



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT (VALLEY WATER)
WATER STORAGE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee (Committee) was held on May 12, 2023, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose CA 95118.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh at 12:00 p.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

Valley Water Board Members in attendance were: Director Nai Hsueh (District 5) and Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), establishing a quorum.

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Joseph Aranda, Aaron Baker, Glenna Brambill, Rolando Bueno, Gavin Downs, Anthony Fulcher, Andrew Garcia, Vincent Gin, Alexander Gordon, Andy Gschwind, Christopher Hakes, Michael Hagerty, Brian Hopper, Dana Jacobson, Cindy Kao, Candice Kwok-Smith, Emelia Lamas, Kathleen Low, Marta Lugo, Michael Martin, Ryan McCarter, Julianne O'Brien, Carlos Orellana, Steve Peters, Don Rocha, Jamie Silva, Ranithri Slayton, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, Gregory Williams, Jing Wu, and Beckie Zisser.

Guests in attendance were: Pablo Arroyave (Chief Operating Officer, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority-SLDMWA), Alicia Forsythe (Sites Project Authority), Chuck Gardner (Hallmark Group), Chuck Hammerstad (NCCFFI), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter), Danielle McPherson and Nicole Sandkulla (BAWSCA), Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC).

Public in attendance were: Molly Culton, A. Edwards, Lisa Hood, Arthur M. Keller, Ph. D., Kaho Khong, Hon. Brian Schmidt, and CS.

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

There were no public comments received.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Director Richard P. Santos, second by Director Nai Hsueh, and by unanimous vote carried to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2023, special meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee as presented.

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh moved to Agenda Item 4.3.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4.3. B. F. SISK DAM RAISE AND RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT UPDATE

Dana Jacobson reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

Chuck Gardner (Hallmark Group) reviewed the handout materials.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: management of project clarification, stakeholders (participating agencies, investors, partnerships), acre-foot allocation, costs, possible WIFIA Loans/project funding, and project operation scenarios.

Public Comment:

Katja Irvin (Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter) referenced potential interactions and benefits of the project and when alternatives were looked at for the San Luis Low Point, the San Luis Dam Raise and expansion project is one of the alternatives she would like to see Valley Water explore.

Cindy Kao and Pablo Arroyave (SLDMWA) were available to answer questions.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh moved to Agenda Item 4.1.

4.1 UPDATE ON THE PACHECO RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT

Julianne O'Brien reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: 2024 cost estimate, Water Supply Master Plan (WSMP) a great tool, completion of EIR/EIS, project schedule, begin promoting project benefits, and unknown factors is a challenge in making key decisions.

Public Comment:

Hon. Brian Schmidt's comments: with the funds expended to date, this project is likely to fail (and noted Pacheco is not a good project), suggests including all costs for the people to see, Sisk project shows how to plan for future facilities, and Sites Project has environmental insight.

Chris Hakes and Cindy Kao were available to answer questions.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

4.2 UPDATE ON SITES RESERVOIR PROJECT

Cindy Kao reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.
Alicia Forsythe (Sites Project Authority) reviewed the handout materials.

Public Comment:

Molly Culton (Sierra Club) concerned with flooding.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh moved to Agenda Item 4.4.

4.4 UPDATE ON ANTELOPE VALLEY-EAST KERN WATER AGENCY HIGH DESERT

Andrew Garcia reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: pilot project, and Phase 1 with Metropolitan Water District (MWD).

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

Cindy Kao was available to answer questions.

4.5. STANDING ITEMS

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item. This item will now be removed as the projects have been incorporated into the new work plan.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

4.6 REVIEW WATER STORAGE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

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

Request was made to have a presentation on Del Valle (August meeting) to receive any updated information on the project.

June Agenda Items: LVE Multi-party Agreement, Sisk shared cost funding update, and updates on Semitropic projects.

The next meeting will be June 9, 2023, 12:00 p.m. and the Committee Chair will review the calendar to check on the meeting schedule moving forward.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS

Glenna Brambill noted there were no requests for Board consideration.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh adjourned the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

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

Approved: 6-9-2023