



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021
11:00 AM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water Commission (Commission) was held on April 14, 2021. Teleconference via Zoom in San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Hon. Pam Foley called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. A quorum of 18 was established.

Members in attendance were:

Municipality

City of Campbell
City of Cupertino
City of Gilroy
City of Los Altos
Town of Los Altos Hills
Town of Los Gatos
City of Milpitas
Town of Monte Sereno
City of Morgan Hill
City of Mountain View
City of Palo Alto
City of San José
City of Santa Clara
City of Saratoga
City of Sunnyvale
County of Santa Clara
Santa Clara Valley Open
Space Authority
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space
District

Representative

Hon. Susan M. Landry
Hon. Hung Wei
Hon. Peter Leroe-Muñoz
Hon. Lynette Lee Eng
Hon. Courtenay Corrigan
Hon. Maria Ristow
Hon. Carmen Montano
Hon. Liz Lawler
Hon. Rich Constantine
Hon. Lucas Ramirez
Hon. Greg Tanaka
Hon. Pam Foley
Hon. Karen Hardy
Hon. Rishi Kumar
Hon. Omar Din
Hon. Mike Wasserman
Hon. Mike Flaughner

Alternate

Members not in attendance were:

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Alternate</u>
City of Campbell		Hon. Sergio Lopez
City of Cupertino		Hon. Jon Willey
City of Gilroy		Hon. Fred Tovar
City of Los Altos		Hon. Anita Enander
Town of Monte Sereno		Hon. Javed Ellahie
City of Morgan Hill		Hon. Yvonne Martinez Beltran
City of Mountain View		Hon. Alison Hicks
City of San José		Kerrie Romanow
City of Saratoga		Hon. Tina Walia
City of Sunnyvale		Hon. Mason Fong
County of Santa Clara		Hon. Cindy Chavez
Midpeninsula Regional		Hon. Yoriko Kishimoto
Open Space District		

Board members in attendance were: Director Tony Estremera (Board Representative), Director Nai Hsueh (Board Alternate), and Director Gary Kremen (Board Representative).

Staff members in attendance were: Jennifer Abadilla, Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, Glenna Brambill, Rick Callender, Andrew Gschwind, Candice Kwok-Smith, Carmen Narayanan, Melanie Richardson, Donald Rocha, Darin Taylor, and Bhavani Yerrapotu.

Guests in attendance were: Hon. Helen Chapman (Open Space Authority), Christopher Hoem (Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors), Karla Dailey (City of Palo Alto), Mansour Nasser (City of Sunnyvale), Tony Ndah (City of Milpitas), James Sylvain (City of Morgan Hill), John Tang (San Jose Water Company), Director John L. Varela (Valley Water, District 1), Gary Welling (City of Santa Clara), Kat Wilson (City of San José).

Public in attendance were: Rhoda Fry, Sharon Luna, Matt Morley, and Bill Rankin.

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

It was moved by Hon. Mike Wasserman, seconded by Hon. Rich Constantine, and by roll call and majority vote (16 yes votes), to approve the January 27, 2021, Santa Clara Valley Water Commission meeting minutes as presented. Hon. Karen Hardy and Hon. Mike Flaughner abstained.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1 REVIEW AND COMMENT TO THE BOARD ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 PROPOSED GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION CHARGES

Mr. Darin Taylor reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Santa Clara Valley Water Commission discussed the following: rates, Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project, recycling, purification, long-term planning, drought, tiered pricing, water storage and development projects, Urban Water Management Plan, Retailers increases, RHNA allocations, discretionary open space funds, agricultural rates, Measure S passage, County tax, Landscape Rebate Program, suggested rebuilding Anderson Dam ½ the size by building purifications plants, stormwater capture, high density housing (lot splitting), current water infrastructure-urban planning, lobbying for Biden's Infrastructure Bill, not raising rates, desalination and property taxes.

Mr. Aaron Baker, Mr. Rick Callender, Ms. Melanie Richardson were available to answer questions.

Ms. Rhoda Fry commented on concerns with the following:

- Lehigh Quarry and Cement Plant (Cupertino), wastewater, Permanente Creek, crumbling infrastructure, Stevens Creek Reservoir, and water quality (being free of contaminants).

The Water Commission took the following action:

The Commission voted by roll call and majority vote (12 Ayes/6 Nays) to approve not increasing the Groundwater Production Charges along with several additional recommendations:

- The Board of Directors to write a letter to retailers in support of tiered rates and low-income programs,
- Keep the Agricultural rates/State Water Project taxes as low as possible,
- Look at other resources such as purification (building plants-1/2 size of dams), recycling, desalination, stormwater capture, and Federal funding (President Biden's Infrastructure Bill-Lobbying for funds), and
- Consider urban planning and housing-development concerns and have Valley Water engage with local agencies.

4.2 PUBLIC TRAILS ON VALLEY WATER LANDS: POLICY CRITERIA AND GUIDANCE

The Water Commission passed on this agenda item because of time constraints.

4.3 REVIEW SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER COMMISSION WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS AND THE COMMISSION'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

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

The Water Commission voted by roll call and unanimous vote to cancel July 28, 2021, meeting.

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

5.1 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

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

The Santa Clara Valley Water Commission took no action.

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

Ms. Glenna Brambill reported there were two action items.

Agenda Item 4.1

The Commission voted by roll call and majority vote (12 Ayes/6 Nays) to approve not increasing the Groundwater Production Charges along with several additional recommendations:

- The Board of Directors to write a letter to retailers in support of tiered rates and low-income programs,
- Keep the Agricultural rates/State Water Project taxes as low as possible,
- Look at other resources such as purification (building plants-1/2 size of dams), recycling, desalination, stormwater capture, and Federal funding (President Biden's Infrastructure Bill-Lobbying for funds), and
- Consider urban planning and housing-development concerns and have Valley Water engage with local agencies.

Agenda Item 4.3

The Water Commission by roll call and unanimous vote approved to cancel the Santa Clara Valley Water Commission's July 28, 2021, meeting.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hon. Pam Foley adjourned at 12:53 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Wednesday, October 28, 2021, at 12:00 p.m., 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.

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

Approved: 7-28-2021