



WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2024
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 3 Director Richard Santos, Chairperson presiding, District 2 Director Barbara Keegan, Vice Chairperson, and District 5 Director Nai Hsueh, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance were: Gina Adriano, Antonio Alfaro, Emmanuel Aryee, Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, Roselyn Bhudsabourg, Justin Burks, Rick Callender, Rita Chan, Vanessa De La Pietra, Philip Dolan, Andrew Garcia, Vincent Gin, Andy Gschwind, Jason Gurdak, Bassam Kassab, Cindy Kao, Matt Keller, Michele King, Kaho Kong, Candice Kwok-Smith, Jess Lovering, Katherine Maher, Ryan McCarter, Julianne O'Brien, Carlos Orellana, Steve Peters, Sarah Piramoon, Charlotte Reinharter, Metra Richert, Ashley Shannon, Stephanie Simunic, Ranithri Slayton, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, Sana Wazit, Gregory Williams, Jing Wu, Becky Zisser.

Public in attendance were: District 1 Director John Varela, District 7 Director Rebecca Eisenberg, Molly Culton and Katja Irvin (Sierra Club), Arthur Keller, Doug Muirhead.

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

Chairperson Santos 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 September 28, 2024 Water Supply and Demand Management Committee (WSDMC) Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the minutes of the September 28, 2024 Water Supply and Demand Management Committee (WSDMC) meeting.

Public Comments: None.

It was moved by Director Hsueh, seconded by Vice Chairperson Keegan, and unanimously carried, to approve the September 28, 2024 WSDMC minutes.

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.1 Receive an update on Santa Clara Valley Water District's South County managed aquifer recharge activities and provide feedback.

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

Public Comment: Doug Muirhead inquired about recharge and recycled water in south county regarding droughts, suggested a tracer study for movement of the groundwater basin in south county, extending the Morgan Hill sewer system, and commented on the Butterfield Channel Recharge project. Staff stated they will contact Mr. Muirhead directly relating to his comments.

Discussion ensued relating to San Pedro groundwater recharge possibly affecting septic systems, planning for south county water storage, and sensitivity to rate changes for projects that may affect south county residents.

In response to an inquiry from Director Hsueh, Mr. Kassab stated the City of Morgan Hill operates San Pedro Ponds, a park for residents with trails around the ponds residents enjoy.

In response an inquiry from Chairperson Santos relating to septic tanks regarding water recharge, Ms. De La Piedra stated it is a consideration as Valley Water is trying to cite new facilities and desires to seek places that have enough separation to groundwater and septic to fully maintain those systems.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

4.2 Receive an update on the status of groundwater basins pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Jason Gurdak and Kaho Kong reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and in the attachment and were available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to if the designation of the subbasin is put in probationary status.

Public Comments: Doug Muirhead emphasized the importance of monitoring the semitropic groundwater exchange. Arthur Keller inquired relating to amount of water stored in the semitropic banks and other sources of water. Staff answered just over 300,000-acre feet is stored, in droughts other water supply options would be evaluated, and Valley Water will continue to work with partners and the State Water Board to avoid water supply risks.

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

4.3. Receive an update on the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion Project, including (provisional) agreement on terms of Management and Cost Share Agreement Between San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Cindy Kao reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and was available to answer questions.

Discussion ensued relating to the operations and maintenance cost estimate regarding securing transportation funds connected to the project, determining possible south county cost benefits of the project, timing of construction relating to the raising of State Route 152, level of commitment of participating agencies relating to project funding, and partners applying for grants.

Public Comments: None.

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

4.4 Receive an update and discuss the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project.

Vincent Gin stated that a celebratory event relating to an agreement in the cost share management of the BF Sisk Dam and Reservoir Project is tentatively scheduled in Washington D.C. on December 13, 2024 by the Bureau of Reclamation, and more information will be communicated to the Board.

Katherine Maher stated that during the September 18, 2024 Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) Board meeting, the Board concluded that the Project is no longer viable and directed staff to develop a plan for CCWD to end their participation, and since the Project utilizes CCWD facilities, their withdrawal would effectively end the Project.

She further stated that at the October 30, 2024 CCWD meeting, the Los Vaqueros JPA Board Chair, on behalf of the JPA Board, sent a letter to CCWD's Board Chair, asking CCWD to reconsider ending their participation in the Project and urging them to continue discussions with the JPA to try to address CCWD's concerns about the project.

She further stated at the November 6, 2024 CCWD Board meeting, a resolution will be presented to authorize their General Manager to withdraw CCWD's application to the Prop 1 Water Storage Improvement Program and also authorizes their manager to coordinate and work with the JPA to begin dissolution of JPA and terminate the JPA agreement. Ms. Maher noted that dissolution of the JPA would require an affirmative vote of 75 percent of the JPA members as well as ratification vote of 75 percent of the Member Agency Boards. She stated more information on the Project direction will be available after the November 3, 2024 CCWD Board meeting, Valley Water staff are closely monitoring the situation and will be able to provide additional updates after these meetings.

Public Comments: None

The Committee received the information, thanked staff for their efforts on the project, and took no formal action.

4.5 Review and Discuss the Water Supply and Demand Management Committee (WSDMC) Work Plan.

Stephanie Simunic differed to staff for information as the work plan relates to determining the next meeting date. Kirsten Struve stated the item relating to collaboration with retailers and outreach including renters and landlords for the November 25, 2024 meeting can be heard, but the other two items listed on the work plan will not have new information by the November 25, 2024 meeting. Discussion ensued relating to holding a November or December 2024 WSDMC meeting, and staff noted no urgent items for discussion. The Committee agreed to hold the next meeting in January 2025.

Director Hsueh requested staff provide an update relating to the next Pacheco Reservoir Expansion project strategy, noting including a summary of public comment on the project.

Director Keegan stated this is her last meeting as a Committee member and thanked the staff for their efforts on the Committee.

Public Comment: Katja Irvin made an inquiry relating to the date of the next Pacheco Reservoir Expansion project update and expressed the need for an update that includes schedule or cost to be used in evaluation of the CIP and the project.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

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.

Stephanie Simunic stated that the September 28, 2024 WSDMC minutes were approved, the regular items on the agenda were heard, and the next meeting will occur in January 2025 unless Committee members or staff request otherwise.

6. ADJOURN:

6.1. Adjourn to Regular Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Monday November 25, 2024.

Chairperson Santos adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m., noted the November 25, 2024 meeting is cancelled, and the next meeting will occur in January 2025.

Date Approved: 1/27/2025

Stephanie Simunic
Assistant Deputy Clerk II

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