$4,940

Valley Water provides the meter and installation at no cost to the well owner.



Note: total installation cost per site does not include any hours for Water Revenue staff.

Current Activities

Water Revenue Unit

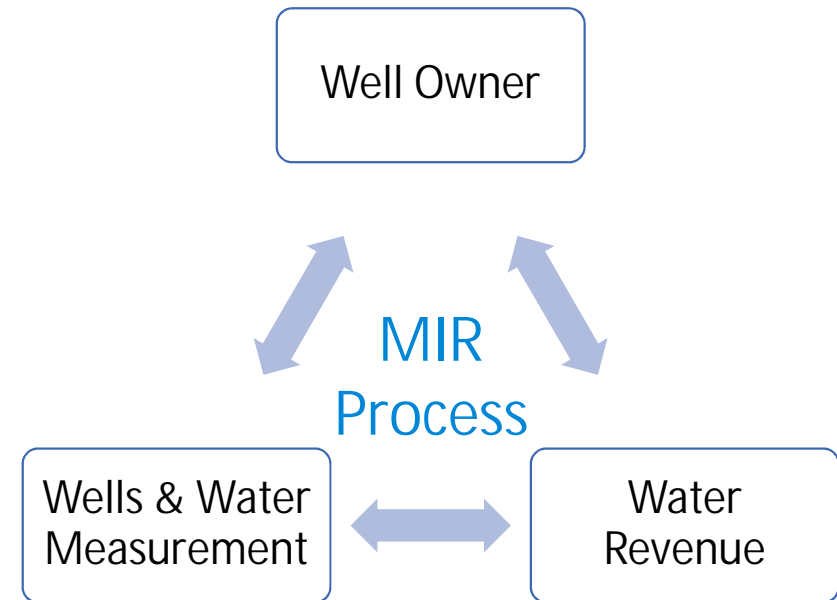
- Evaluate all wells for water production volume & meter requirement eligibility
- Communicates with well owner throughout Meter Installation Request (MIR) process

Wells & Water Measurement Unit

- Perform site visit and evaluation
- Planning & design
- Installation and periodic meter reading

Well Owner

- Responsible for reporting water production
- Signs Meter Installation Agreement



Meter Installations



Meter Installations



Meter Installations



Next Steps

- Receive feedback from the Committee
- Future Board action: adopt resolution setting metering requirements for all 4 zones
- Staff will continue evaluating water production for meter requirement eligibility

QUESTIONS



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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 23-0787

Agenda Date: 8/7/2023

Item No.: 4.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Review Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests; and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

SUMMARY:

The attached Work Plan outlines the topics for discussion to be able to prepare policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation. The work plan is agendized at each meeting as accomplishments are updated and to review any work plan assignments by the Board.

BACKGROUND:

Governance Process Policy-8:

The District Act provides for the creation of advisory boards, committees, or commissions by resolution to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Accordingly, the Board has established Advisory Committees, which bring respective expertise and community interest, to advise the Board, when requested, in a capacity as defined: prepare Board policy alternatives and provide comment on activities in the implementation of the District's mission for Board consideration. In keeping with the Board's broader focus, Advisory Committees will not direct the implementation of District programs and projects, other than to receive information and provide comment.

Further, in accordance with Governance Process Policy-3, when requested by the Board, the Advisory Committees may help the Board produce the link between the District and the public through information sharing to the communities they represent.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (AWAC) 2023 Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

2023 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: July 2023

The annual work plan establishes a framework for committee discussion and action during the annual meeting schedule. The committee work plan is a dynamic document, subject to change as external and internal issues impacting the District occur and are recommended for committee discussion. Subsequently, an annual committee accomplishments report is developed based on the work plan and presented to the District Board of Directors.

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
1	Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2023	January 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Elects Chair and Vice Chair for 2023. (Action) 	Accomplished January 9, 2023: The Committee unanimously approved Jan Garrod as the 2023 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Chair and Peter Van Dyke as the 2023 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Vice-Chair.
2	Annual Accomplishments Report	January 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and approve 2022 Accomplishments Report for presentation to the Board. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate. 	Accomplished January 9, 2023: The Committee unanimously approved the 2022 Annual Accomplishments Report. <i>The Board received the Committee's presentation at its March 28, 2023, meeting.</i>
3	Review and Comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges	January 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and comment to the Board on the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges. (Action) Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate. 	Accomplished January 9, 2023: The Committee reviewed and commented on the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Preliminary Groundwater Production Charges and took the following action: The Committee unanimously approved the Committee forming a subcommittee to discuss the rates and comparison data from other agencies regarding farming.
4	Quarterly Drought Response Update	January 9 April 3 October 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive an update on the Drought Response. (Information) 	Accomplished January 9, 2023/April 3, 2023: The Committee received an update on the Drought Response and took no action.

