



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

MINUTES

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2023

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee (Committee) was held on August 18, 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 12:03 p.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

Valley Water Board Members in attendance were: Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh (District 5), Committee Vice Chair Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), and Director Rebecca Eisenberg (District 7-arrived at 12:07 p.m.).

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Gabriel Alcantar (Contractor), Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, Glenna Brambill, Theresa Chinte, Andrew Garcia, Vincent Gin. Samantha Greene, Andy Gschwind, Michael Hagerty, Brian Hopper, Dana Jacobson, Cindy Kao, Michele King, Candice Kwok-Smith, Dave Leon, Katherine Maher, Carmen Narayanan, Max Overland, Carlos Orellana, Don Rocha, Diahann Soleno, Kirsten Struve, Darin Taylor, Jing Wu, and Bhavani Yerrapotu.

Public in attendance were: Pablo Arroyave (Chief Operating Officer, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority-SLDMWA), Jerry Brown (Executive Director, Sites Project Authority), James Crowder, Molly Culton (Sierra Club California), Scott Dellinger-So. Cal Stormwater Leader/Env. SP, Virginia Roach-Green Infrastructure Discipline Leader, and Hala Titus-Unit President (CDM Smith), Chuck Gardner (Hallmark Group), Ted Feldsher, Gavin Downs, Jason Gianquinto (General Manager-Semitropic-Water Storage District), Bob Green, Chuck Hammerstad (NCCFFI), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter), Arthur M. Keller, Ph. D., Shani Kleinhaus, Ken Lawler, Kevin Padway, Sarah Palmer, Jennifer Pratt (Carrollo), Hon. Brian Schmidt, Ed Soong, Gavin Tasker (Barnard Construction), Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC). and Hon. John Varela (Valley Water Board Chair-District 1).

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 June 9, 2023, meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee as presented.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4.1 STORMWATER CAPTURE OPPORTUNITIES: LESSONS LEARNED IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND LOCAL STORMWATER CAPTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Presenters from CDM Smith, Hala Titus-Unit President, Scott Dellinger-So. Cal Stormwater Leader/Env. SP, and Virginia Roach-Green Infrastructure Discipline Leader, reported on their various projects of stormwater capture and were available to answer questions as needed.

Samantha Greene reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and was available to answer questions as needed.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: rebate program, funding concerns, roadblocks (should be discussed with the full board), water storage and availability of staff.

Kirsten Struve and Darin Taylor were available to answer questions.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

4.2 UPDATE ON THE SEMITROPIC GROUNDWATER BANKING & EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Andrew Garcia reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and was available to answer questions as needed.

Jason Gianquinto (General Manager-Semitropic-Water Storage District), reported on Kern County, Federal Water and State banking programs and was available to answer questions as needed.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: climate changes, underground storage, banking agreements, and water quality issues regarding Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

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

Dana Jacobson reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and was available to answer questions as needed. Chuck Gardner (Hallmark Group) and Pablo Arroyave (Chief Operating Officer, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority-SLDMWA) were also available to answer questions if needed. Vincent Gin gave some information on the project partners.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

4.4 UPDATE ON SITES RESERVOIR PROJECT

Katherine Maher reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and was available to answer questions as needed.

Jerry Brown (Executive Director, Sites Project Authority) was also available to answer questions if needed.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: Sites rely on Delta Tunnel, and loan application progress.

Public Comment:

Molly Culton-Sierra Club California commented that they are, along with other environmental organizations are filing a petition against the water rights application for Sites because of many adverse environmental impacts to the fish, wildlife, and violation of the public's interest and trust.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

4.5 UPDATE ON THE PACHECO RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT

Ryan McCarter reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item and was available to answer questions as needed.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: staff's incorporation of this committee's input, lost opportunities concentrating on this project, cessation of project, current costs, lawsuit. Committee Chair Hsueh acknowledge Handout for this agenda item from Soluri Meserve a Law Corporation.

Public Comment:

Hon. Brian Schmidt feels this project should cease.

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.

The Committee canceled the September 8, 2023, meeting, and will resume the schedule on October 13, 2023, 12:00 p.m.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS

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

6. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Director Nai Hsueh adjourned the meeting at 2:09 p.m.

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

Approved: 10-13-2023