



## MEMORANDUM

FC 14 (02-08-19)

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Michele King  
Clerk of the Board

**SUBJECT:** Open Space Credit Board Motions

**DATE:** 4/28/21

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At the April 27, 2021 meeting, the Board Chair requested a copy of the Board's previous motion and action on the Open Space Credit. Below is a list of previous board actions in 2019 and 2020.

April 23, 2019, Board Meeting

Public Hearing - Annual Report on the Protection and Augmentation of Water Supplies - February 2019 and Recommended Groundwater Production and Other Water Charges for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

**Board Action:**

1. Continued current practice for Open Space Credit (OSC) for the next 2 years, FY 2019-2020 and FY 2020-2021.
2. During the 2-year period, through a coalition of agriculture industry, open space organizations, other governmental organizations, environmental groups and Valley Water, work to pursue feasible revenue sources for OSC.
3. Depending on the outcomes of the efforts, the Board would then set the OSC accordingly. It is important to point out that the OSC decision cannot not be made independently, it needs to be considered in connection with the services Valley Water relies on Property Tax to deliver to the community.

June 25, 2019 Board Meeting

Approve Recommendation from Revenue Working Group to Encourage Participation in a Collaborative to Identify Sources of Revenue to Subsidize Agricultural Water Rates.

**Board Action:**

Approved encouraging a collaborative effort for the purpose of identifying and securing a permanent, and/or ongoing funding source to replace the discretionary portion of the Valley Water Open Space Credit.

February 11, 2020 Board Meeting

Consider Agricultural Water Advisory Committee's Recommendations and Associated Staff Analyses from the Committee's Meeting on January 6, 2020.

**Board Action:**

Approved authorizing the Clerk of the Board to invite County Board of Supervisor Hon. Mike Wasserman or his designee to the Agricultural Water Advisory Committee's April 6, 2020 meeting. Took no action on adding the Open Space Credit/Agricultural component to the future funding measure and keeping the agricultural rates stable and at the current rate; nor allowing the Farm Bureau to formulate a question to add to the future funding community input survey. These requests were withdrawn by the Farm Bureau.

November 24, 2020 Board Meeting

Overview of the FY2021-22 Groundwater Production Charge Setting Process and Review of 10-year Water Rate Projection Assumptions.

**Board Action**

The Board noted the information, without formal action.

Directors Santos and Varela reported having requested that the Chief Executive Officer investigate various alternatives for maintaining the Open Space Credit, and Mr. Rick Callender, Chief Executive Officer, confirmed that staff would come back with discussion on the Open Space Credit early in calendar year 2021.