



ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

# MINUTES

**MONDAY, JULY 19, 2021  
6:00 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular scheduled meeting of the Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Committee) Meeting was held on July 19, 2021, Teleconference via Zoom in San Jose, California.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Chair Mr. Bob Levy called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. A quorum was established with 11 Members present.

Members in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Loren Lewis		
District 2	Charles Ice	Elizabeth Sarmiento*	
District 3	Hon. Dean Chu		
District 4	Bob Levy		
District 5	Hon. Tara Martin-Milius	Mike Michitaka	
District 6	Hon. Patrick S. Kwok	Jim Piazza	
District 7	Tess Byler	Hon. Stephen A. Jordan	Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D.

Members not in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Bonnie Bamburg		
District 3	Charles Taylor		
District 4	Susan Blake		
District 6	Diego Mora Tejeda		

\*Committee Members arrived as indicated below.

Board members in attendance were: Director Tony Estremera (Board Representative), Director Nai Hsueh (Board Alternate), and Director Linda J. LeZotte (Board Representative).

Staff members in attendance were: Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, John Bourgeois, Glenna Brambill, Vincent Gin, Brian Mendenhall, Maggie O'Shea, and Kirsten Struve.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one present who wished to speak.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Ms. Tess Byler, seconded by Hon. Tara Martin-Milius, and by roll call and unanimous vote carried, to approve the April 19, 2021, Environmental and Water Resources Committee meeting minutes as presented.

Environmental and Water Resources Committee Member, Mr. Jim Piazza, District 6, introduced himself and gave a quick overview of his background and experience.

\*Ms. Elizabeth Sarmiento logged on at 6:12 p.m.

**4. ACTION ITEMS**

**4.1 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

Committee Chair Bob Levy reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

It was moved by Ms. Tess Byler, seconded by Mr. Loren Lewis to nominate Hon. Steve Jordan as Committee Vice Chair, he accepted.

It was moved by Mr. Loren Lewis, seconded by Hon. Tara Martin-Milius to nominate Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., as Committee Vice Chair, he accepted.

The Committee by roll call and majority vote (6 for Arthur, 5 for Steve, 1 Abstained) elected Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D. as the Vice Chair.

**4.2 REVIEW FY2022 BOARD WORK PLAN**

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

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Mr. Charles Ice, Ms. Tess Byler, Hon Tara Martin-Milius, Mr. Bob Levy, Hon. Steve Jordan, Hon. Dean J. Chu, Mr. Mike Michitaka, Ms. Elizabeth Sarmiento, and Hon. Patrick S. Kwok) discussed the following: new water supply/underlying assumption, population growth-looking at MTC and ABAG, diversification of water, sustainability, one water, distribution of water, local water, drought, water purification plant, purple piping, carbon neutrality by 2025, participating in the Delta Conveyance, LVE, and Transfer Bethany, looking at the major differences, BAWSCA's comments on EIR-housing development-water supply, future demands, Anderson Dam, supply reduction, groundwater, subsidence, funding to incentivize using grey water, increase of rebate program, salt water intrusion, water conservation and additional water resources.

Board Chair Director Tony Estremera, Ms. Kirsten Struve, Mr. Aaron Baker, Director Nai Hsueh, and Director Linda J. LeZotte were available to answer questions.

Director Tony Estremera was available to answer questions.

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action:

Committee Chair Mr. Bob Levy moved to Agenda Item 5.2.

## 5. INFORMATION ITEM

### 5.2 CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

Ms. Lisa Bankosh and Ms. Maggie O'Shea reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Mr. Bob Levy, Mr. Mike Michitaka, Hon Tara Martin-Milius, Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., and Elizabeth Sarmiento) had questions on the following: how it integrates with the Board's Work Plan, lost population in Santa Clara County, water retention and storage, what is Valley Water planning, how does one capture the water, ABAG numbers and is Valley Water engaged, data on ecosystems, restoration of energy and conservation to move water, recharging system, groundwater, obvious impacts, and purchases of cement.

