



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

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# MINUTES

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**SPECIAL SOUTH COUNTY BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025  
7:00 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

A Special Meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City of Morgan Hill Council Chamber Building, 17555 Peak Ave, Morgan Hill, California, and by Zoom teleconference.

**1.1. Roll Call.**

Board members in attendance were Shiloh Ballard, Rebecca Eisenberg, Nai Hsueh, John L. Varela, and Richard P. Santos, Vice Chairperson presiding, constituting a quorum of the Board.

Chairperson Estremera was excused from attending, and Director Jim Beall arrived as noted below.

Staff members in attendance were Melanie Richardson, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Carlos Orellana, District Counsel, Candice Kwok-Smith, Clerk, Board of Directors, A. Baker, A. Garcia, R. Gibson, D. Taylor, and T. Yoke.

**1.2. Pledge of Allegiance/National Anthem.**

Director Beall arrived.

Director Varela led all present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1.3. Time Open for Public Comment on any Item not on the Agenda.**

Vice Chairperson Santos declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda. There was no one present who wished to speak.

**2. 7:00 PM - TIME CERTAIN:**

- 2.1. Conduct Continued Public Hearing on the February 2025 Annual Report on the Protection and Augmentation of Water Supplies and Recommended Increases in Groundwater Production Charges, Surface Water Charges, and Recycled Water Charges for Fiscal Year 2025-26; Consider Staff's Recommendation Concerning Setting of State Water Project Tax.

(Continued from April 8, 2025).

- Recommendation:
- A. Conduct the continued Public Hearing pursuant to Section 26.6 of the District Act to consider Santa Clara Valley Water District's Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Annual Report on the Protection and Augmentation of Water Supplies and recommended increases to groundwater production charges (between 7.9% to 11.2%), surface water charges (between 8% to 11.1%) and recycled water charges (between 4.6% to 8.1%);
  - B. Hear public comments from groundwater producers and any interested persons regarding the Report and recommendations;
  - C. Consider any written protests to proposed surface water rate increases;
  - D. Direct staff to review such Report with, and solicit comments from, Santa Clara Valley Water District's advisory committees;
  - E. Consider staff's recommendation to set the State Water Project tax in an amount sufficient to pay next year's State Water Project costs (excluding Delta Conveyance Project costs) to avoid severe water rate impacts and keep rates feasible; and
  - F. Continue the Public Hearing regarding such Report and proposed charges to the May 16, 2025, special regular meeting, at 1:00 pm.

Vice Chair Santos opened the Public Hearing.

Aaron Baker, Chief Operating Officer, reviewed the information on this Item per the attached Board Agenda Memo, and Carmen Narayanan, Financial Planning and Revenue Manager, reviewed the information in Attachment 2.

Vice Chair Santos declared time open for public comments and, seeing no one present who wished to speak, closed the Public Hearing.

**3. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF BOARD REQUESTS:**

Charlotte Reinthaler, Acting Deputy Clerk, Board of Directors, confirmed that there were no new Board Member Requests.

**4. ADJOURN:**

Vice Chairperson Santos adjourned the meeting at 7:49 p.m. The Board will convene for the next Special meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, May 16, 2025, in the Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters Building Boardroom, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, and via Zoom teleconference.

Charlotte Reinthaler  
Acting Deputy Clerk, Board of Directors

Approved:

Date: June 10, 2025

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