



ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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# MINUTES

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**MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2023**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular scheduled meeting of the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Committee) Meeting was held on January 23, 2023, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Committee Chair Mr. Bob Levy called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. A quorum was established with 7 Members present.

Members in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Loren Lewis		
District 2	Charles Ice	Elizabeth Sarmiento	
District 3	Charles Taylor		
District 4	Bob Levy		
District 5	Hon. Patrick S. Kwok	Mike Michitaka	

Members not in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Swanee Edwards		
District 3	Hon. Bob Nuñez		
District 6	Jim Piazza		

Board members in attendance were: Director Tony Estremera (Board Representative) and Director Nai Hsueh (Board Alternate).

Staff members in attendance were: Rechelle Blank, John Bourgeois, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Brian Mendenhall, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Kirsten Struve, Kristen Yasukawa, Sarah Young and Jing Wu.

Public in attendance were: Hon. Jim Beall, Katja Irvin (Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter), Hon. Stephen A. Jordan, and Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one present who wished to speak.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Loren Lewis, seconded by Mike Michitaka, and majority vote carried, to approve the October 17, 2022, Environmental and Water Resources Committee meeting minutes as presented. Two abstentions by Hon. Patrick S. Kwok and Charles Taylor.

**4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS**

**4.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Committee Chair Bob Levy opened the floor for nominations for the Chair

Hon. Patrick S. Kwok nominated Loren Lewis, second by Bob Levy, Elizabeth Sarmiento nominated Charles Ice, he declined, the nominations were closed.

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee unanimously elected Loren Lewis as the 2023 Committee Chair.

The floor was opened for nominations for the Vice Chair

Hon. Patrick S. Kwok nominated Charles Ice, second by Charles Taylor, the nominations were closed.

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee unanimously elected Charles Ice as the 2023 Committee Vice Chair.

**4.2 REVIEW AND APPROVE THE 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD (COMMITTEE CHAIR)**

Committee Chair Loren Lewis reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

It was moved by Bob Levy, seconded by Loren Lewis, and unanimously carried to approve the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's 2022 Accomplishments Report with the correction of Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., as the 2022 Vice Chair.

**4.3 REVIEW AND RECEIVE UPDATES ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUPS**

There were no working groups update. John Bourgeois reported on the staff changes, and he will be the staff liaison for the Environmental Stewardship working group.

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action.

**4.4 REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

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

Possible Agenda Items for April:

Flood Mar and One Water-Watersheds.

Director Nai Hsueh suggested having an Encampment update to discuss the JPA vision and/or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Director Tony Estremera noted that it will take all cities and county to engage in a coordinated effort to have some measure of accountability on the unhoused concerns and issues and long-term master planning on recycling. There has been progress with FAHCE (Fisheries and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort).

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action.

## **5. INFORMATION ITEM**

### **5.1 STANDING ITEMS REPORT**

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

Directors Estremera and Hsueh noted this report is a great resource for information.

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action.

## **6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS TO THE BOARD**

Glenna Brambill reported there was one action item for Board consideration.

### **Agenda Item 4.2:**

The Committee unanimously carried to approve the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's 2022 Accomplishments Report with the correction of Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., as the 2022 Vice Chair.

## **7. REPORTS**

Moved to Agenda Item 7.2

### **7.2. MANAGER'S REPORT**

Kirsten Struve reported on:

- Drought Response Update (imported water, water conservation is still critical)

Public Comment:

Hon. Stephen Jordan noted that San Francisco has similar drought issues and with the water levels, also questioned whether Pacheco was filled.

Committee Chair Loren Lewis left a 6:37 p.m. and did not return. Vice Chair Charles Ice facilitated the remaining of the meeting.

Don Rocha reported on Grants:

- Safe Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Grants/Partnerships Program is year-round, 2 grant opportunities:
  - ✓County \$5,000 per grant towards the purchase, installation, and maintenance of a water refill station

- ✓Mini grants program small \$5,000 grants that are related to water conservation, environmental stewardship and flood protection located within Santa Clara County. Grants information is at our website:  
<https://www.valleywater.org/learning-center/grants-partnerships>

John Bourgeois thanked the outgoing EWRC Chair Bob Levy and Vice Chair Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D. for their commitment for 2022.

Moved to Agenda Item 7.1

#### **7.1 DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Nai Hsueh reported on:

- Board Planning and Policy Committee (BPPC) is having a meeting in February and will be inviting the Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs for their input on work for the Advisory Committees

#### **7.3 COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS**

Elizabeth Sarmiento announced:

- The grants permaculture workshop and training, registration is February 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **7.4 INFORMATIONAL LINK REPORTS**

Links are contained in the agenda.

### **8. ADJOURNMENT**

#### **8.1 ADJOURN**

Committee Vice Chair Charles Ice adjourned at 7:00 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Monday, April 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

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

Approved: 8-21-2023