Dr. Arthur M. Keller reiterated the Future Impacts of Climate Change Working Group's input from the Environmental and Water Resources Committee's April 19, 2021, meeting:

- Goal 1. More chargers for commuters (Goals 1.1 & 3.1) what % by when for metrics, Reduce emissions from concrete through alternatives (Goal 1, possibly 5),
- Goal 2. Renewable energy: go to 100% energy (Goal 2.1), Backup batteries instead of diesel generators (Goal 2.3, 2.2),
- Divest from fossil fuel investments (Goal 2.1),
- Goal 3. Eliminate fossil fuels from power supply (Goal 2.1, 2.2), Eliminate food waste to redirect from landfill {like Sunnyvale} (Goal 3.2),
- Goal 4. Water Reuse. increase flexibility and resilience,
- Goal 5. become a library for Alviso and other low-lying areas (Goal 5), protection of coastal areas  
WHEN the Valley Water did Reach 6 or was it Reach 7, need to buy homes (Goal 5), Do not build in Baylands---stewardship of land and saltmarshes, (Goal 5), Eco-district for human interface with Bay. Habitat restoration at same time. As adding bike trails. Ref Portland, Oregon. Salt marsh, flood plain, in North end of Sunnyvale. (Goal 5 Pumped Hydro--Goal 5),
- Goal 6. Carbon sinks in soils within district for carbon offsets <https://bcarbon.org/> --reference to ag in district Goal 6,
- Goal 7. Consider microgrid for local lands for continued operation when PG&E down. emergency preparedness.

Director Nai Hsueh and Ms. Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action.

Committee Chair Mr. Bob Levy moved to Agenda Item 4.3.

**4. ACTION ITEMS**

**4.3 STATUS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUPS**

Ms. Glenna Brambill and Committee Chair Mr. Bob Levy reviewed the following:

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee (Mr. Bob Levy, Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., Mr. Loren Lewis, Ms. Tess Byler, and Elizabeth Sarmiento) discussed the following: prioritizing the working groups to get guidance and input from the committee members, getting the main focus of the working groups then assign leads, and condense the 17 working groups to the 6 core groups.

Hon. Steve Jordan reported on the Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC), there were two meetings, June 30, 2021, and July 19, 2021, and the working group needs to schedule a meeting.

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action, however, Director Nai Hsueh will work with Chair Mr. Bob Levy and appropriate staff to determine the priorities of what the working groups should be focusing on.

**4.4 REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

Committee Chair Mr. Bob Levy reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action but would like information or updates on the following items: Anderson Dam, FAHCE Draft EIR released (send link to EWRC), Recycled and Purified Water, and, homeless encampment strategies, but the Committee would like to see pertinent items to give input prior to Board approval.

Mr. Aaron Baker and Mr. John Bourgeois were available to answer questions.

**5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**5.1 STANDING ITEMS REPORT**

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

The Environmental and Water Resources Committee took no action.

**6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS TO THE BOARD**

Ms. Glenna Brambill reported there were no action items for Board consideration. There two Committee items under 4.3 working groups prioritizing what the groups need to focus on and 4.4 what agenda items will go on the October meeting.

## 7. REPORTS

### 7.1 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Nai Hsueh reported on:

- Monthly Water Tracker, is on Valley Water website, gives up-to-date information on the water conservation and water supply issues.

### 7.2. MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. John Bourgeois reported on:

- FAHCE Draft EIR open for public comments, there will be a public meeting hosted by Board Chair Director Estremera on Wednesday, July 21, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

### 7.3 COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Tess Byler reported on:

- SFCJPA and member agencies are sponsoring FEMA Flood Risk 2.0 calculating flood zone and flood insurance webinar on August 24, 2021, (FEMA Is Changing The Way It Evaluates Flood Risks) <https://www.priechel.com/FEMA-Flood-Risks-Definition-2021-08-24.html>

### 7.4 INFORMATIONAL LINK REPORTS

Links to add for the Committee information:

<https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-committees>

- Board Policy and Planning Committee (BPPC)
- Stream Planning and Operations Committee (SPOC) (formerly FAHCE Ad Hoc Committee)
- Homeless Encampment Committee
- Water Storage Exploratory Committee (WSEC)

<https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/committees/board-advisory-committees>

- Redistricting Advisory Committee (RAC)
- Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee (WCaDMC)

<https://www.valleywater.org/your-water/water-supply-planning/monthly-water-tracker>

- Water Tracker

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Committee Chair Bob Levy adjourned at 8:07 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Monday, October 18, 2021, at 6:00 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-08-21.

Submitted by:

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

Approved: 10-18-2021