



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission (Youth Commission) was held on April 19, 2023, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Youth Commission Chair Anika Kulkarni called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

A quorum was established with 14 Members present.

Members in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Eileen Tran	Joshua Wei	
District 2	Emma Gao	Danica Kubota*	
District 3	Anika Kulkarni	Vaibhavi Kulkarni	
District 4	Agata Bak	Sairama Nisitha Kakulapati	
District 5	Daniel Shih	Daphne Zhu	
District 6	Jonathan Lopez	Nancy Malu Romero Ordoñez	
District 7	Maitreya Banerjee	Oded Bronicki	Patrick Van Kerckhove

Members not in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Ana Torrico
District 2	Niharika Koduru
District 3	Ivan Zhang
District 4	Bryan Blair
District 5	Pramath Doddaballapur
District 6	Nilansh (Neil) Dey Ghosh

Valley Water Board Representative in attendance were: Director Barbara F. Keegan (District 2) and Director Rebecca Eisenberg (District 7).

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Ricardo Barajas, Glenna Brambill, Andy Gschwind, Janet Hedley, Nick Ingram, Rene Moreno, Michael Ritchie, Clarissa Sangalang, Elleri Tlaxcala, Sherilyn Tran, and Kristen Yasukawa.

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

There was no one present who wished to speak.

3. WELCOME

Director Barbara F. Keegan welcomed the Youth Commissioners and congratulated those that are graduating and leaving the youth commission. She thanked them for their participation throughout the year and wished them well.

Director Rebecca Eisenberg introduced herself as the newly elected Director for District 7. Thanked the Youth Commissioners for their participation and congratulated those graduating this year.

4. INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY:

Janet Hedley and Michael Ritchie led the Youth Commissioners with an interactive activity of Pictionary where they drew pictures using some of Valley Water's history that was learned throughout the year.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT

Sherilyn Tran reported on:

The Cinco de Mayo event-lecture workshop, April 24th. The youth commissioners' draft video, staff is looking for more input from other youth commissioners so that the final video can be sent out for promotion purposes and help with the new recruitment.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Youth Commission Chair Anika Kulkarni reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

It was moved by Vaibhavi Kulkarni, seconded by Oded Bronicki, and unanimously carried, to approve the January 18, 2023, Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission meeting minutes with 2 corrections, *page 2 Emily Gao should read Emma Gao, page 11 outreaching out should read outreaching to.*

7. AGENDA ITEMS

7.1 UPDATE FROM SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION'S WORKING GROUPS

Youth Commission Chair Anika Kulkarni reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Youth Commission reported on the following Working Groups' activities:

Job Shadow/Mentoring Working Group (JSMWG):

Anika Kulkarni reported on:

- This past February 23rd, we conducted a very successful Job Shadow Day – reaching 50 students and 32 mentors! We hosted a variety of activities, including career spotlights, 12 career panels, career preparedness talks, and a virtual resource fair! In particular, the career spotlight event was a favorite among our attendees – where two associate engineers at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC) spoke about their career backgrounds and water conservation. The working group recently had a feedback meeting where we reflected on the event and gathered ideas for next year's Job Shadow Day. Highlights from our discussion include extending the invitation to middle school students, awarding raffle prizes to particularly active and engaged attendees, and having Youth Commissioners present at the virtual resource fair. As

always, please let us know if you have any suggestions and feedback from this year's Job Shadow Day!

Creek Stewardship Working Group (CSWG):

Nick Ingram, Emma Gao, Daniel Shih, Maitreya Banerjee and Daphne Zhu reported on:

- The Creek Stewardship Working Group would like to invite everyone to participate in National River Cleanup Day. Since 1995, Valley Water and the Creek Connections Action Group have organized the effort in Santa Clara County. Last year, nearly 600 volunteers removed more than 25,000 pounds of trash from waterways in Santa Clara County.
- This year the event will be held on **Saturday, May 20th, from 9 am to noon.** There will be more than 40 cleanup sites happening across the County. One of the cleanup sites will be here at Valley Water Headquarters and will be hosted by Youth Commissioners and Valley Water staff. You should have received an invitation email with registration links.
- The Creek Connections Action Group also needs our help promoting the event and recruiting volunteers. We have posters and postcard handouts for you to help spread the word to family, friends, and classmates. Feel free to take as many as you like before you leave tonight. After today's meeting, we will also send out additional resources to help with event promotion.
- Please keep an eye on Valley Water's social media accounts and be sure to like and share posts to help spread the word.

