



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

MINUTES

**MONDAY, JULY 19, 2021
1:00 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A special meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee (Committee) was held on July 19, 2021, via Zoom.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee was called to order by Committee Member Director John L. Varela, as acting Chair at 1:01 p.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

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

Valley Water Staff in attendance were: Emmanuel Aryee, Aaron Baker, Lisa Bankosh, John Bourgeois, Glenna Brambill, Rick Callender Andrew Garcia, Vincent Gin, Alexander Gordon, Samantha Greene, Andy Gschwind, Michael Hagerty, Christopher Hakes, Brian Hopper, Cindy Kao, Claire Kennedy, Candice Kwok-Smith, Michael Martin, Heath McMahon, Carmen Narayanan, Carlos Orellana, Steven Peters, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Jamie Silva, Ranithri Slayton, Kirsten Struve, Charlene Sun, Darin Taylor, and Gregory Williams.

Guests in attendance were: Dwight Good (Cal Fire), Hon. Brad Gleason (Pleasant Valley Water District {PVWWD}), Thomas Francis (BAWSCA), Hon. Steve Jordan (BAWSCA and Purissima Hills Water District), Maureen Martin, Ph.D. (Contra Costa Water District {CCWD}), Hon. Brian Schmidt (Green Foothills), Bill Tuttle (San Jose Water Company), Peter Van Dyke (Loma Prieta Resource Conversation District), Thomas Niesar and Hon. John Weed (Alameda County Water District {ACWD}).

Public in attendance were: Jim Bowley, John Chesterton, Tim Chiala, David Cramer, Director Barbara Keegan (Valley Water District 2), Arthur M. Keller, Ph.D., Doug Muirhead, and Paul Rogers.

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 June 30, 2021, meeting of the Water Storage Exploratory Committee as presented.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1 LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Brian Hopper, Ms. Charlene Sun and Dr. Maureen Martin reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: JPA, feasibility hearing, October 2021 deadline, project costs, risks, and several 'off ramps' (opting out) for participating agencies.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action, however, reminder of the June 30, 2021, meeting recommendation to request that the Board initiate discussions to form a User Group Ad Hoc (non-Brown Act) Committee having at least 1 WSEC Director, appropriate staff representation, and potentially having 1 or 2 elected officials from each user agency to discuss the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project JPA Agreement, usage, and other pertinent business and policy terms.

Public Comment received:

Hon. Steve Jordan (BAWSCA and Purissima Hills Water District) inquired about Transfer Bethany.

Mr. Aaron Baker was available to answer questions.

4.2 PACHECO RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT - FIRE SUPPRESSION AND PREVENTION

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

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: vital water sources, Cal Fire needs and once determined suggested writing joint letter for needed funding (work with elected officials – such as; Assemblymember Rivas),

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

4.3 CAL FIRE PRESENTATION

Assistant Chief Dwight Good of CAL FIRE gave a verbal presentation.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee discussed the following: water availability/challenges, helicopter/pumping, accessible fire hydrants (having them

maintained, uniformity, output consistency, possibly having them gps'd, and being able to access contacts to owners would benefit Cal Fire), could Valley Water collaborate with the Fire Department-fire suppression, concerns with the turnouts/reliable sources (phasing out/sunsetting), looking to the Legislators for policy and funding assistance. farming, fire service and Valley Water working in partnership with the Santa Clara County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Aaron Baker was available to answer questions.

Public Comments received:

Hon. Steve Jordan (BAWSCA and Purissima Hills Water District) noted fire suppression is a massive problem in his area Purissima Hills Water District spent millions to upgrade from 1,000 gpm to 1,250 gpm and putting in larger piping for Mutuals (not easy from a cost perspective) and suggested a GIS database for the hydrants is a start.

Mr. Peter Van Dyke (Loma Prieta Resource Conversation District) had specific questions on the Crews Road fire and Assistant Dwight Good would answer off-line.

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action; however, the Committee would like to be kept apprised on this issue.

Thanks to Mr. Gregory Williams for assistance with this agenda item.

4.4 REVIEW WATER STORAGE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

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

The Water Storage Exploratory Committee took no action.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Ms. Glenna Brambill noted two items for Board consideration:

1. action taken at the June 30, 2021, meeting, the Committee recommended requesting that the Board initiate discussions to form a User Group Ad Hoc (non-Brown Act) Committee having at least 1 WSEC Director, appropriate staff representation, and potentially having 1 or 2 elected officials from each user agency to discuss the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project JPA Agreement, usage, and other pertinent business and policy terms.
2. writing a collaborative letter, once Cal Fire needs are determined and suggested the letter contain needed funding (work with elected officials, such as Assemblymember Rivas) and the fire hydrants issue.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Acting Committee Chair Director John L. Varela adjourned the meeting at 1:56 p.m.

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

Approved: 10-29-2021