



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

# MINUTES

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2021  
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 August 25, 2021, teleconference via Zoom.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Glenna Brambill called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

### 1.1 ROLL CALL

A quorum was established with 15 Members present.

#### **Members in attendance were:**

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Ranveer Saini	Ana Torrico	Jonathan Xia*
District 2	Kate Hanson	Niharika Koduru	Soren Ryan-Jensen
District 3	Anika Kulkarni	Vaibhavi Kulkarni	Matthew Walsh
District 4	Anousha Athreya	Lucia Parakh	
District 5	Pramath Doddaballapur	Daniel Shih	
District 6	Nilansh Dey Ghosh	Luis Hernandez*	David Houry
District 7	Oded Bronicki*	Ye'ela Bronicki	Yehchan Martin Kim

#### **Members not in attendance were:**

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 4	Aroshi Ghosh
District 5	Hillary Chang

Board Members in attendance were: Director Nai Hsueh-District 5, and Director Barbara Keegan-District 2, and Director John L. Varela-District 1.

Staff in attendance were: Julie Abbatelli, Noemi Agagianian, Glenna Brambill, Mera Burton, Andrew Gschwind, Janet Hedley, Marta Lugo, Perla Montes de Oca, Madison Owens, Sherilyn Tran, and Kristen Yasukawa.

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

There was no one present who wished to speak.

\*Ms. Anousha Athreya and Mr. Jonathan Xia logged in at 6:05 p.m.

## **3. WELCOME**

We had welcoming remarks from Youth Commission Board Representatives: Director Nai Huseh, Director Barbara Keegan and Director John L. Varela and Valley Water Staff: Ms. Marta Lugo, Ms. Sherilyn Tran, Ms. Janet Hedley, Ms. Julie Abbatelli, Ms. Perla Montes de Oca, Ms. Madison Owens, Ms. Kristen Yasukawa, Ms. Mera Burton, Mr. Andy Gschwind, Ms. Noemi Agagianian, and Ms. Glenna Brambill.

\*Mr. Oded Bronicki logged in at 6:08 p.m.

\*Mr. Luis Hernandez logged in at 6:13 p.m.

## **4. OATH OF OFFICE**

Ms. Glenna Brambill administered the Oath of Office to the new Youth Commission Members; Mr. Ranveer Saini representing Director Varela's District 1, Ms. Kate Hanson and Ms. Niharika Koduru representing Director Keegan's District 2, Ms. Lucia Parakh representing Director LeZotte's District 4, Mr. Pramath Doddaballapur and Mr. Daniel Shih representing Director Hsueh's District 5, Mr. Luis Hernandez and Mr. David Khoury representing Director Estremera's District 6 and Mr. Oded Bronicki representing Director Kremen's District 7.

## **5. INTRODUCTIONS/INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY**

Ms. Janet Hedley explained and facilitated the interactive activity, where the Youth Commissioners were engaged in a Poll Everywhere.

The Youth Commissioners introduced themselves, the name of their school and grade.

The new Youth Commissioners; Mr. Ranveer Saini, Ms. Kate Hanson, Ms. Niharika Koduru, Ms. Lucia Parakh, Mr. Pramath Doddaballapur, Mr. Daniel Shih, Mr. Luis Hernandez, Mr. David Khoury, and Mr. Oded Bronicki,

Introduction of the returning youth Commissioners; Ms. Ana Torrico, Mr. Jonathan Xia, Mr. Soren Ryan-Jensen, Ms. Anika Kulkarni, Ms. Vaibhavi Kulkarni, Mr. Matthew Walsh, Ms. Anousha Athreya, Mr. Nilansh Dey Ghosh, Ms. Ye'ela Bronicki and Mr. Yehchan Martin Kim.

The interactive activity was based on several questions consisting of water conservation, water savings, drought, and water conservation programs.

## **6. MANAGER'S REPORT**

Ms. Sherilyn Tran reported on the Annual Youth Retreat for October 2021 and the youth commissioners would be receiving a doodle poll to determine which date would work best for the majority of the members.

