



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019
6:00 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission (Youth Commission) was held on May 22, 2019, in the Headquarters Building Boardroom, located at the Santa Clara Valley Water District, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Visala Tallavarjula called the meeting to order at 6:05 p. m.

1.1 /ROLL CALL

A quorum was established with 10 Members present.

Members in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Ishita Verma		
District 2	Kalie Ching*	Elise Mullen	Visala Tallavarjula
District 3	Ari Feinsmith	Thomas Nguyen	Yugam Satija*
District 4	Adrienne Couteau*	Shloka Janapaty*	
District 5	Alden Hughes	Michael Zhao	
District 6	Kathryn Bravo		
District 7	Cole Baker*	Sofia Ruiz	Arushi Saxena

Members not in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1		Serena Wood	
District 4	Navya Pariti		
District 5	Arnav Gattani		
District 6	Hugo Marquez		

*Youth Commission Members arrived as noted.

Board member in attendance was: Director Nai Hsueh, Board Representative.

Staff members in attendance were: Ricardo Barajas, Glenna Brambill, Janet Hedley, Michal Helman, Trevor Smith, Cheryl Togami and Kristen Yasukawa.

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. Michael Zhao, seconded by Ms. Arushi Saxena, and unanimously carried, to approve the February 27, 2019, Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission meeting minutes as presented.

4 INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY

Ms. Janet Hedley and Mr. Trevor Smith facilitated the interactive activity, where the Youth Commissioners had an opportunity to participate in the “H2O-on the Go” exercise which took them on a journey through the Natural Water Cycle and the Human Construction Water Cycle.

*Ms. Adrienne Couteau arrived at 6:18 p.m.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 UPDATE ON SYNOPSIS FAIR AWARDS AND AWARDEES

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

The Commission discussed the following items: Mr. Michael Zhao was proud as a Youth Commissioner to be part of the sponsorship for the Synopsis Fair, to bring water awareness and to pique the interests of the Fair participants, and having monetary prizes to give to the awardees.

The Commission took no action.

Chair Visala Tallavarjula moved to agenda item 5.3

5.3 UPDATE FROM SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION’S WORKING GROUPS

Ms. Michal Helman introduced Ms. Elise Mullen who reported on the following: the merging of the Career Shadowing and Mentorship and Job Fair Working Groups, handed out a survey since there was a low turnout response on line and will continue with their follow-up on partnering the Commissioners with the appropriate staff mentors.

Mr. Cole Baker arrived at 6:25 p.m.

Ms. Shloka Janapaty and Mr. Yugam Satija arrived at 6:27 p.m.

The Commission took no action.

Chair Visala Tallavarjula moved to agenda item 5.2

5.2 YOUTH CITIZEN SCIENCE NETWORK UPDATED PRESENTATION

Vice Chair Shloka Janapaty reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

Ms. Kalie Ching arrived at 6:31 p.m.

Youth Commissioners Mr. Michael Zhao, Ms. Adrienne Couteau, Ms. Ishita Verma, Ms. Visala Tallavarjula, Mr. Ari Feinsmith, Mr. Thomas Nguyen and Ms. Sofia Ruiz discussed the following items: questions regarding the program, use of equipment, liability, interactive, shadowing, summertime would be ideal, training, adult supervision, costs of meters and which high schools will be targeted.

The Commission took the following action.

It was moved by Ms. Visala Tallavarjula, seconded by Mr. Michael Zhao, and unanimously carried, to approve forming the Youth Citizen Science Network Working Group.

Chair Visala Tallavarjula returned to agenda item 5.3

5.3 UPDATE FROM SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION'S WORKING GROUPS

Mr. Ricardo Barajas also reported on the May 18, 2019, River Clean Up with the following information:

47 Cleanup Sites, 1,060 Volunteers, 62 miles of creek (length of 36 golden gate bridges) 46,580 pounds of trash collected (equivalent to 17 mid-size sedans). For more information on previous cleanups, visit www.cleanacreek.org. The Youth Commission Cleanup Site: Coyote Creek Outdoor Classroom (23 Volunteers; 5 Youth Commissioners).

The Commission took no action.

5.4 REVIEW SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION WORK PLAN AND PROPOSE THE COMMISSION'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

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

The Commission took no action.

5.5 RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING YOUTH COMMISSION MEMBERS

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

Director Nai Hsueh was available to congratulate the graduating seniors and give the following their certificates of recognition: Mr. Cole Baker representing District 7-Director Gary Kremen, Mr. Ari Feinsmith representing District 3-Director Richard P. Santos and Ms. Visala Tallavarjula representing District 2-Director Barbara Keegan.

Mr. Ari Feinsmith was grateful for the experience of being on the Youth Commission.

Ms. Visala Tallavarjula shared being able to see water projects becoming more viable and making a change while on the Youth Commission and being the first Chair was a great experience.

Mr. Cole Baker was learning about water prior to his being a Youth Commissioner and now the experience has given him a deeper insight into water issues.

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE BOARD

Ms. Glenna Brambill reported there were no action items for Board consideration.

7. ADJOURN INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY:

Ms. Janet Hedley and Mr. Trevor Smith facilitated the adjourning interactive activity with the Commissioners responding to lessons learned from the past few meetings and what they plan on doing in the community during the summer break.

The following Commissioners gave their feedback: Mr. Yugam Satija, Mr. Ari Feinsmith, Ms. Ishita Verma, Ms. Kalie Ching, Ms. Elise Mullen, Ms. Adrienne Couteau, Mr. Thomas Nguyen and Ms. Sofia Ruiz. They reported on the following items: Purification Center tour, Job Shadow Day learning about Valley Water's business, making a change in their respective schools on community aspects, working on projects and looking forward to completing the adopt a bench, working groups focusing on different projects, creek stewardship, impact in the community and looking forward to the new Commissioners coming on board and continuing the Synopsys Fair sponsorship.

Chair Visala Tallavarjula adjourned at 7:08 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Wednesday, August 28, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., in the Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters Boardroom.

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

Approved: 8-28-19