

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-01

**PROVIDING FOR COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS OF SANTA CLARA VALLEY
WATER DISTRICT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 2, DIVISION 10, CALIFORNIA WATER CODE**

The Board of Directors of Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) does ORDAIN as follows:

FIRST, this ordinance is adopted pursuant to Chapter 2, Division 10, Section 20200, and following of the California Water Code, and Section 33(c) of the District Act; and

SECOND, at the February 10, 2026, Board meeting, the Board made findings based on substantial evidence that there is an operational need to compensate Directors for up to 15 days per calendar month, for calendar year 2026, effective April 14, 2026; and

THIRD, the findings made by the Board were:

1. Many of Valley Water's responsibilities such as water supply, flood protection, and environmental stewardship, are in other jurisdictions spread across separate governmental entities. These functions require numerous meetings to set courses of action based on input from the community and other stakeholders.
2. The number and scope of Board and committee meetings, public hearings, community meetings, and other meetings Directors must attend to accomplish Valley Water's business are extensive. The Board has 19 internal and/or joint policy committees/working groups, and the Directors serve on a total of 17 external boards and committees for other intergovernmental, regional, or public policy entities.
3. Valley Water is the only water agency in California that is both a state and federal water contractor through the State Water Project and the Central Valley Project, putting Valley Water at the heart of complex water policy debates in both Sacramento and Washington. This greatly expands the number of meetings necessary to ensure reliable water supplies for Santa Clara County as compared to other regions.
4. In 2025, the maximum number of monthly meeting days that Directors could be compensated was 15, per Ordinance 25-01. During 2025, the Valley Water Board of Directors reported 1081 meeting days that were paid and 84 that were unpaid because they exceeded the maximum number of meeting days allowed for the stated month.

FOURTH, for each year following the effective date of this ordinance, the current compensation of four hundred three dollars and thirty-seven cents (\$403.37) per day provided to each Valley Water Board member for each day's attendance at Board meetings, or for each day's service rendered as a member of the Board by request of the Board as described in Board Policy GP-10.6.1, is increased to \$_____ effective on April 14, 2026; and

The increase is in accordance with the Board of Directors' direction to ensure that Valley Water's services are carried out in a cost-effective and efficient method; and

FIFTH, this ordinance shall not be deemed to authorize compensation for more than a total of 15 days in any calendar month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Santa Clara Valley Water District by the following vote on February 10, 2026:

AYES: Directors

NOES: Directors

ABSENT: Directors

ABSTAIN: Directors

SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

By: _____
TONY ESTREMER
Chair, Board of Directors

ATTEST

MAXIMILLION OVERLAND, CMC
Acting Clerk, Board of Directors