



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

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# MINUTES

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**WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2022**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee (Committee) was held on July 13, 2022, 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 Gary Kremen at 1:03 p.m.

**1.1 ROLL CALL**

Valley Water Board Members in attendance were: Committee Chair, Director Gary Kremen (District 7), Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), and Director John L. Varela (District 1).

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Antonio Alfaro, Emmanuel Aryee, Aaron Baker, Glenna Brambill, Rita Chan, Andrew Garcia, Vincent Gin, Samantha Greene, Andy Gschwind, Christopher Hakes, Brian Hopper, Dana Jacobson, Cindy Kao, Candice Kwok-Smith, Jessica Lovering, Katherine Maher, Michael Martin, Carmen Narayanan, Carlos Orellana, Metra Richert, Ranithri Slayton, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, Warren Whitlock and Jing Wu.

Guests in attendance were: David Cramer (Walsh), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter). Hon. Steve Jordan (BAWSCA and Purissima Hills Water District), Maureen Martin, Ph.D., and Marguerite Patil (Contra Costa Water District {CCWD}), and Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC).

Public in attendance were: Hon. Jim Beall, Arthur Keller, Ph.D., Manny JID/RD, Director Barbara F. Keegan (Valley Water District 2), Shani Kleinhaus, Osha Meserve, and M. Randall.

**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**

**3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Director Richard P. Santos, second by Director John L. Varela, and by unanimous vote carried to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2022, meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee as presented.

**4. ACTION ITEMS**

**4.1 VALLEY WATER PARTICIPATION RECOMMENDATION FOR THE LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT**

Mr. Michael Martin reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: scenarios and costs, principal variable fees, water supply, Bay Delta Plan, evaporation, LVE Map, allocations, Bethany conveyance, South Bay Aqueduct (SBA) primary pipeline, dry years, San Luis Reservoir, working with partners will be critical, other water supply resources, recycled water, Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) costs, risks, and central coast storage developments.

Public Comment:

Hon. Steve Jordan mentioned the MIT/ Stanford Proposal for building a desalination facility (½ million acre-feet yearly) at Diablo Canyon (central coast related).

Ms. Carmen Narayanan, Ms. Samantha Greene, Ms. Cindy Kao, and Mr. Aaron Baker were available to answer questions.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took the following action:

The Committee unanimously approved staff's recommendation that the Board consider Valley Water begin negotiations of Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project (LVE) participation level of 30 to 50 Thousand Acre Feet of Storage and conveyance to deliver dry year supplies via the Transfer Bethany Pipeline.

**4.2 STANDING ITEMS**

Ms. Cindy Kao reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

**Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir:**

- Del Puerto and Exchange Contractors continue to work on the project
- No fatal flaws found in work to date. Geotechnical work is upcoming.
- Del Puerto WD looking to obtain Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) implementation grant funds to support continued work.
- They are not interested in working with partners at this time, but after geotechnical evaluation to ensure feasibility, they plan to look for partnering.
- CEQA lawsuit update will come to the Committee

## **Water Banking Opportunities**

### **Pleasant Valley:**

- Discussing long-term exchange opportunity with Pleasant Valley WD while they continue evaluating the viability of a water bank and necessary infrastructure improvements.

### **Aquaterra:**

- Revised Feasibility Study has been completed and is under review by staff and other interested parties. We finished our review. There are some gaps on water quality and other data.
- They are revising their Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and will submit revisions on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Staff continues to participate in McMullin's Board Meetings and track proposed revisions to the GSP.

### **AVEK:**

- AVEK is in the process of developing the first phase of their groundwater bank with MWD.
- Valley Water is interested in the second phase of the bank and are interested in doing a pilot program with them.
- AVEK Staff went to their Board and the Board would like to have a discussion with their staff in the fall.
- So AVEK is holding off on further discussions with us until after they've talked to the Board in a few months.

### **Semitropic:**

- Continuing recovery on our behalf totaling 10.5 TAF thru May.
- ST submitted GSP updates submitted to Kern Groundwater Authority (KGA) on June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- KGA will compile the updates from all their member agencies and plans to adopt revisions on July 20<sup>th</sup>
- Submittal to DWR by deadline July 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **Sites:**

- On June 28, 2022, the Board approved sending in a letter to the Sites Project asking to be put on the waiting list to increase our participation level. The letter is drafted and will be going out shortly.

### **B. F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion:**

- San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) awarded a consulting contract to Hallmark Group to serve as the Project Manager for the Sisk Dam raise project.
- Valley Water is currently working with participating SLDMWA members to develop principles of agreement, which is intended to provide assurances to prospective participants prior to making a larger financial commitment.

**Shasta Dam:**

- Reclamation is not performing any further work related to the Raise of Shasta Dam at this time.
- The project has not received any additional WIIN Act funding as recent appropriations language prohibits the use of these funds for the project.

Mr. Andrew Garcia and Brian Hopper were available to answer questions.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: receive a monthly water storage report update (imported water) from SLDMWA, it would be great to have Valley Water include it in the water tracker

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

**4.3. REVIEW WATER STORAGE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

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

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

**5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE ACTIONS**

Ms. Glenna Brambill noted there was one action item for Board consideration.

Agenda Item 4.1.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took the following action:

The Committee unanimously approved staff's recommendation that the Board consider Valley Water begin negotiations of Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project (LVE) participation level of 30 to 50 Thousand Acre Feet of Storage and conveyance to deliver dry year supplies via the Transfer Bethany Pipeline.

**6. CLOSED SESSION**

**6.5 DISTRICT COUNSEL REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION**

There was no report as the Committee elected not to hear Agenda Items 6.1 through 6.4.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Committee Chair Director Gary Kremen adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

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

Approved: 10-13-2022