



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

THURSDAY, May 29, 2025

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission (Youth Commission) was held on May 29, 2025, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Youth Commission Chairperson Niharika Koduru called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

A quorum was established with 13 members present.

Members in attendance were:

District 2: Andrew Lomio and Chairperson Niharika Koduru

District 3: Nina Yuan, Parnika Sadhu, and Prathik Janakiram

District 4: Christopher Barsoum and Ellie Zhou

District 5: Aditya Shivakumar

District 6: Jonathan Lopez and David Huynh

District 7: Oded Bronicki, Vice Chairperson Maitreya Banerjee, and Doyoon Kim

Members not in attendance were:

District 1: Ishaan Mandala, Lorelei Henry, and Elena Alegre

District 2: Ca Nha Dang

District 4: Agata Bak

District 5: Daphne Zhu and Grace Liu

District 6: Soleil Hernandez

Directors in attendance were: Shiloh Ballard, District 2.

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Ricardo Barajas, Layla Forooghi, Kristen Yasukawa, and Stephanie Simunic.

Public in attendance were: Anon, Mario Rivas, and Shiva Shivakumar.

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

There was no one who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Recommendation: Approve the January 22, 2025 meeting minutes

It was moved by Chairperson Koduru, seconded by Vice Chairperson Banerjee, and unanimously carried, to approve the January 22, 2025 Commission meeting minutes as submitted.

4. INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY

Layla Forooghi led an activity wherein the Members wrote down and shared their thoughts and review of the past year on the Commission.

5. MANAGER'S REPORT

Kristen Yasukawa noted that more than 200 applications were received for the eleven vacancies on the Commission. She further reported that the public tours at the water purification center are still being given and distributed flyers relating to the tours.

6. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

6.1. UPDATE FROM SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION'S PROJECT GROUPS

Recommendation: Receive updates from working groups and ad hoc committees and make recommendations to the Board, as necessary.

Member Lomio reported that on February 10, 2025, the Creekside Community Care Initiative Project Group assembled 100 hygiene kits, which were distributed on February 23 while taking a tour of the Bill Wilson Center. He also noted blog posts that were uploaded to the Valley Water website relating to various topics.

Member Shivakumar reported that the Education Outreach Program Project Group organized webcasts for school groups interested in Valley Water's grant programs, and the webcasts aired April 2 and 12, 2025.

Ricardo Barajas reported that the Policy Writing Ad Hoc Committee's proposed plan to address environmental concerns relating to the unhoused population in Santa Clara County, stating that the Creekside Community Care Initiative, which included the hygiene kit distribution, was a result of those efforts.

Member Zhou reported that the Creek Stewardship and Water Quality Outreach Project Group toured the water quality lab and participated in a hands-on chain of custody activity which shows how scientists track a sample of water from collection to lab testing. She further noted that the Working Group created several educational videos on various topics relating to water

quality, and that the Project Group hosted a National River Cleanup Day Youth Commission site in Milpitas.

6.2. REVIEW SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS; AND DISCUSS POSSIBLE ITEMS FOR THE COMMISSION'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Recommendation: Review the Commission work plan to guide the Commission's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation and make recommendations as necessary.

Without discussion, the Commission received the information and took no action.

6.3. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING YOUTH COMMISSION MEMBERS

Recommendation: Acknowledge and recognize outgoing Youth Commission Members.

Director Ballard provided remarks to the Youth Commission and presented the graduating members of the Commission with a Certificate of Recognition for their service, and each graduate was given the opportunity to address the Commission.

1. Lorelei Henry - representing District 1 (Director Varela)
2. Ca Nha Dang - representing District 2 (Director Ballard)
3. Chairperson Niharika Koduru - representing District 2 (Director Ballard)
4. Christopher Barsoum - representing District 4 (Director Beall)
5. Daphne Zhu - representing District 5 (Director Hsueh)
6. Grace Liu - representing District 5 (Director Hsueh)
7. Jonathan Lopez - representing District 6 (Director Estremera)
8. Oded Bronicki – representing District 7 (Director Eisenberg)
9. Vice Chairperson Maitreya Banerjee – representing District 7 (Director Eisenberg)

7. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE BOARD

Without discussion, the Commission took no action.

8. ADJOURN

Chairperson Koduru adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Dave Leon
Assistant Deputy Clerk II
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved: August 20, 2025

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