

TO: Board of Directors

FROM:

Stanly Yamamoto

SUBJECT:

Response to BMR-20-0012

DATE:

November 24, 2020

At the November 10, 2020, Board meeting, Director LeZotte requested that the District Counsel provide a timeline and report on all actions taken since receiving the complaint filed by Rev. Moore at the time that Open Session discussion is brought back on the matter (BMR R-20-0012). The following represents the requested timeline.

Please note that this timeline does not address the Public Records Act request associated with the complaint. The efforts to respond to that request were led by Valley Water's Records Unit. Please note that because the underlying investigation has not concluded, I have not included preliminary efforts to gather materials for the investigation, discussions with the investigators, requests by the investigators, or materials provided to the respective investigators as such disclosures would severely undermine the integrity of the investigation. Finally, the requested timeline sought only my activities, so I have not included any separate actions undertaken by Chair Hsueh or any other Board members.

Date	Activities
May	Rev. Jethroe Moore files complaint with Valley Water
May	Preliminary discussion with former CEO Camacho re complaint and next steps
May	Referral of 5/27/20 complaint to former Chief People Officer Noriega for filing per Governance Policy 6.17
May	Formal receipt of 5/27/20 from former Chief People Officer Noriega per Governance Policy 6.17
June	Following review of 5/27/20 complaint, communication with former CEO Camacho re complaint and next steps
June	Meeting with Chair Hsueh re sufficiency of complaint to warrant further action.
June	Received formal direction from Chair Hsueh to retain an independent investigator
July	Discussions with potential investigator, Fred Alvarez, Esq. of Coblentz, Patch, Duffy & Bass
July	Discussion with Chair Hsueh – approval regarding allegations to be investigated by Alvarez
July	Full execution of contract between Valley Water and Coblentz, Patch, Duffy & Bass for Alvarez investigation
July	Issued memo to Board regarding retention of investigator Alvarez
July	Advised by Chair Hsueh and Board Ethics and Conduct Ad Hoc committee that a different investigator should be utilized
July	Research re new potential investigators
July	Terminated agreement with Coblentz, Patch, Duffy & Bass per direction from Board Ethics and Conduct Ad Hoc Committee
July	Meeting with Board Ethics and Conduct Ad Hoc Committee (Hsueh, Estremera, Santos) regarding their selection of new investigator. Investigator Amy Oppenheimer was selected by the Committee.
July	Notified Amy Oppenheimer of her selection

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July	Board approves amendment to Governance Policy 6.19.1 to add an alternative that would give the Board Ethics and Conduct Ad Hoc Committee authority to select investigators. My office prepared the agenda item at the request of the Chair and the Ethics and Conduct Ad Hoc Committee
July	Full execution of agreement between Valley Water and Amy Oppenheimer for investigation
August	Amy Oppenheimer's office proceeds with investigation into 5/27/20 complaint and subsequent allegations raised by Rev. Moore
September	Received a copy of 9/23/20 correspondence from Rev. Moore to the Board regarding the intent of his complaints against Directors LeZotte and Keegan
September	In response to her inquiry, confirmed scope of investigation to Chair Hsueh and confirmed that investigators were also addressing the more recent 8/10/20 allegations from Rev. Moore (which he made public by forwarding to the Board on 9/23/20)
September	Attended meeting with Board Ethics and Conduct Ad Hoc Committee regarding investigator Oppenheimer. Directed by Chair Hsueh and Committee to pause investigation
September	Advised Amy Oppenheimer of direction to pause the investigation, which had not yet concluded.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions regarding my activities with respect to the Rev. Moore complaint.

Stan T. Yamamoto District Counsel

c: R. Callender, M. Richardson, M. King