Monday, April 5, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

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Please Provide Public Comment by 12:00 pm the day of the meeting* by either email or mail.

E-mail comments to:
ekang@scvwa.org

- Or -

Mail comments to:

Eunie Kang
Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency
27234 Bouquet Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

*All written comments received after 12:00 pm the day of the meeting will be posted to **scvgsa.org** the next day. Disclaimer: Pursuant to the Executive Order N2920 Issued by Gov. Newsom, public may not attend meetings in person. Public may use the above methods to attend and participate in the public board meetings.

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NOTICE AND AGENDA OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF SANTA CLARITA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD

Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency – Board Room
Rio Vista Treatment Plant Facility
27234 Bouquet Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

WEB AND TELECONFERENCE ONLY
NO PHYSICAL LOCATION FOR MEETING

Monday, April 5, 2021 at 2:30 PM

WEB AND TELECONFERENCING NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 17, 2020, any Director may call into an Agency Board meeting using the Agency's **Call-In Number 1 (833) 568 8864, Webinar ID: 160 050 2240 or Zoom by clicking on the link** https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1600502240 without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconferencing requirements.

Pursuant to the above Executive Order, the public may not attend the meeting in person. Any member of the public may listen to the meeting or make comments to the Board using the call-in number or GoToMeeting link above. Please see the notice below if you have a disability and require an accommodation in order to participate in the meeting.

We request that the public submit any comments in writing if practicable, which can be sent to ekang@scvwa.org or mailed to Eunie Kang, Board Secretary, Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency, 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. All written comments received before 12:00 PM the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Board members and posted on the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency website prior to the start of the meeting. Anything received after 12:00 PM the day of the meeting will be posted on the SCV-GSA website the following day.

1. REGULAR PROCEDURES

1.1 Call to Order

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

1.3 Public Comments – Members of the public may comment as to items not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this agenda may do so now or prior to each item as they arise. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Board's presiding officer, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.)

1.4 Approval of Agenda

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be acted upon by the Board by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items prior to the time the Board votes unless any Board member, staff or the public, requests specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action.

ITEMS			PAGE
2.1	*	Approve Minutes of the March 25, 2021 Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Special Board of Directors Meeting	1

3. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION AGENDA ITEMS

ITEMS			PAGE
3.1	*	Discussion of Rotating Schedule to Appoint Board President and Vice President	3
3.2	*	Approval of Resolution No. GSA 2021-01 Revising Norms and Expectations and the Approval of the Agreement to Abide by Norms and Expectations for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee	5
3.3	*	Status Update of Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan (SGMA) Implementation Activities	11
3.4	*	Approval to Use Contingency Funds for Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Outreach Consultant CV Strategies	15
3.5		Status Update of IRWM and Measure W	
3.6		Status Update on Bouquet Canyon Creek	
3.7	*	Recommend Postponement of the SCV-GSA Regular Board Meeting for July 5, 2021	17

4. APPOINTMENT OF BOARD PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

5. CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

6. ADJOURMENT

*** Indicates attachment**
♦ To be distributed

NOTICES:

Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Eunie Kang, Secretary to the Board of Directors, at (661) 297-1600 or writing to Santa Clarita Valley

Groundwater Sustainability Agency at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that Agency staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the Agency to provide the requested accommodation.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, California 91350, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's Internet Website, accessible at http://www.scvgsa.org.

Posted on March 31, 2021

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DRAFT

ITEM NO. 2.1

Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency – March 25, 2021

A special board meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA) was held via web and teleconference at 2:30 PM on Thursday, March 25, 2021. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the SCV-GSA preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: B.J. Atkins, Russ Bryden, William C. Cooper, Maria Gutzeit, Gary Martin, Gina Natoli, Jason Gibbs arrived at Item 3.2

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

Also present via web and teleconference: SCV-GSA General Counsel Tom Bunn, SCV-GSA Board Secretary Eunie Kang, SCV Water; Assistant General Manager Steve Cole, Director of Water Resources Dirk Marks, Principal Water Resource Planner Rick Viergutz, Communications Manager Kathie Martin, General Manger Matt Stone; Tara Bravo, CV Strategies; Jeff Barry, GSI; and various members of the public.