## **7. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

Ms. Glenna Brambill opened the floor for nominations for Chair:

1. Anika Kulkarni, 2. Yehchan Martin Kim, 3. Anousha Athreya

Each nominee gave background on their experiences and desires to be the Chair.

The Youth Commission by roll call and majority vote elected Ms. Anika Kulkarni as Chair.

Ms. Glenna Brambill opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair:

1. Nilansh Dey Ghosh, 2. Vaibhavi Kulkarni 3. Ye'ela Bronicki

Each nominee gave background on their experiences and desires to be the Vice Chair.

The Youth Commission by roll call and majority vote elected Ms. Ye'ela as Vice Chair.

## **8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **8.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Ms. Anika Kulkarni, seconded by Ms. Anousha Athreya, by roll call and majority vote carried, to approve the May 19, 2021, Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Ranveer Saini, Ms. Kate Hanson, Mr. Pramath Doddaballapur, Mr. Daniel Shih, Mr. David Khoury and Mr. Odeb Bronicki abstained.

## **9. ACTION ITEMS**

### **9.1 UPDATE FROM SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION'S WORKING GROUPS**

Chair Ms. Anika Kulkarni reviewed the agenda item and received Youth Commissioner's reports for the working groups:

The Youth Commissioners and Valley Water Staff reported on the following Working Groups' activities:

Ms. Vaibhavi Kulkarni reported on the Youth Citizen Science Network (YCSN), participated in giving a Youth Commission overview presentation to 30 Santa Clara County High School Teachers attending the Baywork Ignited Teacher Externship Week in July 2021, a time to promote the youth commission to the high school students, sent email invitations for a virtual tour of the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center to 6 youth commissions in District 7 included, Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, Los Gatos, and Monte Sereno. This will be expanding to other youth commissions in district's 1 through 6, to get more youth involvement and make them aware of the purified water efforts given the drought emergency. There were no meetings this summer but looking forward to meeting soon.

Ms. Kristen Yasukawa reported on the Public Art, recapped the Adopt-A-Bench's successful completion and the virtual ribbon cutting ceremony, the new pilot mural project working again with Mr. Paul J. Gonzalez, a local artist in San Jose, working on designing and painting a mural at Valley Water's Blossom Hill Annex site where it will be visible from the street, located by the creek, trail, and a VTA stop.

Ms. Sherilyn Tran reported on the Communication/Public Outreach, there were no meetings this summer, however, the group's focus is on public outreach efforts on events that occur, worked on the recruitment flyer for the commission's vacant positions, and development of the Youth Commission website.

Ms. Mera Burton reported on the Job Shadow Day/Mentorship. there were no meetings this summer but looking forward to working on the planning and promoting the Job Shadow Day event scheduled for February 2022. The working group will be working with Ms. Mera Burton, Ms. Perla Montes de Oca and Ms. Noemi Agagianian.

Ms. Anika Kulkarni reported on the Coastal Cleanup event, September 18, 2021, will be in-person around the creek behind the Valley Water's Headquarters, beginning at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., there will be supplies, snacks, and since the commissioners are youth, a signed waiver will be required to be turned in at the event, and social distancing will be in place, this is a public event. There will be an Eventbrite page available. The working group is working with Ms. Julie Abbatelli and Ms. Lilian Bui

The Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission took no action.

## **9. 2 REVIEW AND DISCUSS 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 standard agenda items are: Brown Act Review, Review of the Youth Commission's Roles, Responsibilities and Meeting Conduct

Board Representatives Directors Hsueh, Keegan and Varela suggested the following agenda items: Drought Report, have it focus on outreach where the youth can engage their peers, recycled water, sustainability, and water purification. The next meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2021 (subject to change).

The Youth Commission took no action.

## **10. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE BOARD**

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

## **11. ADJOURN**

Chair Ms. Anika Kulkarni adjourned at 7:11 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.,

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

Approved: 11-17-2021