



ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2023

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special scheduled meeting of the Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee Meeting was held on August 14, 2023, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

1.1. ROLL CALL

Committee Board Members in attendance were: Director Jim Beall (District 4), Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), establishing a quorum, and Committee Vice Chair, Director Rebecca Eisenberg (District 7-arrived at 1:10 p.m.).

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Antonio Alfaro, Ricardo Barajas, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Mark Bilski, Rechelle Blank, Glenna Brambill, Kendra Boutros, Bart Broome, Rick Callender, Theresa Chinte, Jennifer Codianne, Jiana Escobar, Rachael Gibson, Christopher Hakes, Jeff Ham, Heather Hamp, Nicholas Ingram, Michele King, Candice Kwok-Smith, Emelia Lamas, Dave Leon, Velia Mariscal, Nicole Merritt, Carlos Orellana, Leslie Orta, Max Overland, Tracy Peña, James Randol, Shanika Richards, Clarissa Sangalang, Michelle San Miguel, Cheryl Togami, Sherilyn Tran and Genevieve Yip.

Public in attendance were: Vanessa Beretta (City of San Jose), Chad Bojorquez (Destination: Home), Alice Chaknmazova, Cecilia, Elvira, Katja Irvin (Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter), Scott Giddens, Geoff Schuller, and Ray Solnik (Seeds of Hope of Silicon Valley), Ryan Golz (Brookdale), Deb, Eric Ha, Jeffrey Hare, Ana Levan, Elizbeth Menken, Sgt. Pierre Nguyen and Sgt. Scott Williams (San Jose Police Department, Street Crimes Unit), Deb Kramer (Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful), E. Rudholm, Ron, michsawa, and Scott.

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

Gail A. Osmer asked about the audit on the \$4.3 million funded to the City of San Jose.

Eric Ha was concerned about the unhoused around the Mabury Road area along with the safety issues that are caused to his property.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Committee Director Jim Beall, seconded by Director Richard P. Santos and unanimously carried, to approve the June 23, 2023, Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee meeting minutes as presented.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 UPDATE ON VALLEY WATER'S ENCAMPMENT CLEANUP OPERATIONS

Jennifer Codianne reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and answered questions as needed. Special Guests of San Jose Police Department, Street Crimes Unit, Sgt. Scott Williams and Sgt. Pierre Nguyen reported on the services, training, and support they provide for the encampments.

The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee discussed the following: Valley Water creek cleanups, police patrols in unhoused camps, was a question on the service providers, the use of social workers onsite, and the degree of training San Jose police officers receive relating to mental health issues. Director Eisenberg requested that the unhoused be included in any policy conversations relating to collaborative efforts to address mental health among the unhoused.

Public Comments:

- Gail A. Osmer stated her appreciation for this project and thanked Hon. Pam Foley (City of San Jose' Councilmember) for her support.
- Eric Ha noted his concerned about the unhoused encroaching along his back fence and has safety concerns and asked for police patrol.
- Ryan Golz (Brookdale) was wondering if it was possible to relocate the porta potties at Guadalupe River near Blossom River Dr.

The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee took no action.

4.2 FOLLOW-UP PRESENTATION BY DESTINATION: HOME

Chad Bojorquez of Destination: Home reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and answered questions as needed.

The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee discussed the following: potential increase in funding and/or resources being distributed differently, mental health concerns, and Valley Water to help promote the production of homes (tiny) to address the homelessness issue, and infrastructure.

The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee took no action.

4.3 LIVERMORE GOODNESS VILLAGE PRESENTATION

Ray Solnik-Seeds of Hope of Silicon Valley reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and answered questions as needed.

The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee discussed the following: differences between this program and other proposed solutions (agencies working together so there are no competing interests), size of units (acreage/people to occupy per unit), location of sites being close to residential areas/public transportation is key, and question of ownership of the properties.

The Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee took no action; however, the Committee is deciding when to meet in Livermore to tour the site(s).

4.4 REVIEW 2023 ENVIRONMENTAL CREEK CLEANUP COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

Glenna Brambill reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The following work plan items for the next meeting are:

- ❖ Updates on Valley Water's Encampment Cleanup
- ❖ Creek Safety Issues Report
- ❖ Update on Fencing Issues
- ❖ Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services (CSJ on Trails Master Plan)
- ❖ Audit request of the \$4.3 million Update (from the City San Jose)

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action.

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

There were no formal action items for Board consideration.

6. ADJOURNMENT

6.1 ADJOURN

Committee Chair Director Richard P. Santos adjourned at 3:22 p.m. to the next meeting on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by:

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

Approved: October 17, 2023