RECYCLED WATER COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, February 16, 2017
12:00 P.M.

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL.

A meeting of the Recycled Water Committee (Committee) was called to order in the Santa Clara Valley Water District Administration Building, Room B108, 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, at 12:00 p.m.

Committee members in attendance were District 2 Director B. Keegan, and District 6 Director T. Estremera, Chairperson presiding, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance were H. Ashktorab, D. Butler, R. Callender, T. Mercado, L. Moore, J. Fiedler, G. Hall, K. Oven, L. Sangines, C. Sun, and M. Silva.

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

Chairperson Estremera declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no one present who wished to speak.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

It was moved by Director Keegan, seconded by Director Estremera, and carried, to approve the 2017 Chairperson, Director Estremera, and Vice Chairperson, Director Keegan. Director Kremen was absent.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

It was moved by Director Keegan, seconded by Chairperson Estremera, and carried to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2016, meeting as presented. Director Kremen was absent.

5. ACTION ITEMS.
5.1. Update on Expedited Purified Water Program.

Ms. Katherine Oven, Deputy Operating Officer, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

Chairperson Estremera declared time open for public comment.

Mr. Stan Williams, Poseidon Water, expressed support for public-private partnerships (P3) and highlighted some benefits working with Poseidon would offer.

Mr. Doug Muirhead, Morgan Hill resident, expressed interest in receiving periodic summary updates from staff while evaluating RO alternative management techniques for a clearer understanding of the steps to the final decision or selection.

Mr. Will Hewes, Table Rock Capital, expressed support for a flexible approach where a design build start could result in a return to a P3 approach which has worked in other cities.

Ms. Kerrie Romanow and Mr. Jeff Provenzano, City of San Jose Environmental Services, expressed readiness to start reviewing studies to increase the water supply.

Chairperson Estremera acknowledged receipt of a letter from Ms. Romanow, identified as Handout 5.1-A, herein. Copies of the Handout were distributed to the Committee and made available to the public.

It was moved by Chairperson Estremera, seconded by Director Keegan, and carried to have staff bring back information on the technical studies, P3s, and alternatives to have a discussion that would yield a recommendation to bring to the Board for their consideration.

5.2. Direct Potable Reuse.

Mr. Hossein Ashktorab, Recycled Water Manager, and Ms. Luisa Sangines, Senior Engineer, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

Ms. Romanow expressed a preference for choosing an alternative sooner, rather than later, in order to avoid frustrations.

Ms. Charlene Sun, Treasury and Debt Manager, stated that, in some cases, the need to protect tax exempt status complicates matters.

It was moved by Director Keegan, seconded by Director Estremera, and carried to have staff begin the process of preparing an IRS opinion letter and to bring back updates to the Committee until it is finalized.
5.3 Recycled and Purified Water Expansion Efforts.

Mr. Ashktorab and Mr. Garth Hall, Deputy Operating Officer, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

Mr. Phil Vogel, City of Palo Alto, indicated that the MOU was with their attorneys for review.

Chairperson Estremera declared time open for comments from the public.

Mr. Stan Williams expressed confidence that his company’s knowledge, leadership, and business relationships could be a resource to the District.

The Committee noted the information without formal action.

5.4 Grant Funding Opportunities.

Mr. Ashktorab reviewed information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and Ms. Sun responded to the Committee’s questions regarding rules and regulations of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA).

The Committee noted the information without formal action.

5.5 Independent Advisory Panel for Potable Reuse.

Ms. Sangines Uriarte reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

The Committee directed staff to create more opportunities for directors to connect with the public and deliver more presentations to committees of other elected bodies; and to promote more tours of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center and noted the information, without formal action.

5.6 Public Outreach.

Mr. Tony Mercado, Public Information Representative II, represented Mr. Rick Callender, Deputy Administrative Officer, and reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

The Committee noted the information, without formal action.

5.7 Wolfe Road.

Ms. Oven reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo.

The Committee noted the information without formal action.
6. Review Committee Work Plan and Agenda Topics for Next Meetings.

The Committee made no comments on the proposed actions for the next meeting, but added the following:

a. Staff to bring back information on the technical studies, P3s, and alternatives to have a discussion that would yield a recommendation to bring to the Board for their consideration.

b. Staff to begin the process of preparing an IRS opinion letter and to bring back updates to the Committee until it is finalized.

c. Staff to create more opportunities for directors to connect with the public and deliver more presentations to committees of other elected bodies; and to promote more tours of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center.

The Committee asked staff to reschedule the next meeting, and the Chair will call the meeting, according to the Brown Act, when that date is known.

7. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

Ms. Lin Moore, Board Administrative Assistant II, read the Committee’s requests for the record.

6. ADJOURN.

Chairperson Estremera adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m., to the next meeting to be determined and noticed in accordance with the Brown Act.

Respectfully submitted,

Lin Moore
Committee Clerk

Approved: 5-30-17