

BOARD POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Nai Hsueh, Chair
Barbara Keegan, Vice Chair
John Varela



**AGENDA
BOARD POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Santa Clara Valley Water District
Headquarters Building Board Conference Room A124
5700 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118**

**MONDAY, April 10, 2017
12:00 p.m.**

**Time Certain
12:00 p.m.**

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

- 2. Time Open for Public Comment on Any Item Not on Agenda**
Comments should be limited to two minutes. If the Committee wishes to discuss a subject raised by the speaker, it can request placement on a future agenda.

- 3. Approval of Minutes:**
3.1 Approval of Minutes - March 2, 2017, meeting
Recommendation: Approve the Minutes

- 4. Old Business**
 - 4.1 One Water Plan–Policy Considerations and Future Board Updates – Meeting No. 2**
Recommendation:
 - A. *Provide direction on One Water Plan–countywide report policy issues;*
 - B. *Provide direction on One Water Plan–Coyote Watershed themes and policy issues; and*
 - C. *Provide direction on updating the full Board of Directors for future One Water progress including stakeholder engagement and recommended projects.*

 - 4.2 Board Policy and Planning Committee Work Plan and Schedule**
Recommendation:
 - A. *Review Work Plan and incorporate any new tasks; and*
 - B. *Discuss the Work Plan and schedule Committee meetings as appropriate.*

- 5. Clerk Review and Clarification of Committee’s Requests and Recommendations**
This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee.

- 6. Adjourn**

REASONABLE EFFORTS TO ACCOMMODATE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES WISHING TO ATTEND COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL BE MADE. PLEASE ADVISE THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OFFICE OF ANY SPECIAL NEEDS BY CALLING (408) 630-2277.

Meetings of this committee will be conducted in compliance with all Brown Act requirements. All public records relating to an open session item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body will be available for public inspection at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body, at the following location:

Santa Clara Valley Water District, Office of the Clerk of the Board
5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118

Board Policy and Planning Committee:

Purpose: Provide support to the Board in areas of: 1) Board Planning Process; 2) Board Committees’ principles and structure; 3) Board and organization performance monitoring; and 4) Other tasks as assigned by the Board.



BOARD POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Thursday, March 2, 2017
11:00 AM

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A scheduled meeting of the Board Policy and Planning Committee (Committee) was held on March 2, 2017, in the Headquarters Building Board Conference Room A124, at the Santa Clara Valley Water District, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chairperson Hsueh called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m., with the following Committee members in attendance, constituting a quorum, Director Nai Hsueh, District 5, Director Barbara Keegan, District 2, and Director John Varela, District 1.

District staff member present were, Vincent Gin, Deputy Operating Officer, Watersheds; Michele King, Clerk of the Board; Melanie Richardson, Interim Chief Operating Officer, Watersheds; Afshin Rouhani, Water Policy and Planning Manager.

2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON AGENDA

There were no one present who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 Approval of Minutes of February 1, 2017

It was moved by Director John Varela, seconded by Director Nai Hsueh, and unanimously carried that the minutes of the February 1, 2017, Board Policy and Planning Committee meeting be approved as presented.

4. OLD BUSINESS

4.1 One Water Plan – Policy Considerations and Future Board Updates

Melanie Richardson, Interim Chief Operating Officer, Watersheds, Vincent Gin, Deputy Operating Officer, Watersheds, and Afshin Rouhani, Water Policy and Planning Manager, reviewed the information on the countywide opportunities and Board Governance Policy issues, revisions, and implementation considerations listed in Committee Agenda Item 4.1 – Attachment 1.

The Committee provided input on how to prioritize and present the One Water Plan draft countywide report information and related Board Governance Policy issues, revisions

and implementation considerations to the Board, and how to engage Directors in presentation of information to stakeholders.

The Committee reviewed the countywide opportunities and policy issues and provided input.

Staff to return to the Committee at their next meeting to present the Coyote Watershed Themes and Project, and follow up on input provided on the One Water plan draft countywide report.

4.2 Committee's 2017 Work Plan

Michele King, Clerk of the Board and Committee Chair Hsueh presented proposed tasks and timeline for Committee's draft Fiscal Year 2018 Work Plan.

The Committee agreed that the Board should perform the same functions as Fiscal Year 2017, i.e. conduct a Board Strategic Planning Session; develop a Fiscal Year 2019 Board Budget message; develop Fiscal Year 2018 Board Policy Planning and Organizational Performance calendars; and in addition implement a process for staff to review Board Governance Policies.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS

Staff to present the Coyote Watershed Themes and Project not presented today, and follow up on input on the One Water plan draft countywide report.