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

Attachment 1
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2023 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: July 2023

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
5	Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study Update	January 9	•Receive information on the Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study. (Information)	Accomplished January 9, 2023: The Committee received information on the Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study and took no action.
6	Information on Proposal to Update the Untreated Surface Water Program	January 9	•Receive information on Proposal to Update the Untreated Surface Water Program. (Information)	Accomplished January 9, 2023: The Committee received information on Proposal to Update the Untreated Surface Water Program and took no action.
7	Review of Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Committee Requests and the Committee's Next Meeting Agenda	January 9 April 3 August 7 October 2	•Receive and review the 2023 Board-approved Committee work plan. (Action) •Submit requests to the Board, as appropriate.	Accomplished January 9, 2023: The Committee received and reviewed the 2023 Board-approved Committee work plan and took no action. Accomplished April 3, 2023: The Committee received and reviewed the 2023 Board-approved Committee work plan and took the following action: The Committee unanimously approved having a special meeting Monday, August 7, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.
8	Standing Items Report Fiscal Year 2023 Goals and Strategies:	January 9 August 7	•Receive quarterly reports on standing items, FY2023. (Information)	Accomplished January 9, 2023: The Committee received the quarterly report on standing items for FY2023 and took no action.
GOAL	OBJECTIVE	FY23 TACTICS		MONITORING COMMITTEE
INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT "Efficiently manage water resources across business areas."	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> The maintenance of Valley Water's infrastructure is crucial to ensuring we continue to provide safe, clean water and critical flood protection for our communities. Timely maintenance is the most cost-effective investment, whereas deferred maintenance disproportionately increases costs and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a Fuel Management Policy to guide the incorporation of wildfire planning efforts in an integrated and programmatic way. Continue a robust preventive maintenance program including monitoring asset condition and risk. 		Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC) CIP Committee (CIPC)

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

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ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
	<i>causes unplanned outages and failures risking the population of the county. In addition, aging assets are reaching the end of the design life and will require major recapitalization.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategically plan for larger infrastructure renewal projects through Safe Clean Water Project F8 – Sustainable Creek Infrastructure for Continued Public Safety; Water Treatment Plant, Distribution System, and SCADA Implementation Plans; Watersheds and Water Utility Operations and Maintenance Plans; and various Asset Management Plans. Advance infrastructure renewal projects identified in strategic planning efforts by initiating new Capital or Small Capital Projects, or by conducting work as part of ongoing operations projects. Develop comprehensive infrastructure master plans for all water utility treatment plant and distribution infrastructure (e.g. pipelines and pump stations) to plan out 30-year capital investments that meet future regulatory requirements, and fold in projects identified in the Asset Management and Operations & Maintenance Plans. Expedient execution of the adopted Capital program and projects. 	
	<u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Valley Water continues to pursue legislative and administrative solutions to resolve regulatory and permitting issues at the federal and state levels. The Board's efforts will continue to focus on improving internal capacity when applying for permits, as well as continuing to build relationships with regulatory agencies and staying abreast of the regulatory environment.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to provide for agency-wide regulatory planning and permitting effort and pursue other efforts at the state and federal level to expedite permit review. Continue to foster better relationships with regulatory agencies and open dialogue with environmental, environmental justice and other stakeholders. Continue to work with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) under the terms of our memorandum of understanding (MOU) to expedite issue resolution and prevent regulatory overreach. Collaborate with RWQCB on the Steelhead Regional Temperature Study. 	BPPC
WATER SUPPLY <i>"Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served."</i>	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Half of Santa Clara County's water supply is imported from outside the county. At this time, when there is a lot of water, Valley Water may not be able to take advantage of these supplies due to limitations in existing storage and transmission infrastructure as well as regulatory constraints. Having a diverse portfolio of storage options helps Valley Water be resilient. Therefore, Valley Water is evaluating whether diversifying its storage portfolio could help maximize our use of storage and stored water recovery under</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore opportunities to develop new surface and groundwater storage projects that help Valley Water meet future water supply needs and be resilient to climate change. Determine level of participation for projects and decisions about partnerships in accordance with the Water Supply Master Plan and water affordability. Explore partnership opportunities for the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project Validate Valley Water's continued participation in the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project during the MAP review process, bi- 	Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC)

