



ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, July 21, 2025

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Committee) Meeting was held on July 21, 2025, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chair Charles Ice called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. A quorum was established with 10 members present.

Members in attendance were:

District 1: Loren Lewis

District 2: Chairperson Charles Ice, Uyen Mai

District 4: Bob Levy, Mitchell Ehrlich

District 5: Patrick Kwok, Mike Michitaka, Rachel Lam

District 7: Tess Byler, Vice Chairperson Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D.

Members not in attendance were:

District 1: Swanee Edwards

District 2: Edgar Echevarria

District 3: Charles Taylor, Bill Roth

District 6: Jim Piazza, Rebecca Gallardo

Board members in attendance were: Director Shiloh Ballard (District 2), and Director Nai Hsueh (District 5).

Staff members in attendance were: John Bourgeois, Zooey Diggory, Dave Leon, Kirsten Struve, Emily Tucker, and Jing Wu.

Public in attendance were: Katja Irvin.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Ice 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 April 21, 2025 ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

It was moved by Member Byler, seconded by Member Kwok, and carried unanimously to approve the April 21, 2025 Committee meeting minutes as submitted.

4. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

4.1. RECEIVE INFORMATION AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON VALLEY WATER'S WATER SUPPLY MASTER PLAN 2050

Recommendation: Provide feedback on the development of Water Supply Master Plan 2050.

Jing Wu reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 and 2. Jing Wu and Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to wholesale rates and programs for low-income residents, determining factors for project selection, historical and forecasted water demand and its relation to population growth and ABAG forecasts, how groundwater banking is defined, portfolio analysis, public polling relating to wastewater reclamation, alternatives to groundwater storage, water supply portfolios with different levels of groundwater banking, demand forecasting and droughts, and recharge projects.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.2 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS INTRODUCTION TO THE UPPER PAJARO NATIVE ECOSYSTEM ENHANCEMENT TOOL AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK

Recommendation: Receive and discuss introduction to the Upper Pajaro Native Ecosystem Enhancement Tool and provide feedback as necessary.

Zooey Diggory reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Handout 2. Zooey Diggory and John Bourgeois were available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to the number of users and other stakeholders, using the tool to further Valley Water's stewardship mission, standardizing data, using the tool for various queries, and uploading projects to EcoAtlas.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.3 REVIEW AND RECEIVE UPDATES ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUPS

Recommendation:

- A. Review and receive updates on the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's Working Groups, and
- B. Provide comments to the Board on implementation of Valley Water's mission applicable to working groups' recommendations.

The item was received without a staff presentation.

Member Byler reported that an introductory meeting of the Integrated Water Resources Management Group was held on May 29, 2025.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.4 REVIEW ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS; AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Recommendation: Review the Committee work plan to guide the committee's discussions regarding policy alternatives and implications for Board deliberation.

Dave Leon reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachments 1 and 2 and was available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to possible items for the January, 2026 meeting.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

5. STANDING ITEMS

5.1 DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

No reports were given.

5.2 MANAGER'S REPORTS

John Bourgeois introduced himself to the new members and reported on Member Michitaka's meeting with Valley Water CFO Darin Taylor. Member Michitaka then provided a summary of his meeting wherein various questions relating to finances were discussed.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS TO THE BOARD

The Committee took no action.

7. ADJOURNMENT

7.1 ADJOURN

Chairperson Ice adjourned the meeting at 8:04 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Dave Leon
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Date approved: October 20, 2025