Present a draft Fiscal Year 2018 Committee Work Plan for review and approval.

6. ADJOURN:

Committee Chairperson Hsueh adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:00 p.m. to the next meeting on April 10, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.

Michele L. King, CMC
Clerk/Board of Directors

Date:



Committee: Board Policy & Planning Committee
Meeting Date: April 10, 2017
Agenda Item No.: 4.1
Unclassified Manger: Vincent Gin
Email: vgin@valleywater.org

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMO

SUBJECT: One Water Plan – Policy Considerations and Future Board Updates - Meeting No. 2

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

- A. Provide direction on One Water Plan – countywide report policy issues;
- B. Provide direction on One Water Plan – Coyote Watershed themes and policy issues; and
- C. Provide direction on updating the full Board of Directors for future One Water progress including stakeholder engagement and recommended projects

SUMMARY:

This item is being brought to the Board Planning and Policy Committee (BPPC) to continue the policy discussion first initiated in September 2016 with the Board of Directors and later discussed on March 2, 2017 at the BPPC. The discussion includes a continued request for direction on current policy issues as well as guidance on how the project team can assist the Board of Directors to direct the development of the One Water Plan.

BACKGROUND:

The One Water Plan team is continuing to develop an integrated water resources master plan, called the One Water Plan, to better meet the District Board's identified Ends. This development is occurring at two levels, countywide and watershed-specific. For each there will policy issues to consider at a conceptual level as well as potential project level, both are outlined below for your consideration.

Countywide

The countywide effort for One Water was developed as a framework to set the stage for future watershed-specific plans. This framework included a vision, goals and measurable objectives, as well as a short list of potential projects appropriate to a county-wide setting. The measurable objectives fully align with existing Board Ends Policies and offer a more integrated way of prioritizing and categorizing District work and measuring progress towards meeting Board Ends. The countywide opportunities discussed by the BPPC in March 2017 may each have policy considerations; for those items that require further consideration at a Board level, staff asks for further clarification from the BPPC on how to proceed or not proceed (Attachment 1).

Watershed-Specific

Watershed specific planning in Santa Clara County involves developing plans for the Coyote, Guadalupe, West Valley, Lower Peninsula, and Uvas-Llagas watersheds. Coyote Watershed planning is well underway, with stakeholder engagement virtually complete. This engagement was used extensively to gather input on challenges and opportunities for a diverse set of stakeholders in the watershed. The compiled list of input has been refined to a list of approximately 65 opportunities in general categories referred to as themes for further consideration. Those are now being mapped out digitally using geographic information systems (GIS) to look for further integration and formation of multi-objective projects. A handful of Coyote opportunities being considered, per theme, are included as Attachment 2. The BPPC may see policy issues related to these themes or opportunities and so staff requests feedback on how to proceed.

Next Steps

- Determining final list of projects to include in Countywide Report
- Developing brief scope and budget for priority projects in Coyote Watershed – priority given to projects that are in line with community interests, best meet multiple One Water objectives, and most strongly demonstrate measurable progress in the watershed
- Developing a draft One Water Plan – Coyote Watershed with recommended priority projects for Board consideration
- Developing a Community Outreach Plan for One Water to guide stakeholder engagement (providing information and soliciting feedback) for the remaining watershed-specific plans
- Discussing One Water with resource agencies to collaboratively assess whether this type of planning can improve the permitting process by helping to alleviate some of the uncertainties on both sides related to planning and permitting district work.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Attachment 1: Countywide Opportunities – Updated since March 2, 2017 BPPC Meeting