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2023 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: July 2023

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
	<i>future conditions. Water storage in reservoirs also provides environmental, recreational, and incidental flood risk reduction benefits. Challenges include determining the appropriate level of participation for Valley Water in collaborative water storage projects and prioritizing projects within funding constraints.</i>		annual budget development, and following review and certification of the project's Environmental Impact Report (EIR).	
	<u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>The Water Supply Master Plan's "Ensure Sustainability" strategy includes securing existing water supplies and infrastructure. Valley Water's local and imported water supplies are vulnerable to climate change impacts, droughts, earthquake, and regulatory requirements that may restrict the amount of available water.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in and influence decisions regarding the Delta Conveyance Project. • Participate in regional water supply resilience efforts. • Build and maintain effective partnerships to increase resiliency. • Complete and implement infrastructure master plans and asset management plans. • Partner with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to ensure reliability of the South Bay Aqueduct. 	Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC) (Groundwater) CIPC (infrastructure projects)
	<u>Objective #3 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Recycled and purified water is a drought resilient, locally controlled water supply important to long-term sustainability. The Water Supply Master Plan includes developing up to 24,000 acre-feet per year of purified water by 2040. Purified water is recycled water that has been treated further using reverse osmosis and other advanced treatment to make it fit for drinking. Valley Water is pursuing indirect potable reuse which would use this purified water to replenish our groundwater. Implementation challenges include securing wastewater supply contractual agreements with wastewater agencies, available land, stringent regulatory requirements, and implementation costs.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the first phase of the Purified Water Program, including release of a Request For Proposal (RFP) and enter into a contract for an Indirect Potable Reuse project that is implemented via a Public Private Partnership. • Implement the Countywide Water Reuse Master Plan. • Develop a Comprehensive Water Reuse Agreement for South County to advance water reuse and its production, distribution, and wholesaling in South County. • Continue to actively be involved with the Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) guidance and ensure Valley Water is positioned to implement a DPR project in the future. • Continue collaboration on the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center including building a strong collaborative relationship with the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility to expand the facility. 	Recycled Water Committee (RWC)
	<u>Objective #4 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>As our largest reservoir, Anderson serves not only as a critical water supply facility, but also supports Valley Water's mission of flood protection and environmental stewardship. Given the reservoir's critical importance to ensuring safe, clean water for our communities and to protect public safety, it is imperative that the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project (ADSRP) move forward expeditiously. This includes the reconstruction of the Dam and completion of the interim risk reduction measures resulting from the February 20, 2020, directive from the Federal Energy Regulatory</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the Anderson Reservoir level at the FERC directed level. • Complete the construction on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project (ADTP). • Complete the design of the ADSRP. • Continue to work with appropriate regulatory agencies to advance the ADSRP. • Release the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the ADSRP. • Obtain all necessary permits for ADSRP construction. • Continue to educate and engage the public, key stakeholders, decision makers, and elected officials of the project progress and construction timeline. • Coordinate long term ADSRP operations with the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE). 	CIPC Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC)

Yellow = Update Since Last Meeting

Blue = Action taken by the Board of Directors

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2023 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: July 2023

