



BOARD POLICY AND MONITORING
COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024
12:00 PM

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

A special meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board Policy and Monitoring Committee (Committee) was called to order by Chairperson Hsueh in the Valley Water Headquarters Building Boardroom at 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, and by Zoom teleconference, at 12:00 p.m.

1.1. Roll Call.

Committee members in attendance were: District 5 Director Nai Hsueh, Chairperson presiding, and District 6 Director Tony Estremera, Vice Chairperson. District 1 Director John Varela arrived as noted below.

Staff members in attendance were: Emmanuel Aryee, Erin Baker, Sam Bogale, John Bourgeois, Mera Burton, Rick Callender, Rita Chan, Isela Chaparro, Theresa Chinte, Jen Codianne, Jessica Collins, Meenakshi Ganjoo, Jaeho Hahn, Laurel Hanchett, Chris Hakes, Diahann Hudson (Soleno), Michele King, Candice Kwok-Smith, Anna Lee, Dave Leon, Courtney Letts, Sadie Lum, Becky Manchester, Patrice McElroy, Katie Muller, Carlos Orellana, Max Overland, Peter Park, Luz Penilla, Sasa Seto, Stephanie Simunic, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, Tina Yoke, Bhavani Yerrapotu, Lian Xu, Beckie Zisser.

Public in attendance were: Margaret Bruce, Tess Byler and Miyko Harris-Parker, (San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority) Molly Culton (Sierra Club), Arthur Keller, Trish Mulvey, Nikki Nagaya, Linda Win-Ready.

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

Chairperson Hsueh 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 October 31, 2024 Board Policy and Monitoring Committee (BPMC) Minutes.

Recommendation: **Approve the minutes.**

The BPMC considered the minutes of the October 31, 2024 BPMC meeting.

Public Comments: None.

It was moved by Director Estremera, seconded by Chairperson Hsueh, that the minutes be approved as presented.

Chairperson Hsueh moved the agenda to Item No. 4.2.

4. REGULAR AGENDA:

4.2 Review Proposed Changes to Board Governance Policies - Executive Limitations (EL) 6 - Asset Management and Related Board Appointed Officer (BAO) Interpretations.

Recommendation: **A. Review and provide input on the proposed changes to Board Governance Policies, Executive Limitations (EL) 6 – Asset Management and related BAO Interpretations; and B. Recommend that the revisions be presented to the full Board for approval.**

Rita Chan, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and in the attachment and was available to answer questions.

Director Varela took his seat at 10:11 a.m.

Discussion ensued relating to the following:

- Item 6.4: add a reference relating to reinforcing the importance of maintaining the existing infrastructure in working conditions.
- Item 6.2: emphasize the idea of Valley Water being the leader of scientific water data.
- Items 6.7.1.3 and 6.7.1.4: timing and possible frequency reduction of property acquisition reports less than \$50,000 provided to the Board.
- Item 6.7.1: clarify “Board-approved project”.

Public Comment: None.

On a motion by Vice Chairperson Estremera, seconded by Director Varela, and unanimously approved, the discussed revisions will be incorporated and presented to the full Board for approval.

Chairperson Hsueh returned the agenda to Item 4.1.

4.1 Discuss San Francisquito Creek Flood Protection Project (Project) and Issues Related to Santa Clara Valley Water District's Participation in the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority (SFCJPA) and Provide Feedback.

Recommendation: **A. Receive an update on Project status and issues related to Santa Clara Valley Water District's participation in the SFCJPA; and B. Discuss and identify opportunities for improvement to help resolve these issues and provide feedback to staff on next steps.**

Erin Baker, Capital Engineering Manager, Design and Construction Unit 6, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and in the attachment and was available to answer questions.

Public Comment: Margaret Bruce commented relating to the importance of alignment in project delivery, roles of entities involved, Key Performance Indicators, flood protection areas, and funding, audit and technology challenges faced by the SFCJPA. Tess Byler stated that she is the project manager of the SAFER Bay Project and Reach 2, most of her time is spent on Reach 2, which is the number one priority for SFCJPA. She further stated the SAFER Bay Project is already being disbursed to member cities of Menlo Park and East Palo Alto. Finally, she emphasized the importance of completing Reach 2.

Discussion ensued relating to Valley Water's commitment to the Safe Clean Water Program, how Valley Water's role has changed in the project, the absence of audits at the SFCJPA, the funding and timing issues for the project to move forward, and an election for public financing for the project.

The Committee made a recommendation to the Board to direct staff to initiate discussion with executive staff of the 5 partnering agencies to develop guiding principles for project implementation including construction and ongoing maintenance.

Chairperson Hsueh moved the agenda to Item No. 4.3.

4.3 Fair Chance and Disabled Hiring Program/Veteran's Program Update.

Recommendation: **Receive an update on Valley Water's recruitment programs geared toward expanding our applicant pools, including the Fair Chance and Disabled Hiring Programs as well as our veterans' hiring initiatives.**

Sasa Sato, Acting Program Administrator, Talent Acquisition and Career Pathways, and Laurel Hanchett, Management Analysts II, Talent Acquisition and Career Pathways, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo and in the attachment and were available to answer questions.

Public Comment: None.

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

4.4 Discuss Board Policy and Monitoring Committee (BPMC) Work Plan and Agenda Items.

Recommendation: **Discuss BPMC Work Plan.**

The Committee reviewed Work Plan items and timeline.

Public Comments: None.

The Committee received the information and took no formal action.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.

Stephanie Simunic, Assistant Deputy Clerk, Clerk of the Board of Directors, confirmed that Item 4.2, relating to EL-6 (Asset Management) the discussed revisions will be incorporated and presented to the full Board for approval. She further stated that Item 4.1 relating to the SFCJPA, the Committee made a recommendation to the Board to direct staff to initiate discussion with executive staff of the 5 partnering agencies to develop guiding principles for project implementation including construction and ongoing maintenance.

6. ADJOURN:

6.1. Adjourn.

Chairperson Hsueh adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

Date Approved: April 14, 2025

Stephanie Simunic
Assistant Deputy Clerk II