



AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

**MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2021
1:30 PM**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee was held on January 4, 2021, Teleconference via Zoom in San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair David Vanni called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

Members in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Mitchell Mariani
District 2	James Provenzano
District 3	William Cilker
	David Vanni
District 4	Sheila Barry
	Brent Bonino
District 5	Jan Garrod
District 6	Tim Chiala
	Robert Long
District 7	Sandra Carrico

Member not in attendance was:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Russ Bonino
District 5	Michael Miller
Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District	Peter Van Dyke
Private Well Owner (Non-Retail)	Dhruv Khanna

Board members in attendance were: Director Nai Hsueh, Board Alternate, Director Richard P. Santos, and Director John L. Varela, Board Representatives.

Staff members in attendance were: Aaron Baker, Glenna Brambill, Chelsea Busick, Rick Callender, Keila Cisneros, Jerry De La Piedra, Vanessa De La Piedra, Vincent Gin, Samantha Greene, Andrew Gschwind,

Karen Koppett, Devin Mody, Marta Lugo, Carmen Narayanan, Linda Nguyen, Ashley Shannon, Kirsten Struve, Darin Taylor, Elisabeth Wilkinson, Gregory Williams, and Bhavani Yerrapotu.

Guests in attendance were: Dr. Andrew Fisher (UC Santa Cruz).

Public in attendance were: Director Tony Estremera (Valley Water, District 6), Director Linda J. LeZotte (Valley Water, District 4).

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. Jan Garrod, second by Mr. Bill Cilker, and by roll call and majority vote (8 attendees) approved the October 5, 2020, Agricultural Water Advisory Committee meeting minutes, as presented. {Mr. Brent Bonino was on the call, however, audio was not working}. Ms. Sheila Barry abstained.

4. ACTION ITEMS:

4.1 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Chair David Vanni reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

It was moved by Mr. Mitchell Mariani to nominate Mr. David Vanni as Chair.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee by roll call and unanimous vote, elected Mr. David Vanni as Chair.

It was moved by Mr. David Vanni to nominate Mr. Jan Garrod as Vice Chair.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee by roll call and unanimous vote, elected Mr. Jan Garrod as Vice Chair.

4.2 REVIEW AND APPROVE 2020 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORT FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD (COMMITTEE CHAIR)

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

It was moved by Mr. Jan Garrod, second by Mr. Mitchell Mariani, and by roll call and unanimous vote, approved the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee's 2020 Accomplishments Report. Due to COVID 19, the Committee was limited in fully engaging in 2020.

4.3 FY2020-21 GROUNDWATER PRODUCTION CHARGES AND VALLEY WATER BUDGET UPDATE

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

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (Mr. David Vanni, Mr. Jan Garrod, Ms. Sheila Barry, Mr. Mitchell Mariani and Mr. Tim Chiala) discussed the following: Zone W-8, M&I charges, Anderson Dam rebuild, North County scenario, rate(s) setting, underground water table, agricultural credit, savings/cost of M&I, 10%-25% cap of agricultural rates.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

4.4 AGRICULTURAL WATER USE BASELINE STUDY

Ms. Ashley Shannon reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (Mr. Jan Garrod, Ms. Sheila Barry, and Ms. Sandra Carrico) discussed the following: sufficient water/rainfall, timeline for Study, consider the small farmers and having information translated, urban agriculture paying residential rates, indoor greenhouse/micro/vertical vegetables users, and existing rebates.

Director Joh L. Varela asked that the "Santa Clara Valley Agricultural Plan (2018)" be included as a reference document). Director Richard P. Santos encouraged Committee to re-visit discussion regarding retailers offering agricultural rates for the urban agricultural and small farmers.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

4.5 COLLABORATION WITH UC WATER ON FLOOD-MANAGED AQUIFER RECHARGE

Ms. Samantha Greene and Dr. Andrew Fisher reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (Mr. Jan Garrod, Ms. Sheila Barry, Mr. Tim Chiala) discussed the following: flood high flows, water events, landowners-stock ponds-regulators-permits-fees, collection of stormwater, National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), processing wash water to utilize the re-use of agricultural water to recharge aquifer, single use water, suitability, crops and land use.

Director John L. Varela questioned whether the Central Coast and UC Santa Barbara are part of the study and it would be good to collaborate with them.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

4.6 UPDATE ON MEASURE S AND CONSIDERATION OF OPEN SPACE CREDIT

Ms. Marta Lugo reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee (Mr. Jan Garrod) congratulated Valley Water for the passing of the Measure!

Director John L. Varela acknowledged the Santa Clara County Farm Bureau for their support and positive endorsement position via a letter to Valley Water in assisting with the passing of Measure S (through Mr. Tim Chiala as the spokesperson). The overwhelming support of the voters, Valley Water can continue to offer services that represents revenue received from the Measure!

Mr. Rick Callender, CEO, noted that this Measure would take the pressure off the Agricultural Community. Thanked the farming community and South County for supporting the Board and with the campaign. Measure S passed with the largest percentage for a tax that passed in Santa Clara County/County-wide and shows that working collectively can make a difference

It was moved by Mr. Tim Chiala, second by Mr. Jan Garrod, and by roll call and unanimous vote, approved Staff's recommendation to have the Board consider continuing the Open Space Credit.

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.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

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

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took no action.

5.2 UPDATE ON VALLEY WATER'S CREATION OF NEW OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION AND BOARD ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC RACISM AND PROMOTING EQUITY

Ms. Mara Lugo 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 two action items for Board consideration.

Agenda item 4.2

The Committee by roll call and unanimous vote, approved the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee's 2020 Accomplishments Report. Due to COVID 19, the Committee was limited in fully engaging in 2020.

Agenda Item 4.6.

The Agricultural Water Advisory Committee took the following action:
The Committee by roll call and unanimous vote, approved Staff's recommendation to have the Board consider continuing the Open Space Credit.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Director's Report

Director John L. Varela – looking forward to the new year and positive outcomes for the Committee.

Director Richard P. Santos - thanked everyone for their participation and commitment to the Committee and the farming community supporting Measure S and the continuance with the Open Space Credit.

Director Nai Hsueh - wished everyone a Happy New Year! Reiterated Standing Items Report and having Committee to stay engaged with the Board items and welcomes feedback to improving the report.

7.2 Manager's Report

None.

7.3 Committee Member Reports

Ms. Sheila Barry, new member introduced her background and experience.

7.4 Informational Link Reports

None.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair David Vanni adjourned at 3:24 p.m. to the regular meeting on Monday, April 5, 2021, at 1:30 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: 04/05/2021