If anyone has questions about the specifics of the event, you can email the Creek Connections Action Group at volunteer@valleywater.org

Public Art Working Group (PAWG):

Agata Bak reported on:

- Resuming the installation of the Mural Art Project. Our Public Art team and mural artist Paul J. Gonzalez have been hard at work, and we are on track to complete the mural in the coming weeks.
- In addition to completing the mural, we will be promoting the mural in the following ways:
 - 🎨 **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony** – Staff and the Public Art Working Group will be hosting a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of Valley Water's first mural! We are in the planning process and will invite the Youth Commission soon. We hope to see you there!
 - 🎨 **Social Media**– The Public Art Working Group is working on social media posts to promote our mural and its components. Don't forget to share and like our upcoming Public Art Mural posts! Please let us know if you have any ideas on creative ways to promote our mural or would like to help with our social media posts.
 - 🎨 **Video Highlight** – We are working on creating a video showcasing the mural's installation from start to finish. This will be a great way to show our communities the installation process and the finished product. Stay tuned for the finished video coming in the next couple of weeks.
 - 🎨 **Public Art Website Updates** – We are working on updating our Public Art website with current information and images on the mural. If you haven't yet, check out our website at valleywater.org/publicart.

- For those graduating, congratulations! You've all been essential to the mural art project, from brainstorming ideas to approving the design. Don't forget to stay in touch. We have several activities coming up and would appreciate your support in sharing our message.

Youth Citizen Science Network Working Group (YCSN WG):

Emma Gao and Joshua Wei reporting on:

1. The YCSN entry on the Valley Water Youth Commission web page – showing organizations that support community science – is nearly ready to publish.
 - ❖ YCSN have been continuing outreach to find organizations that have science events and apps that support or facilitate science research and data collection
 - ❖ Organizations that have already agreed to join the effort include: CuriOdyssey, Audubon Society, CitizenScience.gov
 - ❖ Last step is to confirm written permission by the entities for inclusion on the website
2. YCSN is contributing to the Valley Water social media campaign and supporting the new Valley Water messaging “Water conservation is a way of life in Santa Clara County”
 - Earlier this evening YCSN members took videos for the Valley Water Communications team to turn into reels
 - ❖ We invite other Youth Commission members to take 5-8 second videos showing participants saving water, being water conscientious, keeping water ways clean, etc.
 - ❖ Please remember to send the videos to Mitzi Chavez on the Education Outreach team
- #3. Propose changing the name of the Youth Citizen Science Network to Youth **Community** Science Network
 - ❖ There is unanimous consensus from YCSN that the term “Community” is more inclusive than “Citizen”

The Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission took the following action.

It was moved by Joshua Wei, seconded by Anika Kulkarni, and unanimously approved changing the Youth Citizen Science Network Working Group's name to Youth Community Science Network to make it more inclusive.

7.2 REVIEW AND DISCUSS SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION WORK PLAN, AND PROPOSE THE COMMISSION'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Glenna Brambill reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item. The next meeting is Wednesday, August 23, 2023, where there will be an election of Chair and Vice Chair.

The Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission took no action.

7.3 RECOGNIZE OUTGOING YOUTH COMMISSION

Youth Commission Chair Anika Kulkarni reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

*Danica Kubota arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Director Rebecca Eisenberg and Staff presented the following with a Certificate of Recognition, Lei, and Gift Bag:

1. Eileen Tran - representing District 1 (Director Varela),
2. Joshua Wei - representing District 1 (Director Varela),
3. Danica Kubota - representing District 2 (Director Keegan),
4. Vaibhavi Kulkarni - representing District 3 (Director Santos),
5. Pramath Doddaballapur - representing District 5 (Director Hsueh), (absent)
6. Daniel Shih - representing District 5 (Director Hsueh), and

7. Nancy Malu Romero Ordoñez – representing District 6 (Director Estremera)

The graduates spoke about their plans and appreciation for being able to participate with the Valley Water Youth Commission.

Staff and the Youth Commissioners also recognized Janet Hedley who will be leaving at the end of May and thanked her for all she did as the Staff Lead for the YCSN Working Group.

Youth Commission Chair Anika Kulkarni has served two times as Chair and has done an incredible job and as she adjourned the meeting noted: “I would simply like to take this time to thank you all for your initiative and activism this past year on the Youth Commission! This is my last meeting as your Commission Chair, but it has been an absolutely wonderful year serving in this position. I continue to be impressed by your innovative ideas and consistent dedication. On that note, I encourage you all to consider running for Chair or Vice Chair next year – I cannot wait to see what we as Youth Commissioners can accomplish next year!”

8. **CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE BOARD**

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

Agenda Item 7.1:

The Youth Commission unanimously approved changing the Youth Citizen Science Network Working Group’s name to Youth Community Science Network to make it more inclusive.

9. **ADJOURN**

Chair Anika Kulkarni adjourned 7:13 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Approved: 8-23-2023

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