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
	Commission (FERC).			
	<u>Objective #5 Challenge/Opportunity</u> Droughts are a recurring feature of California's climate and may intensify with climate change. Water conservation is an essential component in providing a reliable water supply and Valley Water has set a water conservation goal for annual water savings of 99,000 acre-feet (AF) by 2030 and 109,000 AF by 2040. As Valley Water faces challenges from climate change and drought, water conservation will continue to be amongst the most cost-effective tools for efficiently meeting current and future demands while mitigating droughts.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Continue communication and educational outreach to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs. •Increase collaboration with our retailer partners to promote Valley Water's water conservation programs. •Implement new water conservation programs and engagement strategies identified within the Water Conservation Strategic Plan. •Engage and support private-sector stakeholders, local, state, and federal agencies that promote water conservation. •Develop and implement a Drought Response Plan with support and input from our retailer partners and the broader community to guide short-term behavioral changes during water shortages. 	WCaDMC
NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION "Provide Natural Flood Protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety."	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> Valley Water is challenged to sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply. By using an integrated approach to planning and designing flood protection planning, there is an opportunity to create projects with multiple benefits.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Make significant progress on One Water plans for the Guadalupe and Pajaro watersheds. •Complete construction of Reaches 1-3 of the Shoreline Phase I Project and pursue funding alternatives for Reaches 4-5 to provide 100-year coastal flood risk management, ecosystem restoration, recreational opportunities, and resiliency for sea level rise. •Complete construction of Phase 2A of the Upper Llagas Flood Protection Project to provide flood protection and habitat enhancement. •Advance the Palo Alto Flood Basin Project into construction, a repair project to ensure a functional flood basin with wetland habitat. •Advance the Sunnyvale East/West Channels Project into construction to provide 100-year storm water flood protection. •Compete the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Upper Guadalupe River Project General Reevaluation Study to provide 100-year flood protection. •Advance the San Francisquito Creek upstream 101 Project into construction to provide flood protection. •Advance the Coyote Creek Flood Mitigation and Flood Protection Projects into construction to provide flood protection for an event equivalent to the 2017 storm event. 	CIPC BPPC
	<u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> As Valley Water continues to advance flood protection projects, the Board has an opportunity to strengthen relationships and		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Advance One Water Countywide Framework in a comprehensive manner that includes diverse community-wide stakeholders and the incorporation of environmental justice policies in all planning efforts. 	CIPC BPPC

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2023 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: July 2023

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
	<i>improve coordination with conservation and environmental justice groups, as well as other local jurisdictions, with a specific focus on ensuring the voices of disadvantaged communities are equitably represented.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue progress on flood protection capital projects consistent with Valley Water's commitment to the Safe, Clean Water Program and equitability in all regions. Plan flood risk reduction projects to provide a minimum level of protection countywide. 	
ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP <i>"Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply."</i>	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Valley Water's projects and programs require integrated planning to ensure capital improvements, operations, and maintenance activities are balanced with environmental stewardship goals. Valley Water strives to protect and restore habitats to support native species throughout Santa Clara County.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop an integrated water resource plan for each watershed, including appropriate metrics to monitor Valley Water's impacts on and benefit to the environment. Implement high priority actions included in the Climate Change Action Plan. Make significant progress on the grant-funded planning study for the San Tomas Aquino Calabazas Creek Realignment Project. Advance construction for the Bolsa Creek and Hale Creek projects to begin in Summer 2022. Advance Almaden Lake Improvement Project to begin construction in 2023. Continue to develop and build on partnerships with environmental organizations and tribal communities when developing projects. 	BPPC
	<u>Objective #2 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>Valley Water continues to coordinate with local cities and agencies to improve the health of our local waterways, including pollution prevention and addressing threats to water quality. Opportunities exist to further collaborate with the County, cities, and social services agencies on encampment abatement efforts and to develop long-term solutions for the homeless to keep our creeks clean.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue efforts to protect the ecosystem and water quality of our water Bodies and the integrity of our infrastructure. Such efforts include preventing stormwater pollution, increased implementation of green stormwater infrastructure, addressing mercury pollution, and homeless encampment clean ups. Coordinate with the County, cities, and other service providers to try to ensure the permanent removal of homeless encampments from creeks and trails. Continue partnerships and investments on a regional scale such as the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration and Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program (SCVURPPP). 	Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee (ECCC) (SPOC)
	<u>Objective #3 Challenge/Opportunity</u> <i>For nearly 20 years, Valley Water has been working to resolve a water rights complaint surrounding fish, wildlife, water quality, and other beneficial uses in Coyote Creek, Guadalupe River, and Stevens Creek watershed areas. Challenges include completing the environmental review process, obtaining federal and state permits from multiple regulatory agencies, refining and processing water rights change petitions, the technical complexity of the fisheries impacts analysis, coordination with</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize the June 2021 Guadalupe River and Stevens Creek Environmental Impact Report (EIR) consistent with existing stakeholder agreement. Advance 10 water right change petitions for securing water right orders. Continue to implement the pilot flow program in Guadalupe and Stevens Creek. Continue to implement feasibility studies, monitoring activities, and Planning and construction of various fish passage improvements as identified in existing stakeholder agreement. Continue fisheries monitoring program. Continue to support an adaptive management program that 	SPOC

