

HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

**July 20, 2021
1:30 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER.

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Homeless Encampment Committee (Committee) was called to order via Zoom teleconference at 1:38 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call.

Committee members in attendance via Zoom teleconference were District 1 Director John L. Varela and District 2 Director Barbara F. Keegan. District 3 Director Richard P. Santos, Chairperson presiding, attended from Valley Water Headquarters Building, Conference Room A-124, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance via Zoom teleconference were Chief Operating Officer Rick Callender, J. Abbatelli, M. Bilski, D. Candelas, J. Codianne, R. Fields, M. Ganjoo, A. Gschwind, B. Hopper, T. Howard, C. Kwok-Smith, M. Lugo, J. Lee, T. Pena, D. Roach, E. Serrano, R. Tregoning, S. Tippets, C. Tovar, and S. Tran. Committee Clerk N. Dominguez also attended the meeting from Valley Water Headquarters Building.

Guest attendance: Mr. John Davis, San Jose resident.

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.

Mr. John Davis, San Jose resident, expressed concern for the continued destruction of the Coyote Creek embankment near his property and notification of planned creek cleanup events to the unhoused.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

3.1. Approval of April 20, 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Meeting Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the Minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the April 20, 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee meeting. It was moved by Director Varela, seconded Director Santos, and carried that the minutes be approved as presented.

4. ACTION ITEMS:

4.1. Update on Current Strategies for Securing Valley Water Property.

Recommendation: Receive information regarding the strategies and practices that Valley Water employs to secure its real property.

Ms. Sue Tippetts, Chief Operating Officer, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1 were reviewed by Ms. Jennifer Codianne, Deputy Operating Officer.

Mr. Davis asked for and received an explanation of Valley Water's process for purchasing property and related budget information.

Director Keegan expressed appreciation for staff's efforts to coordinate an expedited, responsive process to repair fences to secure Valley Water property.

The Committee requested to receive updates regarding the contractor's fence repair response time.

4.2. Update on Discussions with the County of Santa Clara Related to Potential Creation of a Memorandum of Understanding to Coordinate Responses to County Waterways Challenges.

Recommendation: Receive an update on Valley Water's recent discussions with the County of Santa Clara (County) related to the potential creation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the purpose of coordinated responses to challenges around waterways throughout Santa Clara County.

Ms. Tippetts reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Handout 4.1-A were reviewed by Mr. Donald Rocha, Deputy Administrative Officer. Staff explained the activities and challenges regarding notification of planned creek clean up events, and activities to obtain Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors' input on the proposed MOU.

Chair Santos requested that the MOU include a provision to enable the agencies to cross boundaries for the purpose of coordinated cleanups.

The Committee requested to receive regular updates on the development of an MOU for the purpose of coordinated responses to challenges around waterways throughout Santa Clara County.

4.3. Review and Consider Homeless Encampment Committee Name and Purpose.

- Recommendation:
- A. Review and discuss the Homeless Encampment Committee's name and purpose; and
 - B. Provide input and recommendations as necessary.

Ms. Tippetts and Mr. Mark Bilski, Senior Management Analyst, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

The Committee requested that staff research common terminology used by other agencies to describe the homeless community and bring this information back to the next meeting for further discussion.

4.4. Review 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan.

- Recommendation:
- A. Review the 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan, and make adjustments as necessary; and
 - B. Select a date for the next 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee meeting.

Ms. Natalie Dominguez, Assistant Deputy Clerk II, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1.

The Committee noted the information without formal action.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS.

None.

6. CLERK'S REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

Ms. Dominguez confirmed there were no formal requests or recommendations for Board consideration and reviewed Committee requests as follows:

Regarding Item 4.1:

The Committee requested to receive updates regarding the contractor's fence repair response time.

Regarding Item 4.2:

The Committee requested to receive regular updates on the development of an MOU for the purpose of coordinated responses to challenges around waterways throughout Santa Clara County.

Regarding Item 4.3:

The Committee requested that staff research common terminology used by other agencies to describe the homeless community and bring this information back to the next meeting for further discussion.

8. ADJOURN.

- 8.1. Adjourn to next regular meeting to be called to order in compliance with the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20.

Chairperson Santos adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m., to the next meeting to be called to order in compliance with the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20.

Natalie F. Dominguez, CMC
Assistant Deputy Clerk

Approved: