



WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2022

A special meeting of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee was held on May 19, 2022, at 5700 Almaden Expressway, in San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

1.1. ROLL CALL

Committee Board Members in attendance were: Committee Vice Chair, Director Nai Hsueh (District 5), Director Barbara F. Keegan (District 2), and Committee Chair, Director Linda J. LeZotte (District 4) establishing a quorum.

Staff members in attendance were: Joseph Aranda, Aaron Baker, Ingrid Bella, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Neeta Bijoor, Sam Bogale, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Vanessa De La Piedra, Anthony Fulcher, Rachael Gibson, Jason Gurdak, Linh Hoang, Cindy Kao, Matt Keller, Michele King, Candice Kwok-Smith, Jess Lovering, Carlos Orellana, Colin Resch, Melanie Richardson, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Mary Samar, Ashley Shannon, Kirsten Struve, Gregory Williams, and Kristen Yasukawa.

Guest Agencies in attendance were: Michael Bolzowski (California Water Service), Brian Boyer (Cinnabar Hills Golf Club), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter), Viktoria Gleason and Brendan McCarthy (City of Santa Clara), and Curt Rayer and Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC).

Public in attendance were: Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., Christophe LaBelle, and Christine Prior.

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 Director Nai Hsueh, seconded by Director Barbara F. Keegan, and carried unanimously, to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2022, Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee meeting as presented.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1 MONTHLY UPDATE ON PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING VALLEY WATER RESOLUTION 21-68'S WATER USE REDUCTION TARGET AND ENFORCEMENT FOR VALLEY WATER RESOLUTION 22-20.

Ms. Neeta Bijoor and Ms. Rachael Gibson reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: using 2019 baseline, property owners vs renters knowledgeable regarding watering restrictions, flow restrictors, violations, outreach challenges, correcting behaviors, coordination of enforcement with retailers, surcharges/water usage/allocation, non-confusing outreach needs to reach the masses so the message is absolutely clear, actionable complaints, tiered fines, shortened timelines, water reduction in some areas and water wasters in other areas (arguments of North vs South).

Public Comments:

Mr. Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC) noted:

- ✚ doesn't have the authority to fine violators but are able to install flow restrictors if needed
- ✚ read the schedule and enforcement regulations and their ability to shut off water

Dr. Arthur M. Keller suggested:

- ✚ sending letters to property owners stating the restrictions/violations.

Ms. Kirsten Struve, Ms. Rachael Gibson, and Mr. Anthony Fulcher were available to answer questions.

Noted inputs/comments: adding information related to the 2019 baseline, interaction with the retailers and surcharges, and reason for enforcement/authority change.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took the following action.

It was moved by Director Nai Hsueh, seconded by Director Barbara F. Keegan, and carried unanimously, to approve recommending that the Board consider adopting the Ordinance ADOPTING DROUGHT OUTDOOR WATER CONSERVATION AND ENFORCEMENT MEASURES.

4.2. WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Mr. Justin Burks reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: numbers of participants of the landscape rebate program, working with disadvantaged communities, planting 'land' trees (street parking strip-tree canopy), lawn replacements- 'shading' an environmental component is a financial benefit with great appeal, and use of more contractors was suggested to assist with 'work flow.'

Ms. Ashley Shannon, and Ms. Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

4.3 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

There were no verbal updates for:

1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
2. Flood MAR
3. Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

4.4 REVIEW WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS; AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Ms. Kirsten Struve reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

Work plan items--reach out to realtors and update was provided

Director Nai Hsueh requested for a future meeting the following item:

Policy says: provide 100% demand County during average year, critical dry year or multi dry year.
Level of service goal-80%, less water demand, what does it mean, and what can be done

Question on work plan to find opportunities to work on contacting Planning Commissions on adopting the model ordinances

Mr. Don Rocha's response:

County's Legislative policies and guiding principles adopted by Board December 2021, Staff has met with County and Valley Water provided a template ordinance, there is some push back, however, staff will continue to meet to see if they will champion the Ordinance.

MWENDO making its rounds through the various jurisdictions, there is some reluctance since it is not a priority, however, gaining some traction.

The Committee's next scheduled meeting is at 11:00 a.m. on June 27, 2022.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS

Ms. Glenna Brambill stated there was one action item for Board consideration.

Agenda Item 4.1

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee approved recommending that the Board consider adopting the Ordinance ADOPTING DROUGHT OUTDOOR WATER CONSERVATION AND ENFORCEMENT MEASURES.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte adjourned at 11:44 a.m., to the next scheduled meeting.

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

Approved: 6-27-2022