



MEMORANDUM

FC 14 (01-25-23)

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Santa Clara Valley Water Commission

SUBJECT: Santa Clara Valley Water Commission (SCVWC)
January 24, 2024 Regular Meeting Summary.

DATE: April 9, 2024

This memorandum summarizes agenda items from the meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water Commission held on Monday, January 24, 2024.

Receive AB 1469 Update and Discuss Encampments of Unsheltered People.

The Commission received the information, took no formal action, and confirmed the low barrier navigation centers are defined as places where large volumes of the unhoused will be connected with services who are on Valley Water property. The Commission confirmed funding would come from the Watershed Stream Stewardship fund and the implementation plan will consist of project/funding options provided to the Valley Water Board for approval. The Commission confirmed that Valley Water anticipates partnering with local cities/agencies and the county regarding potential projects for the unhoused to include community outreach and relationships with the associated elected bodies. The Commission confirmed Valley Water's clean-up expenditures and budget are presented at the Environmental Creek Clean Up Committee meetings. The Commission confirmed that Valley Water anticipates to report out on the unhoused assistance progress officially to the state every 5 years with interim reports to the committees/commissions. The Commission noted the importance of getting feedback from stakeholders, confirming how staffing in the navigation centers will be addressed, and inclusion of potential permanent/long term housing options.

Review and Approve 2023 Annual Accomplishments Report for Presentation to the Board (Commission Chair) and Review Santa Clara Valley Water Commission Work Plan, the Outcomes of Board Action of Commission Requests; and the Commission's Next Meeting Agenda.

It was moved by Hon. Lucas Ramirez and seconded by Hon. Chuck Page and unanimously approved for the Commission to approve the 2023 Annual Accomplishments Report for Presentation to the Board and review the Santa Clara Valley Water Commission Work Plan under one motion and by roll call vote. The 2023 Commission Accomplishments Report was accepted at the March 26, 2024 Valley Water Board meeting.

Election of 2024 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

It was moved by Hon. Carmen Montano and seconded by Hon. Chuck Page for Hon. Lydia Kou to become the 2024 Chairperson and Domingo Candelas remain as the 2024 Vice Chairperson and was carried by majority roll call vote.

Receive Information and Provide Feedback on the Development of Valley Water's Supply Master Plan 2050.

The Commission received the information, took no formal action, and confirmed surface and groundwater storage is being utilized by Valley Water to capture stormwater for active water recharge programs and collaboration with the local cities. The Commission noted interest in a Pacheco extension project update and confirmed the next update was scheduled for the Valley Water's Board meeting on February 13, 2024. The Commission confirmed the Water Supply Master Plan 2040 is available online, noted Plan 2050 is still being developed, and water retailers are included in the development process. The Commission noted that the future growth of households are considered for projections per water supply over population numbers. The Commission noted interest in further promotion of Valley Water's water conservation programs with rain gardens and rain barrels, and rebates/cost shares with select cities.

Review and Provide Comment to the Board on Staff's Preliminary Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Groundwater Production Charges.

The Commission received the information, took no formal action, and confirmed the Palo Alto project replenishes the groundwater which benefits the North County zone and the San Jose project is for direct potable reuse of raw water for treatment plants. The Commission confirmed alternatives are being reviewed by Valley Water to assist with keeping water rates financially feasible, noted some projects may be postponed, and a consultant will do an affordability study to assist with an analysis on the increased financial impacts on the community within the year. The Commission noted the importance of softening the water rates for residents and balancing it with flood and environmental protections. The Commission confirmed the projected debt interest is assisting with smoothing out and lowering the water rate projections for residents and expressed interest in confirming what percentage of the rate increase is allocated for paying down the debt. The Commission noted Valley Water's participation in a Water Rate Assistance Program and partnership with Sacred Heart, and expressed interest in further details at the April 2024 Water Commission meeting and forwarded to city staff for community outreach. The Commission requested the inclusion of a map for the noted county zones in the presentation for this Item.

The next SCVWC regular meeting is scheduled to occur at 12:00 p.m. on April 10, 2024.

Board member comments and suggestions can be forwarded to Nicole Merritt, Assistant Deputy Clerk II at (408) 630-3262 or by email to nmerritt@valleywater.org.