



WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

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# MINUTES

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**REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, March 24, 2025  
10:00 AM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Water Supply and Demand Management Committee (Committee) was called to order in the Valley Water Headquarters Building Boardroom at 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, and by Zoom teleconference, at 10:00 a.m.

**1.1. Roll Call.**

Committee members in attendance were: District 5 Director Nai Hsueh, Chairperson, District 2 Director Shiloh Ballard, Vice Chairperson, and District 3 Director Richard Santos, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance were: Gina Adriano, Karen Adriano, Antonio Alfaro, Aaron Baker, Roselyn Bhudsabourg, Justin Burks, Vanessa De La Piedra, Gavin Downs, Andrew Garcia, Rachael Gibson, Vincent Gin, Josh Golka, Andy Gschwind, Jason Gurdak, Linh Huang, Cindy Kao, Matt Keller, Kaho Kong, Candice Kwok-Smith, Jess Lovering, Katherine Maher, Ryan McCarter, Nicole Merritt, Julianne O'Brien, Carlos Orellana, Steve Peters, Sarah Piramoon, Beatriz Portugal, Paola Reyes, Metra Richert, Ray Ruiz, Desiree Sausele, Ashley Shannon, Stephanie Simunic, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Sana Wazit, Jing Wu, Beckie Zisser.

Public in attendance were: Gabriel Alcantar, Kurt Elvert (San Jose Water Company), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club), Paul Sethy (Alameda County Water District).

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

Chairperson Hsueh declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no one who wished to speak.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

#### **3.1 Approval of January 27, 2025 Water Supply and Demand Management Committee (WSDMC) Minutes.**

**Recommendation:** **Approve the minutes.**

The Committee considered the minutes of the January 27, 2025 Water Supply and Demand Management Committee (WSDMC) meeting.

Public Comments: None.

It was moved by Director Santos, seconded by Vice Chairperson Ballard, and unanimously carried, to approve the January 27, 2025 WSDMC minutes.

### **4. REGULAR AGENDA:**

#### **4.1 Receive Update and Discuss the Water Conservation Program's Water Use Savings for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024.**

**Recommendation:** **Receive update and discuss the Water Conservation Program's estimated water use savings for FY 2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024).**

Justin Burks reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and in the attachment and was available to answer questions.

The Committee discussed the following with staff input: the achievement of 3,000 acre-feet a year of water conservation savings in FY 2024, how costs compare to other water supply initiatives, conservation goals, program staffing levels, and efforts to keep the participation in the Landscape Rebate Program high and continue the \$2 per square foot rebate rate.

Public Comments: None.

The Committee received the information, provided positive feedback and took no formal action.

#### **4.2 Receive Update on Valley Water's New Water Conservation Program's and Pilots and Provide Feedback.**

**Recommendation:** **Receive an update on Valley Water's new water conservation programs and pilots and provide feedback.**

Ashley Shannon reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and in the attachment and was available to answer questions.

The Committee discussed the following with staff input: new and enhanced conservation programs, balancing water conservation vs. agency funding, 2030 goals, partnering with training facilities including the International Association of

Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, and program staffing.

Public Comments: None.

The Committee received the information, provided positive feedback and took no formal action.

**4.3 Receive Update on Safe Clean Water Conservation Program – Project A2: Water Conservation Rebates and Programs Update.**

**Recommendation:** **Receive an update on the Safe Clean Water funded conservation programs.**

Ashely Shannon reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and in the attachment and was available to answer questions.

The Committee discussed the planned demonstration garden at Valley Water headquarters. Director Santos suggested installing a plaque to honor past members of the landscape committee that recommended a demonstration garden.

The Committee further discussed the following with staff input: program data analysis plans, program funding for the next seven years, and the importance of funding consistency. Director Santos requested that water conservation is placed on a future Water Retailer Committee meeting agenda.

Public Comments: None.

The Committee received the information, provided positive feedback and took no formal action.

**4.4 Receive Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Compliance related to the Kern County Subbasin.**

**Recommendation:** **Receive an update on SGMA compliance related to the Kern County Subbasin.**

Cindy Kao reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and in the attachments and she and Kaho Kong were available to answer questions.

The Committee discussed the following with staff input: the status of the Kern County Subbasin Semitropic Groundwater Storage Bank relating to regulations and banking impacts, and scenarios if the Basin is put on probation if State Water Board determines that the GSA's are inadequate.

Public Comments: None.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

**4.5. Receive Update and Discuss the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project; Recommend to the Board to Increase Valley Water's Storage Capacity to a Minimum of 63,560 Acre Feet (AF) and Up To 70,000 AF if Space Becomes Available; Recommend to the Board to Authorize Up To \$2,187,646 to Cover Valley Water's Share of Project Planning Costs.**

**Recommendation:**

- A. Receive an update and discuss the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project.**
- B. Recommend to the Board to increase Valley Water's storage capacity to a minimum of 63,560 Acre Feet (AF) and up to 70,000 AF if space becomes available.**
- C. Recommend to the Board to authorize up to \$2,187,646 to cover Valley Water's share of Project planning costs.**

Katherine Maher reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and in the attachment and was available to answer questions.

Public Comment: None.

The Committee discussed the following with staff input: a small increase in participation level to cover Valley Water's share of San Luis Water District's share of the project created by their withdrawal from the project, as well as possible future withdrawals that may result in additional small gaps in participation. Staff also discussed possible risks and high probability of completion of the project, partnership with the United States Bureau of Reclamation, and how this project differs from the Los Vaqueros project.

On a motion by Director Santos, seconded by Vice Chairperson Ballard, the Committee approved to recommend to the Board to increase Valley Water's storage capacity to a minimum of 63,560 Acre Feet (AF) and up to 70,000 AF if space becomes available; and recommend to the Board to authorize up to \$2,187,646 to cover Valley Water's share of project planning costs.

**4.6 Review and Discuss the Water Supply and Demand Management Committee (WSDMC) Work Plan and approve 2025 meeting schedule.**

**Recommendation:**

- Review and discuss the WSDMC Work Plan and upcoming discussion items.**

Public Comment: None.

The Committee received the information and noted that Item 4.7 (Semitropic Groundwater Bank) was heard, not Item 4.1 (Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Annual Update).

**5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS:**

Stephanie Simunic stated that the January 17, 2025 WSDMC minutes were

approved, Items 4.1 through 4.4 were received, and the Committee approved the staff recommendation for Item 4.5.

**6. ADJOURN:**

**6.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Monday April 28, 2025.**

Chairperson Hsueh adjourned the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

Date Approved: May 5, 2025

Stephanie Simunic  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II