President Atkins called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM. A quorum was present.

Item 1.3: There was no public comment.

Item 1.4: Upon motion of Director Martin, seconded by Vice President Natoli and carried, the Agenda was approved by the following roll call votes:

President Atkins	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Vice President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Not Present		

Item 2: Upon motion of Director Gutzeit, seconded by Vice President Natoli and carried, the Board approved the amended minutes of the January 25, 2021 SCV-GSA Special Meeting, showing the correction on item 4 of the minutes by the following roll call votes:

President Atkins	Yes	Director Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	Vice President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Not Present		

Item 3.1: Tara Bravo presented a summary of the SCV-GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Public Workshop on the Development of the Sustainable Management Criteria, which was held virtually on March 10, 2021, with 51 participants. The event generated 6 questions/feedback and zero feedback forms from attendees.

Tara also reported on the debrief meeting held with the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) on the March 10, Public Workshop. She highlighted and reminded the SAC members the following:

- General statements will be taken into consideration by both the SAC and the SCV-GSA Board of Directors to make educated recommendations and decisions regarding the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).
- Specific corrections will be addressed directly.
- The GSP will be updated and refined as new information becomes available.
- Each major piece of the GSP includes a three-meeting series – SAC initial input, Public Workshop and SAC public workshop debrief.

In discussing the feedback on the Public Workshop presentation, she requested the SAC members to hold their comments until the SAC debriefing meeting to ensure we receive input from the public during the Public Workshop session.

There was public comment on item 3.1.

Item 3.2: Rick Viergutz and Jeff Barry provided a review and status update on the development of the Sustainable Management Criteria.

Topics covered:

- Review GSP development process
- What we have learned so far
- Purpose of sustainable management criteria
- Review sustainable management criteria development process
- Public input on sustainable management criteria
- Draft input from Groundwater Model Expert Peer Review panel
- Summary of sustainable management criteria for each sustainability indicator

There was no public comment on item 3.2.

Item 4: There were no requests for future agenda items.

The SCV-GSA Board welcomed the newest member of the SCV-GSA Board, Jason Gibbs representative from the City of Santa Clarita Valley.

Item 5: The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 PM.

_____
Eunie Kang, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

_____
President of the Board

ITEM NO. 3.1

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: April 5, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV-GSA Staff

SUBJECT: Discussion of Rotating Schedule to Appoint Board President and Vice President

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SUMMARY:

This item provides a suggested rotation schedule for filling the GSA Board leadership positions through 2025.

DISCUSSION:

At the January 2020 election, it was suggested the Board consider a rotational process for filling the leadership positions, to ensure representation of all member agencies.

At the January 25, 2021 meeting, the Board agreed to move forward with a rotational plan, with the understanding that a representative could pass on the option if desired. Below is a recommended schedule to consider

SEAT	2017/18	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
SCVWA 1	Pres				Pres			
SCVWA 2		Pres				VP		
SCVWA 3		VP	Pres				Pres	
SCVWA 4				VP				VP
LA Waterworks					VP	Pres		
City of SC	VP						VP	Pres
LACDRP			VP	Pres				

For reference, the Board leadership thus far has been:

- 2017/18: President William Cooper (SCV Water) and Vice President Bob Kellar (City of Santa Clarita)
- January 2019: President William Cooper (SCV Water) and Vice President B.J. Atkins (SCV Water)
- January 2020: President B.J. Atkins (SCV Water) and Vice President Gina Natoli (LA County Department of Regional Planning)

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board of Directors discretion.