Attachment 2: Coyote Watershed Opportunities – Themes

Attachment 3: One Water Plan Schedule

COUNTYWIDE OPPORTUNITIES

No.	Draft Countywide Opportunities	Description	Board Policy Considerations	Existing Board Policies	Relevant District Advisory Committees	Status	BPPC Comments (3-2-17)
1	Protect land to meet the objectives of the One Water Plan	This opportunity is focused on acquiring available land as determined appropriate and has several related components, namely, updating District Board policies for land acquisition; developing a prioritization method to identify high-priority potential opportunities; conducting analysis for buffer width requirements for various purposes (e.g., flood risk reduction, natural recharge and infiltration, and water resources-related habitat suitability); and acquiring or protecting land as it relates to comprehensive water resources management and flood protection for all beneficial uses. This opportunity will also update the post-disaster land acquisition policy so that in the case of a natural or man-made disaster, prioritization for acquisition is planned.	Does the Board want to develop a broader policy for land acquisition and preservation (including buffer areas along waterways, for comprehensive water resources management, flood protection, and other beneficial uses)? 1. No specific project/program exists to identify valuable lands. 2. Should implementation of this project be carried out through existing partnerships or through a new District project (e.g., operating project)?	E-2.1.2; E-3.1.1; E-4.1.2 FY18 Board Priority #4, 5	1. BPPC 2. EWRC 3. Water Commission (WC)	Not started	Q: Other public agencies involved in this topic? A: OSA, County, Habitat Agency
2	Recommend policy for near-water recreation opportunities on District fee property and guidelines for best management practices on non-District property	This opportunity is to create a District Board policy for on- or near-water recreational opportunities on or adjacent to District facilities. The intent of such a policy is to provide guidance so that natural experiences and education for the community may proceed without impeding habitat, water supply operations, bank stability, or water quality. Such a policy could include buffer requirements for recreational amenities on District right-of-way near streams, reservoirs, and the Bay.	Does the Board want to develop a policy regarding use of District property for near-water recreation, including creekside trails? 1. Though an existing resolution on joint use of District property exists, clarification may be necessary to address certain constraints and reduce conflicts including cases where trails and recreation may be damaging habitat, undermining bank stability, threatening water quality, or impeding water supply operations and watershed maintenance activities.	E-4.2.1; E-4.2.2 FY18 Board Priority #2	1. BPPC 2. EWRC	CPRU recently presented trail and recreation issues to the Board.	Q: Stakeholders involved in this issue? A: municipalities, creek-specific groups, regional trail groups Other: Identify areas where trees shouldn't go
3	Develop and implement Stormwater Resource Plan	This opportunity is to participate in creating a Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP) for Santa Clara Basin within Santa Clara County, meaning northern Santa Clara County. The objective of the plan is to manage stormwater on a broad scale in partnership with Santa Clara County and the thirteen cities in northern Santa Clara County. This SWRP would include developing approaches to meet RWQCB Municipal Regional Permit requirements, as well as satisfying the requirement to have a SWRP to apply for related California Proposition 1 funding. The planning process would also evaluate opportunities to improve water supply reliability. The SWRP would include green infrastructure and low impact development considerations, including analysis of potential rainwater capture and reuse sites and other on-site management techniques. The District could also partner with Morgan Hill and Gilroy on additional stormwater resource planning in the future.	Does the Board see a need for a specific policy regarding District role in stormwater management and green infrastructure? 1. District interest in stormwater could use clarification, particularly if it moves beyond managing trash and meeting TMDLs, 303d, and overall MRP requirements.	E-3.1.1, E-3.2.1, E-4.1.1, E-4.1.2, E-4.1.3, E-2.1.2, E-2.1.5, E-2.1.1 FY18 Board Priority #3	1. BPPC 2. EWRC 3. WC 4. Ag Water Adv Comm 5. Landscape Committee	1. District received a State Water Board grant to develop a Stormwater Resource Plan with our partners in SCVURPPP. Agreement was fully executed on 2/9/17. 2. Water Supply Master Plan update includes mention of stormwater as a potential source.	Other: Topic engages the public at a macro and micro scale
4	Recommend guidelines for water quality and other beneficial uses to guide District regarding homeless encampments near waterways	This opportunity is to create a District Board policy for District involvement in managing, interacting, coordinating and partnering on homeless encampment issues near waterways. This issue applies countywide and relates to multiple water resources including water quality, flood protection, and ecological resources.	Does the Board want to develop a more specific policy regarding District role in homeless encampment issues, with a focus on water quality? 1. Though the District is partnering to aid in homeless efforts and creek cleanup activities, there may be a lack of specificity for scope of District efforts related to homeless encampments.	E-4.1.3; E-4.1.4; OM 4.1.1.k FY18 Board Priority #5	1. EWRC 2. WC 3. Homeless Enc Ad-Hoc 4. Joint WRC with MH and Gilroy	Ongoing efforts in partnership with City of San Jose and County. Board ad-hoc committee.	Other: 1. Identify legal obligations; 2. conduct business in a proactive role; 3. continue to provide support
5	Develop a systemic, watershed-(and sediment-shed) based approach to sediment and vegetation management in creeks, reservoirs, and Bay	This opportunity is to develop a programmatic approach to sediment and vegetation management beyond existing Stream Maintenance Program operations to aid in determining recurring work that may be better addressed as a larger activity (e.g., capital project) to mitigate for sediment production and unwanted deposition. Analysis to understand the appropriate movement of sediment through the system, and how to facilitate through-movement will be part of this activity.		E-3.1.2; E-4.1.3 FY18 Board Priority #2	1. EWRC	Not started	Policy Issue: Properties District does not own and the role of flood protection
6	Develop reference creek channel types for select reaches within select creeks	This opportunity is to develop descriptions of reference creek channel types. Using historical and current conditions it can advise appropriate channel geomorphology (e.g., braided channel, alluvial fan, incised channel) for typical landscape categories. This information could then be incorporated into planning studies for future work.		E-3.1.2 FY18 Board Priority #2	1. EWRC	Not started	
7	Continue to partner on South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project	This opportunity is to continue participation in the South Bay Salt Ponds Restoration Project with partners (see page 85 of One Water Plan for list). As a project that spans the south bay and the downstream end of four of the county's watersheds, it is considered a countywide opportunity with multiple benefits.		E-4.1.1 FY18 Board Priority #5		Ongoing	

