



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT (VALLEY WATER)
WATER STORAGE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2022

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee (Committee) was held on June 17, 2022, at Santa Clara Valley Water District, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose CA 95118.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Director Gary Kremen at 2:03 p.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

Valley Water Board Members in attendance were: Committee Chair, Director Gary Kremen (District 7), Director Richard P. Santos (District 3), and Director John L. Varela (District 1).

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Emmanuel Aryee, Aaron Baker, Glenna Brambill, Bart Broome, Rick L. Callender, Andrew Garcia, Vincent Gin, Samantha Greene, Andy Gschwind, Christopher Hakes, Brian Hopper, Cindy Kao, Candice Kwok-Smith, Katherine Maher, Michael Martin, Ryan McCarter, Carmen Narayanan, Carlos Orellana, Melanie Richardson, Metra Richert, Steve Peters, Jaime Silva, Kirsten Struve, Darin Taylor, Warren Whitlock, and Jing Wu.

Guests in attendance were: Jerry Brown (Sites), Melanie Carrido (MWH Constructors), Molly Culton (Sierra Club of California), Raphael Garcia (TRC), Katja Irvin (Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter), Charles Hammerstad (Fly Casters of San Jose), Hon. Steve Jordan (BAWSCA and Purissima Hills Water District), and Hon. John Weed (Alameda County Water District {ACWD}).

Public in attendance were: Alanna, Dan Bacher, Hon. Jim Beall, James Crowder, Aaron Hardiman, Arthur Keller, Ph.D., Manny JID/RD, Director Linda J. LeZotte (Valley Water District 4), Armando Lopez, Lionel Mares, Ken S., and Jan Warren.

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 Richard P. Santos, second by Director John L. Varela, and by roll call and unanimous vote carried to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2022, meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee with one correction noted on Page 14 under Semitropic last bullet should read 123-TCP.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1 SITES RESERVOIR PROJECT: LETTER TO REQUEST OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE VALLEY WATER'S PARTICIPATION LEVEL

Ms. Cindy Kao reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: need to hear solutions/recommendations to the problems regarding the project, drought concerns, Sisk Dam's June 17th event, project benefits/participation, passing of Proposition 1 was beneficial to these types of projects, and increasing water banking.

Public Comments:

Mr. Lionel Mares, project does not provide enough for species (wildlife, fish, etc.), and water quality is not up to standard.

Ms. Alanna, is against increasing water, already taxing ecosystems and does not benefit until 2042.

Ms. Jan Warren, need to save water for natural habitat, vote against project.

Ms. Molly Culton of Sierra Club of California, opposes increasing and it is a waste of rate payer funds.

Mr. Ken S. of Southern CA, biggest concern is draw down, groundwater replenishing back into ground to solve, storage issues.

Hon. Steve Jordan of BAWSCA and Purissima Hills Water District, encourages participation on the project.

Mr. Dan Bacher, encourages Board to strongly oppose the project that causes ecological damage to fisheries in the Bay Delta Estuary.

Ms. Katja Irvin of Sierra Club-Loma Prieta Chapter, does CA need another water project-will supply an URL link on a Stanford University (Water in the West blog) write up.

Further public comments: Ms. Alanna, Mr. Lionel Mares, and Ms. Molly Culton, encourage stormwater capture, bioswells, store rain underground, not necessarily a good project because of Prop 1 funding, consider Agriculture in CA, water sustainability.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took the following action:

The Committee by roll call vote unanimously approved staff's recommendation that the Board consider authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to send a letter expressing Valley Water's potential interest in increasing our participation level in the planning phase of the Sites Reservoir Project if space in the project becomes available and is supported by future analysis.

4.2 VALLEY WATER PARTICIPATION RECOMMENDATION FOR THE LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT

Mr. Michael Martin reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: public comments received, Transfer Bethany, pertinent information is needed so Committee can make a decision, what are pros/cons, like to see a linear graph (zero to optimum), desalination information, Valley Water's (VW) costs vs what rate payers are charged, agricultural benefits, and VW keeping costs down as much as possible.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE ACTIONS

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

Agenda Item 4.1.

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6. CLOSED SESSION

6.4 DISTRICT COUNSEL REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Brian Hopper noted there was no reportable action for Agenda Items 6.1 through 6.3.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Director Gary Kremen adjourned the meeting at 4:13 p.m.

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

Approved: 7-13-2022