ITEM NO. 3.2

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: April 5, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV-GSA Staff

SUBJECT: Approval of Resolution No. GSA 2021-01 Revising Norms and Expectations and the Agreement to Abide by Norms and Expectations for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee

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SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

In a continued effort to define the norms and expectations for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, attached is a Resolution No. GSA 2021-01 Revising the Norms and Expectations and the Agreement to Abide by the Norms and Expectations for consideration for approval.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Directors approve the Resolution No. GSA 2021-01 Revising the Norms and Expectations and the Agreement to Abide by the Norms and Expectation for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Attachments:

Resolution No. GSA 2021-01 Revising the Norms and Expectations for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee

The Agreement to Abide by the Norms and Expectation

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RESOLUTION NO. GSA 2021-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY REVISING NORMS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, in Resolution No. GSA 2019-05, the Board of Directors, seeking significant outreach and public process, established the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and established Norms and Expectations for the committee; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution provided that the Board of Directors could dismiss and appoint replacement committee members consistent with the guidelines in Resolution No. GSA 2019-06; and

WHEREAS, the Resolution required committee members to adhere to the Norms and Expectations; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors wishes to revise the Norms and Expectations to add a provision regarding ballot designations for elective office;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Norms and Expectations are revised to read as follows:

- Demonstrate good manners, courtesy, and consideration.
- Respect your fellow advisory committee members and elected officials.
- Conduct yourself in a professional way in meetings and in the public.
- Members may never use the position to solicit for personal gain.
- Members may not use their position on the committee as a basis for a ballot designation, profession, or occupation for elective office, or include it in campaign materials.
- During meetings, stay on task in accordance with the presented agenda.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, members must agree in writing to abide by the Norms and Expectations as a condition of being appointed to or remaining on the committee.

_____

President

I, the undersigned, hereby certify I am the duly appointed and acting Secretary of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency and at a regular board meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency held on Monday, April 5, 2021, the foregoing Resolution No. GSA 2021-01 was duly and regularly adopted by said Agency, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended since the date of its adoption, and it is now in full force and effect.

DATED: April 5, 2021

_____

Secretary

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SANTA CLARITA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY NORMS AND EXPECTATIONS

I, _____, agree to abide by the Norms and Expectations for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee established by the Board of Directors, as follows. I understand that I must agree to the Norms and Expectations as a condition of being appointed to or remaining on the committee.

- I agree to demonstrate good manners, courtesy, and consideration.
- I agree to respect my fellow advisory committee members and elected officials.
- I agree to conduct myself in a professional way in meetings and in the public.
- I agree never to use the position to solicit for personal gain.
- I agree it is improper to use my position on the committee as a basis for a ballot designation, profession, or occupation for elective office, or to use it in campaign materials, and I agree not to do so.
- During meetings, I agree to stay on task in accordance with the presented agenda.

Dated: _____ _____

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ITEM NO. 3.3

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: April 5, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV-GSA Staff

SUBJECT: Status Update of Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan (SGMA) Implementation Activities

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OVERVIEW:

Under its Contract with the SCV-GSA, SCV Water Staff has continued to coordinate and manage technical analysis and the robust stakeholder engagement process continues toward development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The GSP development schedule plans for Board consideration of the Final GSP in November 2021.

This board memo provides additional detail and context for key work undertaken by the SCV-GSA's Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Consultant (CV Strategies), and the SCV-GSA's Technical Consultant (GSI Water Solutions, Inc.).

We have prepared this memo to provide details on recent key accomplishments, descriptions of essential consultant work, and a six month look ahead.

Current Status and Recent Key Accomplishments

Technical:

- A draft Technical Memorandum on Sustainable Management Criteria was released in February 2021.
- The draft GSP Monitoring Program is under development.
- Groundwater flowmodel peer review efforts continue.
- We have obtained the City of Santa Clarita Site Access Agreement
- On March 17, 2021 the Site access agreement with Los Angeles County Department of Public Works was submitted to supervisors for review and approval
- The following draft technical memoranda have been shared with stakeholders:
    - Groundwater Surface Water Interactions,
    - Potential Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems,
    - Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model,
    - Groundwater Budget, and
    - Sustainable Management Criteria

Outreach:

- Completion of the Sustainable Management Criteria workshop activities, including the pre-workshop Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting (SAC), the public workshop,

and the SAC debrief afterwards. This incorporated input from three initial discussions with the SAC on this topic, as well as a GSA Board discussion.
- Continued updating of the public outreach and workshop sections of the GSA website to make accessible all workshop resources, including videos, handouts, and recordings of meetings. https://scvgsa.org/public-input/#public-workshops
- Continued extensive outreach through social media, digital ads, partnerships with local media and email newsletters to encourage participation in the GSP development process.