COUNTYWIDE OPPORTUNITIES

No.	Draft Countywide Opportunities	Description	Board Policy Considerations	Existing Board Policies	Relevant District Advisory Committees	Status	BPPC Comments (3-2-17)
8	Continue coordinated effort on the Shoreline Study	This opportunity is to continue participation in the Shoreline Study with partners (see page 85 of One Water plan for list). As a project that spans the south bay, planning to provide flood protection for multiple jurisdictions, critical facilities, businesses, and considering important ecological resources, it is considered a countywide opportunity with multiple benefits.		E-3.1.1; E-4.1.1 FY18 Board Priority #2, 5		Ongoing	
9	Update the "Guidelines and Standards for Land Use Near Streams (2007)"	This opportunity is to update the 2007 Guidelines and Standards for Land Use Near Streams. The guidelines are shared with municipalities and other agencies and organizations throughout Santa Clara County to provide information on building, planting, grading or paving near streams. This update would take into account the past nine years of experience to refresh the guidelines and also create a streamlined version to raise awareness and increase engagement with the general public and private property owners.	Does the Board want to see an update to the Guidelines and Standards for Land Use Near Streams? 1. Updated guidelines could include how to interface with municipalities and encourage stronger participation and adherence to the Guidelines, as well as engagement of private property owners. 2. An update should be coordinated with an encroachment strategy and riparian corridor discussions.	E-3.1.1; E-3.1.2; E-3.2.1; OM 3.2.1.a. FY18 Board Priority #2	1. BPPC 2. EWRC 3. WC	Not started	Other: Adaptive management; what worked and what did not
10	Expand invasive plant removal program	This opportunity is to create a comprehensive invasive plant removal program. The activity may require District Board policy revisions and will require technical analysis to establish prioritization and techniques. Establishing a program at the countywide level will allow for consistent protocols, guidance to partner agencies and organizations, and implementation at smaller scales.	Does the Board want to develop a policy regarding invasive plant management? 1. SCW D2 includes invasive plant removal and is well underway. Invasive plant management along streams, in upland areas, and in tidal areas may all be considered for a more robust approach to management.	E-3.1.2 FY18 Board Priority #5	1. EWRC 2. Landscape Committee	SCW D2 includes invasive plant removal. A more expansive program has not been started.	Other: encourage working with NGO's
11	Hazard tree abatement program	This opportunity is to establish a Hazard Tree Abatement Program for District-owned properties at a countywide scale. Abatement activities include not only the removal, but also the pruning and bracing, of hazardous trees. This will allow the District to develop a prioritized, efficient, and effective way to conduct the work, including receiving authorization from permitting agencies.		E-4.1.5 FY18 Board Priority #2, 5	1. EWRC		
	Additional One Water Plan Information		Board Policy Considerations	Existing Board Policies		Status	
A	Ten One Water Objectives - Measuring Progress	Chapter 6 of the One Water Plan describes the ten objectives of the plan, including attributes and metrics for measurement of those objectives in a scientifically defensible manner.	How does the Board want to measure improvements in watershed health? Does the Board support the idea of developing science-based metrics to measure One Water objectives? 1. Existing outcome measures as a whole may not be tracked effectively at present. Revised measures for watershed health need support of the Board.	E-1.4 FY18 Board Priority #4, 5		Measures (attributes and metrics) in draft form.	Other: Compare benefits versus costs of measures
B	Identify opportunities for engaging NGO's for creek benefits						Other: Issue raised by Board

