

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – June 4, 2024

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A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency was held at Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 23780 Pine Street, Newhall, CA 91321 at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, June 4, 2024. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the Agency preceding these minutes. The meeting recording can be accessed by clicking on the following link: [Board Meeting Recording](#).

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kathye Armitage, Beth Braunstein, Ed Colley, William Cooper, Maria Gutzeit, Dirk Marks, Gary Martin, Piotr Orzechowski and Ken Petersen.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None.

Also present: Administrative Services Manager Kim Grass (Virtually), Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Board Secretary April Jacobs, Chief Engineer Courtney Mael, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer Rochelle Patterson, Chief Operating Officer Keith Abercrombie, Communications Manager Kevin Strauss, Director of Operations Mike Alvord, Director of Water Resources Ali Elhassan, General Counsel Tom Bunn (Virtually) and Joe Byrne, General Manager Matthew Stone, Information Technology Technician II Jonathan Thomas, ACWA JPIA's Chief Executive Officer Adrienne Beatty, ACWA JPIA's Director of Member Outreach Kevin Phillips and Director of Pooled Programs Jennifer Jobe, ARM, Wendelstein Law Group Attorney Darren Burge (Virtually), as well as additional SCV Water Agency staff (Virtually), and members of the public (In Person and Virtually).

President Martin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. A quorum was present.

There were no changes to the June 4, 2024 Board Agenda and it was accepted as shown (Item 4).

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The Board went into Closed Session at 6:04 PM to discuss Item 5.1:

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 Name of Case: Katarina Ford vs. Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, et al. Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. 20STCV44809

The Zoom meeting was put on hold while the Board went into Closed Session. President Martin advised the public and staff for those who wanted to stay, to remain on the current teleconference line and once Closed Session ends, the Board would reconvene for Closed Session announcements and the conclusion of the meeting.

President Martin reconvened the Open Session at 6:28 PM.

Joe Byrne, Esq., reported that there were no actions taken in Closed Session that were reportable under the Ralph M. Brown Act (Item 6).

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JPIA's Chief Executive Officer Adrienne Beatty gave the Board an ACWA JPIA update (Item 7).

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Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Marks and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar including Resolution Nos. SCV-426, SCV-427, SCV-428 and SCV-429 by the following roll call votes (Item 8):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Yes
Director Petersen	Yes		

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-426**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER OR CHIEF ENGINEER TO AWARD A  
PURCHASE ORDER TO KENNEDY JENKS CONSULTANTS, INC.  
FOR PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE RIO VISTA WATER TREATMENT PLANT  
MECHANICAL SHOP AND ACCESS ROAD PAVING PROJECT AND FINDING THE  
PROJECT CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY ACT PURSUANT TO CEQA GUIDELINES SECTION 15262**

**[FULL RESOLUTION MAY BE VIEWED BY VISITING THE SCV WATER WEBSITE](#)**

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-427**

**RESOLUTION OF THE  
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ADOPTING THE APPROPRIATION OF ALL AS-YET UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023/24**

**[FULL RESOLUTION MAY BE VIEWED BY VISITING THE SCV WATER WEBSITE](#)**

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-428**

**RESOLUTION OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY  
ADOPTING THE APPROPRIATION LIMIT  
FOR FY 2024/25**

**[FULL RESOLUTION MAY BE VIEWED BY VISITING THE SCV WATER WEBSITE](#)**

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-429**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY  
WATER AGENCY AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING BY THE**

**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION'S FY 2024 WATERSMART PLANNING AND PROJECT DESIGN GRANTS FOR THE PINETREE GROUNDWATER RECHARGE FACILITY PROJECT**

**[FULL RESOLUTION MAY BE VIEWED BY VISITING THE SCV WATER WEBSITE](#)**

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Upon motion of Director Petersen, seconded by Director Cooper and carried, the Board adopted Resolution No. SCV-430 revising the FY 2024/25 Budget by the following roll call votes (Item 9.1):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	No	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Yes
Director Petersen	Yes		

**RESOLUTION NO. SCV-430**

**RESOLUTION OF THE  
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REVISING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024/25**