Fiscal and Grants:

- Staff prepared quarterly reports and invoices pursuant to the Round 2 and Round 3 grant agreements that ultimately may provide reimbursement up to $416,000 and $891,159 reimbursement, respectively. To date, the grants have provided a total reimbursement of $676,157.

Six Month Look Ahead (April-Oct 2021)

Technical Development:

The Draft GSP is scheduled to be released for public comment in August 2021, and technical details in task items below will be incorporated into the August 2021 Draft GSP.

Task 2: Data Review and Assessment

This task is scheduled for completion in June 2021. It will utilize existing work and data to provide the required assessment of existing data and data gaps and an evaluation of current monitoring programs. It will provide draft technical memoranda for the GSP Monitoring Program Evaluation/Recommendations and for Evaluation and Development of the Sampling and Analysis Plan.

Task 3: Groundwater Model Update and Readiness

Additional minor model refinements may be made if needed. A grant deliverable will be prepared summarizing the groundwater model update.

Task 4: Groundwater/Surface Water Interactions

SCV Water staff will finalize site access agreements with the City and County. A grant deliverable will be prepared summarizing findings related to groundwater surface water interactions.

Task 5: Water Budget Development

The historical, current, and future water budgets will be completed. A grant deliverable will be prepared for water budget development.

Task 6: Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model

The final technical memorandum will be completed. Leading up to completion additional technical detail and clarifications will be made based on technical need and past stakeholder input.

Task 7: Development of Sustainable Management Criteria

Work will continue to complete the sustainable management criteria (SMC) for inclusion into the Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The SMC is essentially performance metrics, which are monitored to demonstrate sustainability goals are being met now, or over time. This process will include a stakeholder input, consistent with past stakeholder process (SAC meeting and a workshop), and briefings to your Board. A grant deliverable will be prepared summarizing development of sustainable management criteria.

Task 8: Projects and Management Actions

Work will continue to consider any needed projects and basin management actions necessary to maintain or reach sustainability. This process will include a stakeholder process consistent with past stakeholder processes (SAC meeting and a workshop). A draft technical memorandum will be prepared describing any needed projects and management actions and incorporated into the Draft GSP.

Outreach:

Completion of Workshop Cycle 7 on Projects and Management Actions.

This will include delivery of the draft technical memorandum to the SAC and two SAC discussions prior to the public workshop scheduled for June 2, 2021. A post-workshop SAC meeting will be held to debrief and provide input on the final outreach report for the topic.

Initial Work for Workshop Cycle 8 on the release of the Draft GSP.

This will include delivery of the draft GSP to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee for initial review in mid-July.

Public Workshop Cycle:

- Advertising (e-news; press release; social media; video)
- Workshop preparation (handouts; survey/comment cards; displays; presentations)
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee – pre-workshop meeting to review above)
- Public Workshop (August 25, 2021)
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee – post-workshop debriefs
- Public input assessment report

CHALLENGES:

With completion of the site access agreement between the City and SCV-GSA and anticipated completion of the site access agreement between the County of Los Angeles and SCV-GSA we anticipate initiating field work for piezometer and temperature probe installation this summer.

Over the past year, several requests have been made to gain access to place monitoring sites west of the Interstate 5 bridge. The property owner has not indicated if such access will become available and staff believes it unlikely that such request would be approved concurrent with work to be done on City and County lands. Lack of access will represent a data gap that ultimately need to be addressed.

