

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – May 13, 2024

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A special 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 Monday, May 13, 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, William Cooper, Maria Gutzeit, Dirk Marks, Gary Martin and Piotr Orzechowski.

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Ed Colley and Ken Petersen.

Also present: 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, Director of Technology Services Cris Perez, General Counsel Joe Byrne, General Manager Matthew Stone, GIS Analyst Doug Richan, Human Resources Manager Ari Mantis, Information Technology Technician II Jonathan Thomas, 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 6:03 PM. A quorum was present.

There were no changes to the May 13, 2024 Board Agenda and it was accepted as shown (Item 4).

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Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Armitage and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar by the following roll call votes (Item 5):

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

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Upon motion of Vice President Orzechowski, seconded by Director Armitage and carried, the Board approved 1) the changes to the Agency's Classification Plan, 2) the Agency's Position Control and 3) class specifications for Security Operations Specialist, Financial Analyst I/II and Senior Quality Assurance Scientist by the following roll call votes (Item 6.1):

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

Upon motion of Vice President Orzechowski, seconded by Director Braunstein and carried, the Board approved making the Boundary Adjustment changes to the Canyon Village Condominiums now before the November 5, 2024 General Election by the following roll call votes (Item 6.2):

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

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**General Manager’s Report on Activities, Projects and Programs (Item 7).**

The General Manager reported on the following:

He addressed the public comment on why there was a special Board meeting this evening.

He updated the Board on the recent ACWA Spring Conference held in Sacramento on May 7 through the 9, 2024. He mentioned meetings that were held with other water agencies on various issues, to check in and build relationships. He advised there were some meet and greets and opportunities to catch up with legal counsel. Lastly, he spoke about the Governor’s presence at the conference.

He provided a brief update on the Whittaker-Bermite Litigation.

To hear the full comments, 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 8).**

There were no comments on the recap reports.

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**Written Reports for Informational Purposes Only (Item 9).**

There were no comments on the written reports.

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**President’s Report (Item 10).**

President Martin updated the Board on upcoming meetings and events and updates.

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**AB 1234 Written and Verbal Reports (Item 11).**

Written reports were submitted by Vice President Gutzeit and Director Marks which were included in the Board packet. Additional written reports were submitted by President Martin and Director Petersen which were emailed, posted to the website and are part of the record.

Director Cooper reported that he attended the 2024 ACWA Spring Conference held in Sacramento on May 7-9, 2024.

Director Armitage reported that she virtually attended the Executive Committee of the Special Districts Association of North Los Angeles County on April 29, 2024, virtually attended the ACWA Subcommittee of ACWA's Local Government Committee called the City and County Planning Nexus Subcommittee held on May 1, 2024 and attended the check presentation to SCV Water for the Arundo Removal from the Santa Clara River from Assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo presented by the riverbed near Bouquet Canyon Road on April 21, 2024.

Vice President Orzechowski reported that he attended the check presentation to SCV Water for the Arundo Removal from the Santa Clara River from Assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo presented by the riverbed near Bouquet Canyon Road on April 21, 2024.

Director Braunstein reported that she attended the 2024 ACWA Spring Conference held in Sacramento on May 7-9, 2024.

There were no other AB 1234 Reports.

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**Director Reports (Item 12).**

Director Armitage mentioned an article that was in the ACWA April 19, 2024 News titled "Agency Calculates Watershed Value at \$1.6 Trillion". She wanted to encourage the Board to read the article, she felt it held a lot of value. She also wanted to acknowledge that last week was Public Service Recognition week and wanted to thank staff for all they do.

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.

There were no other Director reports.

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**Director Requests for Approval for Event Attendance (Item 13).**

There were no requests for event attendance.

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The meeting was adjourned in memory of Mr. Ed Dunn Jr. at 7:01 PM (Item 14).

Signature on File

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April Jacobs, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

Signature on File  

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President of the Board

