



WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2023

A special meeting of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee was held on March 17, 2023, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, in San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Vice Chair Director Nai Hsueh called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

1.1. ROLL CALL

Valley Water Board Committee Members in attendance were: Committee Vice Chair Director Nai Hsueh (District 5), Director Barbara F. Keegan (District 2), and Committee Member Director Rebecca Eisenberg (District 7-arrived at 10:07 a.m.)

Staff members in attendance were: Antonio Alfaro, Aaron Baker, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Neeta Bijoor, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Phil Dolan, Paola Giles, Vincent Gin, Samantha Greene, Chris Hakes, Candice Kwok-Smith, Jessica Lovering, Mike Potter, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Ashley Shannon, Kirsten Struve, and Jing Wu.

Guest Agencies in attendance were: Michael Bolzowski (California Water Service Company), Brian Boyer (Cinnabar Hills Golf Club), Curt Rayer and Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC), and Katja Irvin (Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter).

Public in attendance were: Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D.

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

Katja Irvin (Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter) wanted to make sure the minutes on her public comment reflected the true essence of her point on homeowners/renters.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

3.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Committee Vice Chair Director Hsueh welcomed new Committee Member, Director Eisenberg. Director Hsueh then opened the floor for nominations for Committee Chair:

Director Keegan nominated Director Hsueh and Director Eisenberg seconded. The Committee unanimously elected Director Nai Hsueh as the Committee Chair.

Committee Chair Director Hsueh opened the floor for nominations for Committee Vice Chair: Director Hsueh nominated Director Keegan who declined. Director Hsueh nominated Director Eisenberg and Director Keegan seconded. The Committee unanimously elected Director Rebecca Eisenberg as the Committee Vice Chair.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

It was moved by Director Barbara F. Keegan, seconded by Director Nai Hsueh, and carried by majority, to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2022, Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee meeting with the correction noted by Katja Irvin which will be approved by her and Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh via email. Director Rebecca Eisenberg abstained.

Public Comment:

Katja Irvin (Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter) reiterated that on Page 14 Agenda Item 4.2. she wanted to make sure the minutes captured her sentiments in how difficult it is reaching the landlords of low-income neighborhoods. Glenna Brambill worked with Katja Irvin and Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh to correct the minutes to read: Katja Irvin noted that it is difficult engaging the landlords (homeowners) of low-income renters to motivate them in participating in the Program.

5. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

5.1 MONTHLY UPDATE ON PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING VALLEY WATER'S WATER USE REDUCTION TARGET AND WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS RELATED TO THE DROUGHT EMERGENCY

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

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: normalizing actual data, needing a legend to define shaded areas, risk factors, homelessness issues, poverty impacts of water usage, report on water rates vs. water usage, economy impact, water conservation a way of life, overall costs, modeling tool and complaint process.

Vincent Gin, Kirsten Struve, and Justin Burks were available to answer questions.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

5.2. WATER CONSERVATION SAVINGS MODEL AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Justin Burks reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: customer use base, those already conserving, possible landlord policy, heat map, adoption of the Model Ordinance with agencies, joint meeting with the City of San Jose later in the year and water conservation.

Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Ashley Shannon, and Vincent Gin were available to answer questions.

Public Comment:

Katja Irvin commented on Model Ordinance disallowing non-functional turf and on-site recycling component. She had a question regarding 'free rider's staff was available to explain.

Dr. Arthur Keller noted that the message on not using artificial turf needs to be conveyed and especially to realtors.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

5.3 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

There were no verbal updates for:

1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
2. Flood Mar
3. Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study

5.4 REVIEW WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS; AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items. The Chair will work with the appropriate staff to update the work plan for 2023.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2023, 11:00 a.m.

Vincent Gin advised that there will be an agenda item for consideration on the Water Shortage Emergency Condition.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS

Glenna Brambill stated there were no action items for Board consideration.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

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

Approved: 4-24-2023