We have mitigated the concern of delayed/reduced data collection by preparation of a separate study utilizing existing water level data from shallow alluvial monitoring wells, a new geologic

cross section, supported down the road with the groundwater flow model to examine predicted changes in groundwater conditions under a range of climatic and pumping conditions.

In the longer term the SGMA process contemplates an adaptive management process where ongoing data collection and operational experience will be incorporated to achieve sustainability within twenty years. Such lessons learned will be incorporated into GSP updated that are required every five years.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The GSP technical consultant contract is within budget. A request to utilize contingency funding for the Stakeholder Engagement Consultant will be considered at the April 5, 2021 GSA meeting.

CONCLUSIONS:

Significant progress has taken place this last quarter. Several meetings with the Stakeholder Advisory Committee have taken place regarding Sustainable Management Criteria. The data concern regarding implementing field work has been mitigated with other study and modeling, but future monitoring with new instrumentation is still desired and will be completed to the maximum extent. The next six months include finalization of draft technical studies and incorporation of the studies into the Draft GSP. We will continue the robust Stakeholder Advisory Committee process, public workshops, and briefings with your Board.

ITEM NO. 3.4

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: April 5, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV-GSA Staff

SUBJECT: Approval to Use Contingency Funds for Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Outreach Consultant CV Strategies

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SUMMARY:

SCV Water has contracted with CV Strategies for stakeholder engagement and communication services for the development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. An increase in the number of anticipated stakeholder meetings, along with an expanded role in review of the Water Budget technical memo, requires us to seek Board authorization to use the identified contingency funds.

BACKGROUND:

Contingency Funded Work

On May 12, 2020, the SCV GSA Board approved the FY 20/21 budget which includes a 15% contingency fund for CV Strategies. This has been identified since contract initiation in 2019, in the event additional funding was necessary to complete the GSP, including additional work in support of the stakeholder engagement process.

Since that time, the level of necessary work to prepare the GSP is on track to exceed the initial contract amount but will remain within the boundaries of the 15% contingency fund. We have identified certain tasks below that have exceeded initial estimates of time and effort required.

Task 3: Implement Communication and Engagement Plan

Public Workshops and Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) Meetings

The number of SAC meetings originally anticipated to occur was up to six. CV Strategies was able to accommodate six additional meetings after an expanded “public workshop cycle” process was adopted, which includes SAC meetings both before and after each public workshop.

However there have been additional meetings held for development of sustainable management criteria and more are anticipated to be scheduled for project and management actions. By project end we anticipate we will have convened as many as 20 SAC meetings through submission of the plan in January 2022. The special brainstorming meetings for SMC were also accompanied by the need for full meeting transcriptions; and writing staff from CV Strategies was enlisted to work on plain language efforts for the Water Budget technical memorandum.

Summary Table

Task	Original Allocation	Estimated remaining budget (Feb 2021)	Estimated supplemental budget
Plan implementation	$150,000	$30,000	$22,500

CONCLUSION:

The SCV-GSA budget includes a 15% contingency for CV Strategies contract in the amount of $22,500. Preparation of the GSP has required increased investment of resources and will continue to do so through January 2022. The contingency funds requested are considered sufficient for the remainder of the project.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The FY 20/21 SCV-GSA budget includes up to a 15% contingency for the contract, with a total value of $172,500. The contingency fee request of $22,500 is within the contingency budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Directors authorize use of contingency funds in the amount of $22,500 for CV Strategies.

ITEM NO. 3.7

Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Memorandum

DATE: April 5, 2021

TO: SCV-GSA Board of Directors

FROM: SCV-GSA Staff

SUBJECT: Recommend Postponement of the SCV-GSA Regular Board Meeting for July 5, 2021

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The SCV Water Agency will be closed on Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day.

The staff recommends changing the date of the SCV-GSA Regular Board meeting of July 5 to Monday, July 12, 2021.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

None at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Directors approve the postponement of the Regular Board meeting of Monday, July 5, 2021 to Monday, July 12, 2021.