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2023 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: July 2023

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
	other ongoing related projects and managing stakeholder expectations.		encompasses all three creeks.	
CLIMATE CHANGE "Mitigate Carbon Emissions and Adapt Valley Water Operations to Climate Change Impacts."	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> Valley Water's ability to fulfill its mission will be challenged in the future by warmer temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, reduced snowpack, and rising sea levels. Valley Water has been working on greenhouse reduction efforts since 2008 and many adaptation actions over the past decade; however, with adoption of the Climate Change Action Plan there is an opportunity for greater impact.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Update carbon accounting and establish new emissions reduction goal if needed. •Make significant progress on development of an agency-wide greenhouse gas reduction plan. 	Climate Adaptation and Sustainability Committee (CAASC)
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT "Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services."	<u>Objective #1 Challenge/Opportunity</u> Valley Water is committed to creating and maintaining a diverse, inclusive, and equitable work environment that is devoid of discrimination and harassment and provides equal opportunity employment and advancement. Valley Water aims to implement the same values in the community through its flood protection, water supply, and environmental stewardship projects, and has an opportunity to serve as a leader for racial equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout the state.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Develop and implement a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Master Plan that institutes best practices to address internal and external disparities and builds an organizational culture that is consistent with the Board's Resolution addressing racial equity, diversity, and inclusion. •Remain committed to environmental justice and the fair treatment and meaningful engagement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender identity, disability status, tribe, culture, income, immigration status, or English language proficiency, with respect to the planning, projects, policies, services, and operations of Valley Water. •Continue to collaborate with external stakeholders that are engaged in developing diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives and actively participate in and provide leadership for diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts throughout the state. •Advance and foster mutually beneficial partnerships with regional tribal communities. 	Diversity & Inclusion Ad Hoc Committee (DIAHC)
9	Review Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 Groundwater Production Charges and Receive Committee Feedback	April 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Review Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 Groundwater Production Charges and Receive Committee Feedback. (Action) 	Accomplished April 3, 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The Committee reviewed proposed Fiscal Year 2023-24 Groundwater Production Charges and took the following actions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Committee unanimously approved to continue keeping the groundwater production charges (rates) low. 2. The Committee unanimously approved, have Vice Chair Peter Van Dyke of the subcommittee write a letter to the Board on behalf of the full committee regarding suggestions for keeping rates low and

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2023 Work Plan: Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Update: July 2023

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM BOARD POLICY	MEETING DATE	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
				explaining the benefits of agriculture (farming). <i>The Board received the Committee's recommendation at its May 16, 2023, meeting and took action.</i>
10	Provide Feedback to the Board Policy and Planning Committee on the Committee's Purpose and Accomplishments and Suggest Areas of Improvement.	April 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review feedback provided to the Board Policy and Planning Committee on February 6, 2023, by the Board Advisory Committees' Chairs/Vice Chairs on the Committees' purposes and accomplishments, and suggest areas of improvement. (Action) Provide additional feedback for BPPC consideration. 	Accomplished April 3, 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee reviewed feedback provided to the Board Policy and Planning Committee on February 6, 2023, by the Board Advisory Committees' Chairs/Vice Chairs on the Committees' purposes and accomplishments and suggest areas of improvement and took no action.
11	Untreated Surface Water Program Activities and Water Master Charge Overview	August 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive information on the Untreated Surface Water Program activities and Water Master Charge overview. (Information) 	
12	Setting Requirements for Metering of Wells in All Valley Water Groundwater Benefit Zones	August 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive information on Setting Requirements for Metering of Wells in All Valley Water Groundwater Benefit Zones. (Information) 	
13	Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge Preliminary Feasibility Study for Santa Clara County	October 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive a presentation on the Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge Preliminary Feasibility Study for Santa Clara County. (Information) 	

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 23-0816

Agenda Date: 8/7/2023

Item No.: 5.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM Agricultural Water Advisory Committee

Government Code § 84308 Applies: Yes ☐ No ☒
(If "YES" Complete Attachment A - Gov. Code § 84308)

SUBJECT:

Standing Items Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

Standing Items Report

This item allows the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee to receive verbal or written updates and discuss the Board's Fiscal Year 2023 Work Plan Strategies. These items are generally informational; however, the Committee may request additional information and/or provide collective input to the assigned Board Committee.

