



AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee was held on January 3, 2022, Teleconference via Zoom in San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chair David Vanni called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

Members in attendance were:

Jurisdiction

District 1

District 2

District 3

District 4

District 5

District 6

Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District

Representative

Mitchell Mariani

James Provenzano

William Cilker

David Vanni

Sheila Barry

Jan Garrod

Michael Miller*

Tim Chiala

Peter Van Dyke

Members not in attendance were:

Jurisdiction

District 1

District 4

District 6

District 7

Representative

Russ Bonino

Brent Bonino

Robert Long

Sandra Carrico

*Committee Members logged on as indicated below.

Board members in attendance were: Director Nai Hsueh (District 5), Board Alternate, Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), and Director John L. Varela (District 1), Board Representatives.

Staff members in attendance were: Jennifer Abadilla, Aaron Baker, Neeta Bijoor, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Keila Cisneros, George Cook, Vanessa De La Piedra, Melissa Fels, Vincent Gin, Samantha Greene, Candice Kwok-Smith, Carmen Narayanan, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Ashley Shannon, Kirsten Struve, Darin Taylor, and Gregory Williams.

Guest in attendance were: Anna Rallings and Josh Viers (UC Merced).

Public in attendance was: Director Linda J. LeZotte (Valley Water Board Member, District 4).

*Mr. Michael Miller logged on at 1:35 p.m.

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

There was no one present who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Peter Van Dyke second by Mr. James Provenzano and by roll call and unanimous vote approved the October 4, 2021, Agricultural Water Advisory Committee meeting minutes, as presented.

4. ACTION ITEMS:

4.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Committee Chair Mr. David Vanni opened the floor to receive nominations for the Chair and Vice Chair

1. Peter Van Dyke nominated Jan Garrod for Chair.
2. Tim Chiala nominated Peter Van Dyke for Vice Chair

The Committee by roll call and unanimous vote approved Mr. Jan Garrod as the 2022 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Chair and Mr. Peter Van Dyke as the 2022 Agricultural Water Advisory Committee Vice Chair.

4.2 REVIEW AND APPROVE 2021 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD (COMMITTEE CHAIR)

Ms. Glenna Brambill review the materials as outlined in the agenda.

It was moved by Mr. Peter Van Dyke second by Ms. Sheila Barry and by roll call and unanimous vote approved the 2021 Annual Accomplishments Report.

4.3 DROUGHT RESPONSE UPDATE

Ms. Neeta Bijoor reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee discussed the following: rainwater, aquifer, flush of sand/water table in Zone W-5, seasonal recovery, staying on a drought status,

agencies receiving water conservation presentation, eCart, LRP graphs and the response time has improved, when will rainfall be back to normal, and continuing with water conservation.

Ms. Vanessa De La Piedra, Director John L. Varela, Director Richard P. Santos, and Mr. Aaron Baker were available to answer questions.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

4.4 REVIEW AND COMMENT TO THE BOARD ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 PRELIMINARY GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION CHARGES

Ms. Carmen Narayanan reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee discussed the following: thanked Valley Water for keeping agricultural rates down, Open Space Credit, and inflation being accounted for in the rates.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

4.5 AGRICULTURAL WATER USE BASELINE STUDY UPDATE

Ms. Samantha Greene and Ms. Anna Rallings of University of California Merced reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee discussed the following: difference between hay vs pasture, fallowing, irrigation vs land grazing (animals), parcel size, bare land retaining water, soil types, and water management.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

4.6 INJECTION WELLS FOR GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

Mr. George Cook reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee discussed the following: perc ponds, monitoring wells, recharging and evaporation issues.

Ms. Vanessa De La Piedra and Mr. Aaron Baker were available to answer questions.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

4.7 REVIEW AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS; AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Ms. Glenna Brambill reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

Agenda Items for April:
Drought Update, Proposed Groundwater Production Charges and, FloodMAR,

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

5. INFORMATION ITEM

5.1 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

Ms. Glenna Brambill reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

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

Ms. Glenna Brambill reported there were no action items for Board consideration.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Director's Report

None.

Director John L. Varela, looking forward to 2022, rates and conservation discussions.

Director Richard P. Santos encouraged the Committee to get involved in attending meetings with the Farm Bureau and Legislators regarding the needs for water resources. Commended outgoing Chair David Vanni and looking forward working with the new 2022 Chair Jan Garrod and Vice Chair Peter Van Dyke.

Mr. David Vanni thanked the Board Representatives for all of their assistance and support to the Committee.

Director Nai Hsueh also thanked everyone as was already stated.

7.2 Manager's Report

None.

Mr. Aaron Baker and Valley Water Staff are looking forward to working with the Committee for the new year.

7.3 Committee Member Reports

None.

7.4 Informational Link Reports

Links were provided in the Committee's agenda packet.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Jan Garrod adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m. to the regular meeting on Monday, April 4, 2022, at 1:30 p. m.

Glenna Brambill
Board Committee Liaison
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved: 4-4-2022