



WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

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# MINUTES

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**MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2021**  
**11:00 AM**

A regular scheduled meeting of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee was held on December 20, 2021, via zoom in San Jose, California.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

**1.1. ROLL CALL**

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

Staff members in attendance were: Joseph Aranda, Meghan Azralon, Neeta Bijoor, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Keila Cisneros, Vanessa De La Piedra, Phil Dolan, Melissa Fels, Paola Giles, Vincent Gin, Andy Gschwind, Bassam Kassab, Candice Kwok-Smith, Jim McCann, Carlos Orellana, Colin Resch, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Ashley Shannon, and Kirsten Struve,

Guest Agencies in attendance were: Michael Bolzowski (California Water Service Company), Anthony Eulo (City of Morgan Hill), Tim Guster (Great Oaks Water Company), Kurt Elvert, Curt Rayer, and Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC).

Public in attendance was: Hon. Jim Beall, Christophe LaBelle, William (Bill) Sherman, and Hon. John L. Varela (Valley Water Board Member, District 1).

**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 Barbara Keegan, seconded by Director Nai Hsueh, and carried by roll call and unanimous vote, to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2021, Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee meeting as presented.

### 4. ACTION ITEMS

#### 4.1 MONTHLY UPDATE ON PROGRESS TOWARDS VALLEY WATER RESOLUTION 21-68'S WATER USE REDUCTION TARGET AND WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS RELATED TO THE DROUGHT EMERGENCY

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

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: Valley Water's process in securing water, continued drought plans, surface water recommendation plan, possible future actions, engage with water retailers (invited to the January 25, 2022, Board meeting) feeling of penalization for those already conserving, public outreach campaigns, and complaints on water wasters or high-water users.

Public Questions/Comments:

- Mr. Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company-SJWC) what is considered the rainfall associated with medium or dry conditions? Does normal rainfall at year-end correspond to medium or dry (conditions), and is scenario 1 equaled to medium conditions or scenario 2 with dry conditions?
- Mr. Anthony Eulo (City of Morgan Hill) the rainfall chart includes demand reduction of 10% is below what Valley Water calls for and what has been called for in the past, does the scenario change if at 15% or 20%? Going after high-water users can be labor intensive.

Mr. Vincent Gin, Mr. Bassam Kassab, and Ms. Kirsten Struve were available to answer questions.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

#### 4.2 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

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

Ms. Vanessa De La Piedra reported on the following:

- The 2021 Groundwater Management Plan of the Santa Clara and Llagas subbasins was filed December 17, 2021, with DWR as Valley Water's five-year update to our approved alternative plan. Looks like we were first to submit.
- DWR will post to website within 20 days for public comment period and stakeholders will be contacted for input.
- Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the north San Benito subbasin will be submitted by January 31, 2022, deadline.
- Thanks to the Committee for supporting the SGMA Plans and for the stakeholders' engagement.

The Committee thanked staff for being a continued leader in groundwater management.

Ms. Metra Richert reported on the following:

Flood-MAR:

- Completing first year of work with the UC Water team
- Significant progress has been made on developing the GIS-based tool that will help identify potential areas that may be feasible for Flood-MAR projects in SCC, includes compiling and processing all needed spatial datasets related to soils, groundwater, land use, and hydrology.
- Three workshops were held with Valley Water & UC Water Team to better understand how flood-MAR can be implemented in SCC.
- 2022 work includes:
  - a. Completion of the GIS-based tool,
  - b. Utilizing the GIS tool to identify the potential pilot site, and
  - c. Conducting detailed evaluations of institutional needs and potential participation incentives for the Flood-MAR pilot project in SCC.

Ag Baseline Water Use Study:

- Valley Water Staff is working with UC Merced.
- In the final stages of gathering spatial datasets and ground-truthing spatial data by driving by farms throughout SCC, and next steps include analyzing the spatial datasets and developing recommendations.
- UC Merced will present an update on their work to Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee and the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee in January 2022.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

The Committee thanked staff for a successful 2021 in accomplishing many of the projects and programs.

#### **4.3 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. Glenna Brambill and Ms. Kirsten Struve reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

Committee Vice Chair Director Nai Hsueh requested that work plan item #10 be separated into 3 separate items.

Agenda Items for next meeting:

Monthly Drought Information, Flood MAR, Agricultural Water Use Baseline Study and Standing Items Report.

The Committee confirmed the next regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, January 24, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

#### **5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS**

Ms. Glenna Brambill stated there was no action item for Board consideration.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte adjourned at 12:12 p.m., to the next regularly scheduled meeting Monday, January 24, 2022, 11:00 a.m.

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

Approved: 1-24-2022