



SAFE, CLEAN WATER AND NATURAL FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM
INDEPENDENT MONITORING COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program Independent Monitoring Committee was held on January 29, 2026 at the Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairperson Susan Landry called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

1.1. ROLL CALL

A quorum was established with nine Members present.

Members in attendance were:

District 1: Vice Chairperson Marc Rauser

District 2: Erika Laguna and Greg Pollock

District 3: Will Ector and Bill Chuan

District 4: Chairperson Susan M. Landry

District 6: Rebecca Gallardo

District 7: Forest Peterson

Members attending virtually were:

District 5: George Fohner

Members absent were:

District 5: Bill Hoelt

District 6: Patrick Kwok

Directors present were: Richard Santos, District 3.

Valley Water staff in attendance were: Emmanuel Aryee, Erin Baker, Lisa Bankosh, Mark Bilski, Wade Blackard, John Bourgeois, Jen Codianne, Jessica Collins, Brian Dean, Meenakshi Ganjoo, Alexander Gordon, Chris Hakes, Wendy Ho, Candice Kwok-Smith, Dave Leon, Carlos Orellana, Sophie Padilla, Luz Penilla, Kirsten Struve, Madhu Thummaluru, and Kristen Yasukawa, and Bhavani Yerrapotu.

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

There was no one who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVE THE DECEMBER 3, 2025 IMC MINUTES

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

It was moved by Member Chuan, seconded by Member Laguna, and unanimously carried to approve the December 3, 2025 Committee meeting minutes as submitted.

4. REGULAR AGENDA

4.1 OUTCOME OF SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

Recommendation: Subcommittee Chairs report out on key areas of discussion and recommendations for full committee consideration.

Jessica Collins, Meenakshi Ganjoo, Luz Penilla, and Bhavani Yerrapotu were available to answer questions.

The Chairs of the IMC Subcommittees provided information relating to their respective meetings and provided feedback for full Committee consideration. The Committee discussed various edits and several topics, including supplemental answers given by staff after the subcommittee meetings, the rising costs of projects and processes to revisit the decision to proceed with those projects in case of a large deviation from the initial budget forecast, status of various projects including the Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project, the cost and impacts on creeks of illegal dumping versus encampments of unhoused individuals, uses of artificial intelligence to assist with projects, and various financial topics including cost increases and budget projections.

Chairperson Landry left her seat at 5:30 p.m. Vice Chairperson Rauser acted as Chair in her absence.

The Committee took no formal action and requested that staff schedule visits to the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit and Llagas Creek Flood Protection project sites as part of the annual Committee tour.

5. INFORMATINAL ITEMS

5.1 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

Recommendation: Standing items report.

The Committee took no action.

6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS

The Committee took no action.

7. ADJOURN TO REGULAR MEETING AT 4:00 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 19, 2025

Vice Chairperson Rauser adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

Dave Leon
Assistant Deputy Clerk II
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved:

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