SUMMARY:

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee was established to assist the Board with policy review and development, provide comment on activities in the implementation of Valley Water's mission, and to identify Board-related issues.

On January 2022, the Board of Directors approved aligning the Board Advisory Committees' agendas and work plans with the Board's yearly work plan.

The new agenda format will allow regular reports on the Board's priorities from the Board's committees and/or Board committee representative and identify subjects where the committees could provide advice to the Board on pre-identified subjects in a timely manner to meet the Board's schedule and distribute information/reports that may be of interest to committee members.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACT:

There are no Environmental Justice impacts associated with this item.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Board Work Plan Standing Items Report

File No.: 23-0816

Agenda Date: 8/7/2023
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UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Candice Kwok-Smith, 408-630-3193

FY2022-2023 BOARD WORK PLAN – STANDING ITEMS REPORT

June 2023

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT GOAL: Efficiently manage water resources across business areas.	
Objective 1:	Protect and maintain existing assets and infrastructure and advance new projects.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secured the creation of a new dam safety grant program at the CA Dept. of Water Resources through an FY 2023-24 State Budget appropriation for \$100 million. Program criteria strongly favor Valley Water dam safety projects. Secured dam safety grant program funding amendments (\$300m - \$1b) to various state bills now competing to become the natural resources bond to be proposed to the voters on the statewide 2024 ballot. Sponsored AB 939 (Pellerin) Smart Financing for Valley Water Infrastructure, which includes financial reforms to the District Act to lower the cost of borrowing and authorize the Valley Water Board to propose general obligation bonds on the countywide ballot. Now pending passage on the Senate Floor.
Objective 2:	Improve internal capacity to acquire regulatory permits.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Co-Sponsored with ACWA SB 23 (Caballero) Expedited Permitting for Water Supply and Flood Risk Reduction. Bill was passed by Senate policy committees but held in the Senate Appropriations Committee due to state costs. Continued advocacy for expedited permitting through the Governor's and the Legislature's infrastructure streamlining packages.
Objective 3:	Educate the community, elected officials and external stakeholders on our management of water resources in Santa Clara County.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secured media coverage at public events focusing on Valley Water's priority projects and the need to invest in water infrastructure and technology as local, regional, and national news outlets highlighted our efforts. Pivoted key messaging as our region and state shifted from being in a drought to out of one, focusing on flood preparedness and making water conservation a way of life. Staff coordinated and conducted 35 presentations as part of Valley Water's Speaker Bureau Program focused on the drought, water conservation, and water supply. Staff produced and posted 110 videos on social media, including multiple videos to support water conservation during the extreme drought. These videos garnered approximately 13 million total views. Engaged over 14,000 students and educators in the Education Outreach Program through in-person and virtual classroom presentations. Organized advocacy trips to Washington, D.C. and Sacramento to advocate directly with elected officials and members of the Biden and Newsom administrations, respectively. Conducted 130 meetings with federal, state, and local elected officials in the past six months on Valley Water's priority projects. Hosted elected officials, staff, and key advocacy stakeholders from the public, non-profit, and private sectors on the VIP Water Walk Tour of Valley Water's critical water infrastructure projects to educate and engage them on the projects' benefits and advocate for funding and legislative needs.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educated, engaged, and bolstered support for Valley Water priorities with communities across Santa Clara County by participating in over 40 community events, highlighting water conservation, purified and recycled water, and community-specific projects. • Reached over 1,500 members of the public through in-person virtual tours of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center to educate and bring awareness about using advanced purified water for drinking. • Continued to engage the Santa Clara County Medical Association to expand support from the medical community for water reuse, including updating a resolution to the California Medical Association to clearly state its support and endorsement to use advanced purified water for drinking.
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WATER SUPPLY GOAL: Provide a reliable, safe, and affordable water supply for current and future generations in all communities served.	
Objective 1:	Pursue new and diversified water supply and storage opportunities.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valley Water is starting our every 5-year Water Supply Master Plan update to comprehensively assess the future demands and evaluate and recommend water supply and infrastructure projects to achieve Valley Water's level of service goal. • Valley Water continues to participate in regional and statewide surface and groundwater storage projects and evaluating their benefits to Valley Water's supply reliability. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion project: On June 9, 2023, WSEC recommended approval of Multi-Party Agreement Amendment #5 to the Board. ○ B.F. Sisk Dam Raise: On June 9, 2023, WSEC recommended participation in the planning phase of Sisk Dam project up to 60 TAF to the Board. On June 27, the Board approved funding planning costs of up to \$1.6M through September 2023 for the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise project. ○ Sites Reservoir: Valley Water continues to participate in the Sites Reservoir Committee meetings and track development of the project, including participation in governance discussions. ○ Valley Water is evaluating both groundwater banking and new storage opportunities to diversify its storage portfolio. (June Board meeting) • Valley Water continues to collaborate with local and regional partners on potable reuse and evaluate potential project benefits. • Secured Proposition 1 water storage projects inflation adjustment amendment (\$300m) to SB 867 (Allen), a state bill competing to become the natural resources bond proposed for the statewide 2024 ballot. If enacted and approved by the voters would allocate an additional \$58.6m to Pacheco, \$55.5m to Los Vaqueros, and \$101.7m to Sites.
Objective 2:	Secure existing water supplies and water supply infrastructure
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valley Water continues planning, design and/or construction of key Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects, such as dam seismic retrofits, pipeline retrofits and maintenance, Rinconada Water Treatment retrofit, and Vasona Pump Station improvements. • Through the CIP, Water Supply Master Plan, and Asset Management Plans, Valley Water will continue to maintain Valley Water's existing assets. • Valley Water complied with federal and state annual reporting requirements to ensure continued delivery of CVP water and eligibility for state funding. • Valley Water continues to participate in and influence decisions regarding the Delta Conveyance Project. Staff participated in review and analysis of the draft EIR and draft