Coyote Watershed Themes & Projects

Theme	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3
Flood risk reduction	Plan, design and construct Upper Penitencia project	Rehabilitate aging flood infrastructure	Increase outreach and emergency preparedness for neighborhoods most vulnerable to flooding
Groundwater recharge	Appropriate projects derived from the Water Supply Master Plan will be included as they apply to the watershed		
Land protection and acquisition	Preserve Coyote Meadows (Story Road to 280) as an urban open space area (for flood protection, water quality improvements, and recreation)	Identify properties for acquisition or protection with potential to preserve floodplain, expand riparian habitat, and provide recharge	Restore suitable tidal marsh in baylands to improve habitat connectivity of remnant habitat patches
Habitat improvements	Consider removal of Noble diversion consistent with FAHCE program	Protect, preserve and advocate for wider riparian corridors (at a minimum consistent with Valley Habitat Plan) to support objectives of the One Water Plan	Preserve and expand high-value habitat fragments including valley oak, sycamore alluvial, alkali meadow and riparian forest
Water quality improvements	Consider reservoir oxygenation in Coyote Watershed to address future mercury TMDL orders	Source water quality protection measures for lands adjacent to Coyote and Anderson Reservoirs	Manage trash in creeks throughout the watershed for improved water quality, habitat, and flood protection
Sediment management	Identify long term solution to sediment erosion and deposition on Thompson Creek (Aborn to Lower Silver)	Sediment management at confluence of Lower Silver and Coyote Creeks including fine sediment removal, gravel augmentation and creating stable pools for fish	Address erosion issues in lower Coyote tributary watersheds (Lower Penitencia and Upper Berryessa Creeks)
Green infrastructure/stormwater	Partnerships to create green infrastructure in areas that flood, have infiltration potential and are on public lands	Identify and install stormwater management improvements in areas where they may reduce nuisance flooding	Identify and install stormwater management improvements in areas where they may improve water quality
Trails and recreation near waterways	Complete Coyote Creek trail	Complete Upper Penitencia Creek trail from Coyote Creek to Alum Rock Park	Investigate recreational access between Coyote and Anderson Reservoirs

Board Policy and Planning Committee Work Plan and Schedule

Subject	Task	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
	1 Provide ongoing support for Board Planning Calendar											
Board Planning Process	A. Review Draft FY18 Board Policy Planning and Organizational Performance Monitoring Calendars (Target 6/13/17 Board Meeting)		X									
	B. Discuss/Develop structure/process for Board's FY18-19 Strategic Priorities Workshop (Target 12/2017 Special Board Meeting)								X			
	2 Provide process support for Board Policy Review											
	*A. Review GP-7 - Values Statement policies for work, life balance and employer of choice language.	X	X									
	*B. Evaluate ways of address Environmental Justice	X	X									
	*C. Formalize Board desire for sensitive design in a Board Policy.	X	X									
	*D. Needs for developing new, or modifying existing Board policies identified during the development of One Water Plan											
	a. Policy for land acquisition and preservation of comprehensive water resources management.											
	b. Policy for use of District property for trails, open space, and recreation.											
	c. Policy for encroachment on District properties.											
	d. Policy for District's and property owners' roles on Non-District owned creeks and creekside land.											
	e. Policy for District's role on storm water management and green infrastructure.											
	f. Policy for District's role on homeless encampments.											
	g. Policy for a more robust approach to invasive plant management.											
	h. Updated guidelines and standards for land use near streams incorporating the above new/modified policies.											
	**E.											
	**F.											
**G.												
H. Discuss FY18-19 Board Budget Message (Target 2/13/18 Board Meeting)											X	
Board Committees Principles and Structures	3 Align Board Committees' Work Plans with Board Planning Calendar											
	A. Assign to Director Hsueh and COB Office to work with the Chair of the committees.											
	4 Develop methodology for measuring Board Committees outcomes and success											
A. Postpone until end of this year to allow for complete implementation of new committee engagement process.												
Board and Organization Performance	5 Assignments as directed by the Board											
	A.											

* Board identified task at its 10/14/16 Special Meeting

** Staff identified task.