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WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024
1:00 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A special 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 1:00 p.m.

1.1. Roll Call.

Committee members in attendance were District 2 Director Barbara Keegan, District 3 Director Richard Santos, and District 5 Director Nai Hsueh, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance were: Gina Adriano, Joseph Aranda, Aaron Baker, Erin Baker, Audrey Beaman, Wade Blackard, Sam Bogale, Rick L. Callender, Enrique De Anda, Vanessa De La Piedra, Jiana Escobar, Alicia Fraumeni, Vincent Gin, Jaeho Hahn, Katrina Holden, Cody Houston, Candice Kwok-Smith, Peggy Lam, Dave Leon, Ryan McCarter, Patrice McElroy, Nicole Merritt, Julianne O'Brien, Carlos Orellana, Mike Potter, Charlotte Reinthaler, Kristie Resendez, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Breanne Roderick, Miguel Silva, Stephanie Simunic, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, Odilia Teixeira, Cheryl Togami, Gregory Williams.

Public in attendance were: Valley Water Director Rebecca Eisenberg, Diane Asuncion (City of Santa Clara), Ros "Roz" Beckensten, Sarah Clark (Carollo), Chris Cleveland, Kurt Elvert and John Tang (San Jose Water), Helen H., Katja Irvin and Molly Culton (Sierra Club), Forest Olaf Peterson, and Julia Nussbaum (Stanford University), XXX-XXX-8214.

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

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

2.1 Election of 2024 Water Supply and Demand Management Committee (WSDMC) Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Recommendation: Nominate and elect the 2024 WSDMC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

The Committee considered this Item without a staff presentation.

Public Comments:

None.

It was moved by Director Hsueh and seconded by Director Santos and unanimously carried to elect Director Santos as the 2024 Chairperson and Director Keegan as the 2024 Vice Chairperson.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1 Approval of December 8, 2023 Water Storage Exploratory Committee Minutes (WSEC) and January 29, 2024 Water Conservation and Demand Management (WCaDM) Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the minutes of the December 8, 2023 WSEC and the January 29, 2024 WCaDM Minutes.

Public Comments:

None.

It was moved by Director Hsueh, seconded by Chairperson Santos, and unanimously carried, to approve the January 29, 2024 WCaDM minutes.

It was moved by Director Hsueh, seconded by Chairperson Santos, and was carried by majority vote, that the WSEC minutes be approved. Vice Chairperson Keegan abstained from the vote.

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.1 Approve the Proposed Water Supply and Demand Management Committee (WSDMC) Purpose and Review and Provide Feedback on the WSDMC Work Plan, Upcoming Discussion Items, and the Committee's Next Meeting Date/Schedule.

Recommendation: Approve the proposed WSDMC purpose; and review and provide feedback on the WSDMC Work Plan, upcoming discussion items, and the Committee's next meeting date/schedule.

The Committee considered this Item without a staff presentation.

Kirsten Struve, Darin Taylor, Aaron Baker, Ryan McCarter and Metra Richert were available to answer questions.

Vice Chairperson Keegan suggested adding water conservation to the Committee purpose as it is not included in the new Committee name.

It was moved by Vice Chairperson Keegan, and seconded by Chairperson Santos, and unanimously carried to approve the proposed WSDMC purpose with the amendment to include water conservation.

The amended WSDMC purpose reads as follows: The Water Supply and Demand Management Committee was established to support the Board of Directors in achieving its policy to provide a reliable water supply to meet current and future water usage. The Committee will support the Board by making policy recommendations, receiving reports, and discussing information related to demand management, including water conservation, Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) items, and additional water storage options. The Committee representatives may assist their respective Board of Directors on policies and actions related to these matters.

Public Comments:

Katja Irvin expressed disappointment regarding certain agenda items not being present on the new combined Committee work plan and suggested including the additional items to confirm the new Committee scope.

Kirsten Struve confirmed the agenda items noted by Katja Irvin were originally included in the new combined Committee Work Plan, but were mistakenly cut off from the agenda packet or are incorporated under one of the existing agenda items.

Copies of the complete Committee Work Plan, identified as Handout 4.1-A were distributed to the Committee and made available to the public.

Darin Taylor noted that the Committee may desire to invite the consultant to the upcoming May 2024 meeting to discuss water use projection, demand elasticity, and water rate affordability to discuss the scope and deliverables of the project.

The Committee noted support for regular monthly meetings to occur before 1:00 p.m. and to avoid meetings on Mondays.

In response to an inquiry from Director Keegan relating to future key items for the Committee, Aaron Baker noted storage at the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project and the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project, the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project, demand elasticity, and continued conservation efforts.

The Committee noted support for the potential for a general stand-alone agenda item for water storage projects to address permitting strategies and inquiries from the public regarding project delays or cost increases.

Kirsten Struve stated that the next meeting topics will be a water conservation update, the demonstration garden, an affordability discussion, long term goals, and the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project.

Vice Chairperson Keegan acknowledged receipt of a complaint from the public regarding individual condominium submeter charges and noted support for staff reaching out for follow up.

Aaron Baker noted that water retailers generally charge per the common areas and can vary upon the condominium developer and city requirements.

Metra Richert offered to check the Model Water Efficient New Development Ordinance for any language that might encourage individual meters and provide that information to the Committee.

Additional Public Comments:

John Tang confirmed that California Senate Bill 7 requires water meters to be installed in apartments in rental housing buildings constructed after January 1, 2018, and are managed by the owner of the building and not the water retailer.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS:

This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.

Nicole Merritt confirmed the Committee elected Director Santos as Chairperson and Director Keegan as Vice Chairperson under Item 2.1; the Committee reviewed and provided feedback relating to the workplan and approved the amended Committee purpose under Item 4.1; confirmed the next meeting will be scheduled through the Board Scheduler, and introduced Stephanie Simunic as the assigned WSDMC Committee Clerk support.

6. Adjourn:

6.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting/Special Meeting at TBD per Committee.

Chairperson Santos adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m., to a subsequently scheduled regular meeting on May 17, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. through the Board Scheduler.

Stephanie Simunic
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date Approved: May 17, 2024