	<p>EIS and submitted comments. Several directors continued participation on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority. Staff continues to engage in the development and permitting processes for the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valley Water secured significant quantities of transfer and public health and safety water supplies to sustain the county through the recent drought.
Objective 3:	Lead Recycled and Purified Water Efforts with committed partners.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In May 2023, the Palo Alto City Council conducted a study session on Valley Water's planning application for a future water purification facility in the City of Palo Alto Valley Water is collaborating with staff from Palo Alto to collaborate on agreements and refine regulatory requirements. A staff funding agreement to reimburse Palo Alto staff time was executed in spring 2023. Discussions have continued with the City of San Jose on future purified water projects. On June 21, the Independent Advisory Panel organized by the National Water Research Institute convened to review the purified water program.
Objective 4:	Complete the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction continued on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project, a component of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Order Compliance Project (FOCP). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of June 2023, approximately 510 feet of the 1,750 feet tunnel had been excavated, with initial lining installed. Progress was made on the Diversion Outlet Structure (DOS), which will house two 132-inch diameter fixed cone valves. It included excavating for the structure foundation, placing controlled low-strength material, and installing 114 rock anchors, all completed in March 2023. Construction of the DOS, including rebar and concrete placement, began April 2023. Valley Water submitted 90% design plans, specifications, and technical memoranda to FERC and DSOD for review in March 2023. Work continued on completion of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to release for public review in summer 2023.
Objective 5:	Making water conservation a California way of life in Santa Clara County.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valley Water entered into an agreement with the City of Palo Alto to provide \$175,000 for the Water Use Reports Program and \$1,225,000 for the AMI, over the term of this Agreement. Valley Water continued to provide updates on the drought response and water supply status at the first Board Meeting of each month. Since July 2022, Valley Water has met or exceeded our countywide conservation targets of a 15% reduction in water use compared to 2019. At the June 13, 2023 Board Meeting, the Board conducted a Public Hearing to consider adopting a resolution calling for Water Conservation as a Way of Life and Adopting an Ordinance Enforcing Measures for Water Conservation in Santa Clara County, also referred to as Water Conservation Guiding Principles. This passed unanimously. Valley Water is on track to process over 1,500 rebates exceeding \$4.1 million to convert more than 1.8 million square feet of lawn into water-wise landscapes, upgrade irrigation equipment and install rainwater capture systems by June 30th. Additional funding for this project was provided by Safe, Clean Water. Valley Water extended its contract with Our City Forest for one additional year to offer the Lawn Busters Program. Nearly 17,000 square feet of lawns were converted to water-wise

