



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT (VALLEY WATER)  
WATER STORAGE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE

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# MINUTES

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**MONDAY, APRIL 5, 2021**  
**11:00 AM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee (Committee) was held on April 5, 2021, via Zoom.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee was called to order by Chair Director Gary Kremen at 11:00 a.m.

**1.1 ROLL CALL**

Valley Water Board Members in attendance were: Director Gary Kremen-District 7, Director Richard P. Santos-District 3, and Director John L. Varela-District 1.

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Lisa Bankosh, Mark Bilski, John Bourgeois, Glenna Brambill, Bart Broome, Debra Butler, Rick Callender, Keila Cisneros, Melissa Fels, Andrew Garcia, Vincent Gin, Samantha Greene, Andrew Gschwind, Mike Hagerty, Christopher Hakes, Garth Hall, Brian Hopper, Cindy Kao, Jessica Lovering, Ryan McCarter, Heath McMahan, Carmen Narayanan, Steven Peters, Melanie Richardson, Metra Richert, Jennifer Schmidt, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, and Beckie Zisser.

Guests in attendance were: Kurt Arends (Alameda County Water District {ACWD}), Douglas Brown (Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth), Stephen A. Jordan (BAWSCA and Purissima Hills Water District), Howard Justus (Sargent Quarry), Katja Irvin Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter Water Committee, Danielle McPherson (BAWSCA), Marguerite Patil (Contra Costa Water District {CCWD}), and Hon. Brian Schmidt (Green Foothills).

Public in attendance were: Tess Byler, Ryan Dupuis, Jeffrey Harvey, Tim Heffington, Alison Kastama, Robin Kohn, David Niese, and Marc Wheeler.

**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 Richard P. Santos, second by Director John L. Varela, and by roll call and unanimous vote carried to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2021, meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee as presented.

**4. ACTION ITEMS**

**4.1 PACHECO RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT WORKSHOP TOPICS**

Mr. Christopher Hakes reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

**The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following:**

partnerships/agencies/locations, reservoir storage, real estate, eminent domain, ballot/bond measures, water transferring, water conveyance, drinking water emphasized, valley impacts, “pitching”/messaging regarding the water supply costs and benefits to customers is critical, letting the Board assist with the legislative items, climate changes, recycling water, postpone or extend project, recommend concentrating on the sales-focus literature, and O&M finances.

Mr. Rick Callender, Mr. Darin Taylor, Mr. Garth Hall, Mr. Brian Hopper and Mr. Bart Broome were available to answer questions

Comments received:

- Dr. Alex Horne’s letter (Page 7 of agenda packet) was acknowledged,
- Ms. Katja Irvin (Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter Water Committee), she sees the many difficulties raised by staff relating to land acquisitions, permitting, cost-share partnerships, WSIP deadlines. Possibility that WSIP funding may be lost if Valley Water waits until the end of year and if Water Commission requirements can’t be met. She suggested Valley Water cancels the project which may free up WSIP funds that can go to other needed storage projects that are less damaging to the environment (groundwater storage projects rather than surface water projects). She also noted there are alternative ways to meet objectives of reliability and emergency supply, and
- Mr. Steve Jordan (BAWSCA and Purissima Hills Water District) agrees more water storage created now with larger projects that would provide water to the County. Also, suggested revisiting the list of agencies who endorsed the

project and reach out to them again.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action. However, next steps staff will be working on are prioritizing partnerships and gathering as much information for the Board and Committee on Pacheco Reservoir as possible!

#### **4.2 SARGENT RANCH DISCUSSION**

Mr. Howard Justus (Sargent Quarry) presented an overview of the handout.

**The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following:** concerns with the ranch, quarry, oil/gas on the lands, species, Pajaro River, costs, mitigation, partnership, outreach, Pacheco Reservoir Project nexus, Valley Habitat Plan, study impacts, open space, developing, potential golf course, suggested having the full Board receive the Sargent Ranch presentation, and the Committee receiving presentations from Open Space and Habitat Agencies.

Comments received:

- Hon. Brian Schmidt (Green Foothills) is concerned with the effects of the quarry and asked Valley Water to be cautious moving forward.
- Ms. Katja Irvin (Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter Water Committee) agrees with Hon. Schmidt.

Mr. John Bourgeois and Ms. Lisa Bankosh were available to answer questions.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

#### **5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE ACTIONS**

Ms. Glenna Brambill noted there were no action item for Board consideration.

#### **6. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Director Gary Kremen adjourned the meeting at 12:38 p.m.

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

Approved: 6-30-2021