



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2023

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular scheduled meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water Commission (Commission) was held on April 12, 2023, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose CA 95118.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Hon. Kitty Moore called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. A quorum of 10 was established. 3 additional members arrived at 12:12 p.m.

Members in attendance were:

Municipality

City of Cupertino
Town of Los Altos Hills
Town of Los Gatos
City of Milpitas
City of Monte Sereno
City of Morgan Hill
City of Mountain View
City of Palo Alto
City of San José
City of Santa Clara
City of Saratoga
Santa Clara Valley Open Space
Authority
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space
District

Representative

Hon. Kitty Moore
Hon. Lisa Schmidt
Hon. Maria Ristow
Hon. Carmen Montano*
Hon. Evert Wolsheimer
Hon. Gino Borgioli
Hon. Lucas Ramirez
Hon. Lydia Kou*
Hon. Domingo Candelas*

Hon. Chuck Page
Hon. Mike Flaughner

Hon. Jed Cyr

Alternate

Hon. Kathy Watanabe

Members not in attendance were:

Municipality

City of Campbell
City of Cupertino
City of Gilroy
City of Los Altos

Representative

Hon. Susan M. Landry

Hon.. Dion Bracco
Hon. Neysa Fligor

Alternate

Hon. Sergio Lopez
Hon. Liang Chao
Hon. Fred Tovar
Hon. Pete Dailey

Town of Los Gatos
City of Monte Sereno
City of Morgan Hill
City of Mountain View
City of Palo Alto
City of San José

City of Santa Clara
City of Saratoga
City of Sunnyvale
County of Santa Clara
Santa Clara Valley Open Space
Authority
Midpeninsula Regional Open
Space District

Hon. Karen Hardy

Hon. Alysa Cisneros

Hon. Matthew Hudes
Hon. Bryan Mekechuk
Hon. Yvonne Martinez-Beltran
Hon. Pat Showalter
Hon. Vicki Veenker
Kerrie Romanow

Hon. Belal Aftab
Hon. Richard Mehlinger
Hon. Cindy Chavez
Helen Chapman

Hon. Yoriko Kishimoto

*Water Commission Members arrived as noted below.

Board member in attendance was: Director Barbara F. Keegan (District 2) and Director John L. Varela (District 1), (Board Representatives).

Staff members in attendance were: Jennifer Abadilla, Gina Adriano, Aaron Baker, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Neeta Bijoor, Glenna Brambill, Jennifer Codianne, Rachael Gibson, Chris Hakes, Emelia Lamas, Marta Lugo, Shanika Medina, Carmen Narayanan, Melanie Richardson, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Kirsten Struve, Darin Taylor, and Gregory Williams.

Guests in attendance were: Emily Yarsinske (City of Mountain View), and Gary Welling (City of Santa Clara).

Public in attendance was: Katja Irvin (Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter), Victoria Lam, and Ross.

*Hon. Lydia Kou, Hon. Domingo Candelas and Hon. Carmen Montano arrived at 12:12 p.m.

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

There was no one present who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Hon. Chuck Page, seconded by Hon. Lucas Ramirez, and by majority vote approved the January 25, 2023, Santa Clara Valley Water Commission meeting minutes as presented. There was 1 abstention by Hon. Domingo Candelas.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR:

Nothing on the consent calendar.

5. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:

5.1 REVIEW PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION CHARGES AND RECEIVE COMMISSION FEEDBACK

Carmen Narayanan reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Santa Clara Valley Water Commission discussed the following: cost impacts, charges of the different zones, emergency water costs, project benefits in the zones, drought reductions, water rates, infrastructure costs, percolation ponds, reservoirs, economic conditions, rising costs, Water Rate Assistance Program, CIP, open space credit, and Anderson Dam.

Darin Taylor, Aaron Baker, Director Barbara F. Keegan (Board Vice Chair), Rachael Gibson, and Director John L. Varela (Board Chair) were available to answer questions.

The Santa Clara Valley Water Commission took the following action:

It was moved by Hon. Kathy Watanabe, seconded by Hon. Domingo Candelas, and by majority vote approved to have staff bring to the Board and have them review (a) the rates to decrease from 14.5% and (b) whether projects can be prioritized to conserve the water with focus on water conservation to preserve water. There was 1 abstention by Hon. Lucas Ramirez.

5.2 DROUGHT EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

Neeta Bijoor reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Santa Clara Valley Water Commission discussed the following: Advanced Water Purification Center tour, subsidence, voluntary conservation to continue, CII Ban, and dewatering for construction.

Don Rocha, Director Barbara F. Keegan (Board Vice Chair), and Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

The Santa Clara Valley Water Commission took no action.

5.3 REVIEW SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER COMMISSION WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS AND THE COMMISSION'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

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

The Santa Clara Valley Water Commission took the following action:

It was moved by Hon. Chuck Page, seconded by Hon. Carmen Montano, and by majority vote approved to having a special meeting August 23, 2023, 12:00 p.m. at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center. There was 1 abstention by Hon. Maria Ristow.

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE BOARD

Glenna Brambill reported there were the following action items:

Agenda Item 5.1:

The Water Commission approved by majority vote approved to have staff bring to the Board and have them review (a) the rates to decrease from 14.5% and (b) whether projects can be prioritized to conserve the water with focus on water conservation to preserve water. There was 1 abstention by Hon. Lucas Ramirez.

Agenda Item 5.3:

The Water Commission approved by majority vote to having a special meeting August 23, 2023, 12:00 p.m. at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center. There was 1 abstention by Hon. Maria Ristow

7. REPORTS

7.1 Director's Report

None.

7.2 Manager's Report

Melanie Richardson reported on

- Unhoused Task Force lead by Rechelle Blank to see how Valley Water can lead and participate in countywide efforts to provide adequate housing and reduce the number of Creekside encampments impacting Valley Water's work.
- This summer Valley Water will begin construction on the Coyote Creek Flood Management Measures Project (from Montague Expressway to Tully Road-San José). Valley Water Board partnered with the City of San José with an agreement to fund a range of support services necessary to help relocate people living in unsafe areas along the creek.
- Valley Water is sponsoring AB1469 authored by Assemblymember Ash Kalra to assist the unsheltered people living along waterways as an authorized purposed of our independent special district. This Bill is supported by the County of Santa Clara and the Cities of San José, Santa Clara and Cupertino.

7.3 Commission Member Report

None.

7.4 Informational Links Report

Information located on the agenda and add the PAWS link for reference.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Commission Vice Chair Hon. Kitty Moore adjourned at 1:54 p.m. to the next special meeting on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

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

Approved: 8-23-2023