	<p>landscapes for low-income and disadvantaged community members through this program. Additional funding for this project was provided by Safe, Clean Water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valley Water's Water Conservation Webinar Series, supported by funding from Safe, Clean Water and administered by the nonprofit Daily Acts, continued in FY23. All of the webinars directly supported and promoted the wide variety of water conservation programs that Valley Water offers, and were live translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, and Chinese. The webinars have nearly 4,000 views on YouTube through early June 2023. Staff are working on a Request for Proposal to replace this pilot with a permanent program to offer to the community. Valley Water offered a variety of additional trainings and online tools to increase outdoor water conservation in support of Valley Water's long-term water conservation targets and the Water Conservation Guiding Principles. Additional details will be provided in the Safe, Clean Water Program's FY2023 Annual Report published later this year.
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NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION	
GOAL: Provide Natural Flood Protection to reduce risk and improve health and safety.	
Objective 1:	Protect people and property from flooding by applying a comprehensive, integrated watershed management approach that balances environmental quality, sustainability, and cost.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocated and helped secure \$75 million in the FY 2023-24 State Budget for State Flood Control Subventions creating an opportunity for additional reimbursements for the So. SF Bay Shoreline Project.
Objective 2:	Provide flood protection equitably in all regions of the County, prioritizing disadvantaged communities.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secured federal legislative language and \$91.2M for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to advance the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Phase I Project and protect the community of Alviso.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP	
GOAL: Sustain ecosystem health while managing local water resources for flood protection and water supply.	
Objective 1:	Plan and design projects with multiple benefits, including protecting ecosystem functions, enhancing habitat, and improving connectivity, equitably in all regions of the county.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the One Water Plan, Valley Water continues to develop watershed plans for Upper Pajaro River and Guadalupe River Watershed.
Objective 2:	Protect creeks, bay, and other aquatic ecosystems from threats of pollution and degradation.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sponsored AB 1469 (Kalra) now pending in the State Senate to humanely address encampments of unsheltered people in riparian corridors by securing state law authorization to provide solutions or improve outcomes for the unsheltered individuals.
Objective 3:	Complete and implement the Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) agreement.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valley Water released the FAHCE Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on June 30, 2023. A public meeting by the Valley Water Board of Directors (Board) for certification of the Final Program EIR is scheduled for August 8, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. This EIR evaluates the environmental impacts of implementation of the Phase 1 measures of the agreement.

CLIMATE CHANGE GOAL: Mitigate carbon emissions and adapt Valley Water operations to climate change impacts.	
Objective:	Address future impacts of climate change to Valley Water’s mission and operations.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secured \$548 million in the FY 2023-24 State Budget for climate resilience with most of the funding going to the State Coastal Conservancy for grants to address sea level rise through nature-based solutions or other strategies.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT GOAL: Promote effective management of water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship through responsive and socially responsible business services.	
Objective 1:	Incorporate racial equity, diversity, and inclusion throughout Valley Water as a core value.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Strategic Master Plan toward completion. Facilitated 17 employee resource group-led events, including lectures, cultural celebrations, volunteering, and networking events. 848 participants attended these events for the second half of the fiscal year. Adopted first-time resolutions acknowledging: International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January), Lunar New Year (February) and Genocide Remembrance Day (April). Adopted a resolution establishing Lunar New Year as an observed Valley Water Holiday.
Objective 2:	Maintain appropriate staffing levels and expertise while prioritizing the safety of our staff.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launched Valley Water’s Next Generation Career Pathways Program focused on building a future workforce, including a high school internship, expanding the Summer Internship Programs to reach out to disadvantaged college students, and partnerships with academia and teachers. Filled 136 open positions for FY23, with 40% filled through internal promotions. Implemented an Employee Referral Program that is an enhancement to our recruitment efforts. Completed a successful competitive bid to select a new benefits broker that enhanced our benefits program offerings while reducing costs by approximately 35%.
Objective 3:	Provide affordable and cost-effective level of services.
Updates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A biennial budget was implemented for the FY24 budget cycle. As of June 2023, Valley Water’s Low Income Water Rate Assistance Program (WRAP), in partnership with Sacred Heart Community Services, has disbursed over \$1.018 million dollars to pay out nearly 2,100 water bills for low-income households in Santa Clara County. The Board’s auditor initiated a performance audit of Valley Water’s Capital Improvement Program as well as a Valley Water-wide Risk Assessment. The Construction Management Manual was updated in FY23, which was initiated as a result of a QEMS benchmarking analysis.