**[FULL RESOLUTION MAY BE VIEWED BY VISITING THE SCV WATER WEBSITE](#)**

Upon motion of Director Braunstein, seconded by Vice President Orzechowski and carried, the Board received and filed the March 2024 Monthly and FY 2023/24 Third Quarter Financial Report including the revised March 2024 Director stipends by the following roll call votes (Item 9.2):

Director Armitage	Yes	Director Braunstein	Yes
Director Colley	Yes	Director Cooper	Yes
Vice President Gutzeit	Yes	Director Marks	Yes
President Martin	Yes	Vice President Orzechowski	Yes
Director Petersen	Yes		

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**General Manager's Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 10).**

The General Manager reported on the following:

He was pleased to report that we had received payment on the recent judgement in SCVWA vs. Whitaker. He stated that the Agency first prevailed in a dual Jury and Bench trial in US District Court, and recently prevailed in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The District Court subsequently entered a final judgement reflecting that decision. Payment was received today in the amount of the judgement plus accrued interest totaling \$72,348,186.

He went on to describe the specifics of the apportionment of estimated damages for VOC's at Well V201, and the Saugus 1 and Saugus 2 wells, as well as both perchlorate and VOC's at Well V205. He noted as mentioned in the CIP presentation given this evening, the addition of

VOC Treatment for Well 201 is currently under construction and treatment for VOC's at Saugus 1 and Saugus 2 was recently awarded a construction contract as part of the T&U Wells project at the same site. Lastly, he advised that the treatment for Perchlorate and VOC's at Well V205 recently opened bids and a contract will be coming to the Engineering and Operations Committee and then to the Board for approval shortly. He ended with thanking everyone involved in the process for their efforts and assistance in reaching this outcome.

He informed the Board on the recent purchase of Whitaker's parent corporation, MEGGIT PLC, by Parker, he advised that he has hope for a more collaborative relationship, and SCV Water intends to both approach matters constructively, and vigorously to defend the quality of our community's local water supply.

Lastly, he thanked the entire team responsible for preparing our updated FY 2024/25 Budget.

To hear the full report, please refer to the Board recording by clicking the meeting recording link on the first page of these minutes or visiting the SCV Water Website.

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**Committee Meeting Recap Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 11).**

Director Armitage commented on the May 20, 2024 Public Outreach and Legislation Committee meeting recap report regarding the water refiling station that is used for events.

There were no other comments on the recap reports.

To hear the full comment, please refer to the Board recording by clicking the meeting recording link on the first page of these minutes or visiting the SCV Water Website.

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**Written Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 12).**

There were no comments on the written reports.

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**President's Report (Item 13).**

President Martin updated the Board on upcoming meetings and events.

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**AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 14).**

Vice President Gutzeit reported that she attended the SCV-GSA regular Board meeting held at the Agency's Pine Street location on June 4, 2024.

Director Braunstein reported that she attended virtually a One-on-One meeting with General Manager Stone on May 23, 2024 and attended the Executive Committee of the Special Districts

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Association of North Los Angeles County General Membership luncheon held at AVEK on May 29, 2024.

Director Armitage reported that she attended a One-on-One meeting with General Manager Stone held at the RVWTP on May 28, 2024 and attended the Executive Committee of the Special Districts Association of North Los Angeles County General Membership luncheon held at AVEK on May 29, 2024.

Director Cooper reported that he attended the SCV-GSA regular Board meeting held at the Agency's Pine Street location on June 4, 2024.

Director Marks reported that he attended the SCV-GSA regular Board meeting held at the Agency's Pine Street location on June 4, 2024.

President Martin reported that he attended the SCV-GSA regular Board meeting held at the Agency's Pine Street location on June 4, 2024.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

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**Director Reports (Item 15).**

Director Petersen mentioned that Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 36 recently changed out his meter and it was done very professionally. He stated that he got 22 years of service from the old meter.

There were no other Director reports.

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**Director Requests for approval for event attendance (Item 16).**

There were no requests for event attendance.

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The meeting was adjourned in memory of Lewis D. Bobbitt, Jr. at 8:30 PM (Item 17).

Signature on File

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April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

Signature on File  
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President of the Board

