



STREAM PLANNING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

---

# MINUTES

---

**REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, August 20, 2024  
12:00 P.M.**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

**1. CALL TO ORDER  
1.1 Roll Call**

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC) was called to order in the Valley Water Headquarters Building Boardroom at 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, and by Zoom teleconference, at 12:03 p.m.

Committee members in attendance were District 2 Director Barbara Keegan, Chairperson presiding, and District 6 Director Tony Estremera, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance were: Aaron Baker, John Bourgeois, Rita Chan, Andrew Gschwind, Chris Hakes, Ryan Heacock, Bassam Kassab, Candice Kwok-Smith, Emelia Lamas, Becky Manchester, Julio Maravilla, Ryan McCarter, Carlos Orellana, Lisa Porcella, Stephanie Simunic, Sarah Young, Wendy Young, and Gregory Williams.

Public in attendance were: District 7 Director Rebecca Eisenburg, Katja Irvin, Becky Manchester, Jessie Maxfield, Nathan Metcalf, and Jim Piazza.

District 1 Director John Varela attended remotely as a member of the public.

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

Director Keegan 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 May 13, 2024 Stream Planning Operations Committee minutes.**

**Recommendation:            Approve the minutes.**

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the May 13, 2024 Committee meeting.

Public Comments: None.

It was moved by Director Estremera and seconded by Chairperson Keegan, and unanimously carried that the May 13, 2024 minutes be approved.

**4. REGULAR AGENDA**

**4.1. Receive and Discuss Updates on Fish and Aquatic Habitat Collaborative Effort (FAHCE) Implementation.**

**Recommendation:**                      **Receive updates on FAHCE implementation (including Initialing Parties and Adaptive Management Team meetings) and discuss program and efforts.**

Lisa Porcella, John Bourgeois, Julio Maravilla and Ryan Heacock reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation contained in Attachment 1 and were available to answer questions. Videos of the May 13, 2024 Singleton Road Site and Percolation Pond Fish Ladder Installation Site Committee tour and the FAHCE program were shown.

Public Comments: None.

Chairperson Keegan and Director Estremera commended staff efforts of the tour and suggested tours occur more frequently.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

**4.2. Receive update on Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and incorporation of FAHCE Conservation Measures for Coyote Creek.**

**Recommendation:**                      **Receive update on Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and incorporation of FAHCE conservation measures for Coyote Creek.**

Ryan McCarter reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation contained in Attachment 1 and was available to answer questions.

Director Estremera thanked staff for their efforts on the project and stated that the overall project contains multiple elements. He suggested a comprehensive site tour with elected officials.

In response to inquiries from Chairperson Keegan, Mr. McCarter stated that the size of the tunnel is 8 feet 4 inches, no unusual soil conditions were found when drilling, and the monitoring the results of the chillers will be tracked to determine the benefit level.

Public comments: None.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

5. **CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS**  
**5.1 Review Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC) Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Commission Requests; and 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.

Stephanie Simunic stated the next Committee meeting will be scheduled for November 2024 per the Board Scheduler. The Committee took no action.

6. **CLOSED SESSION**

Chairperson Keegan confirmed that the Committee would adjourn to Closed Session to consider Item 6.1.

**6.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL PENDING LITIGATION**

**Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) State Water Resources Control Board Proceeding In the matter of Santa Clara Valley Water District Stevens and Guadalupe Creeks, License Nos. 6943, 11791, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 6944, 2837, and 5729 (Application Nos. 5653, 5654, 7141, 7143, 8098, 8099, 8387, 9455, and 11751)**

**CLOSED SESSION CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL PENDING LITIGATION**

**Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)  
San Francisco Baykeeper v. Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Santa Clara County Superior Court Case Number 22CV403523**

**6.2 District Counsel Report on Closed Session.**

Upon return to Open Session, Board members Keegan and Estremera and staff were present.

Andrew Gschwind, District Council, reported that regarding Item 6.1, the Committee met in Closed Session with all members participating and took no reportable action.

7. **ADJOURN:**

**7.1 Adjourn to Regular/Special Meeting at TBD per the Committee.**

Chairperson Keegan adjourned the meeting at 1:19 p.m.

Stephanie Simunic  
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

Approved: June 11, 2025