

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency – January 3, 2022

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A regular 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 Monday, January 3, 2022. 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, Jason Gibbs, Maria Gutzeit, Gary Martin, Gina Natoli,

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, Tara Bravo CV Strategies, Jeff Barry GSI Water Solutions, Inc.; and various members of the public.

President Natoli called the meeting to order at 2:34 PM. A quorum was present.

Item 1.3: There was no public comment.

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

Director Atkins	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Abstain	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

Item 2.1: Upon motion of Director Bryden, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, the Board approved the Continuation of Remote Meetings as described in Assembly Bill 361 by the following roll call votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	No
Director Cooper	No	President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	No		

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Item 3: Upon motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Gibbs and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar by the following roll call votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Abstain
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

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President Natoli opened the Public Hearing on the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency consideration of adoption of the Santa Clara River Valley East Groundwater Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

A presentation was given by Rick Viergutz, Jeff Barry and Tara Bravo. Public comments were received, and the Board was given an opportunity to make comments and ask questions.

Item 4.2: Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Director Atkins and carried, the Board approved the SCV-GSA Resolution No. GSA 2022-01 Adopting the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan by the following roll call votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

**RESOLUTION NO. GSA 2022-01**

**RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY  
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS ADOPTING THE SANTA CLARA RIVER VALLEY  
EAST GROUNDWATER SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER  
SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, California’s Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Act) requires formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in groundwater basins designated as medium priority, high priority, and basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft; and

**WHEREAS**, the State has classified the Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin (Basin) as a high priority basin; and

**WHEREAS**, the Act requires Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in medium and high priority groundwater basins, which are not subject to critical conditions of overdraft, to develop and approve a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by January 31, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, following significant public outreach, local agencies in the Basin formed the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA) on May 24, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the SCV-GSA was recognized by the California Department of Water Resources as the official Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, following formation of the SCV-GSA, additional outreach commenced for development of the GSP; and

**WHEREAS**, outreach performed by the SCV-GSA included formation of a Stakeholder Advisory Committee composed of members at large, environmental representatives, business representatives, and private well owner representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, during the GSP development process, the SCV-GSA solicited and considered stakeholder input including with 6 public workshops, 17 Stakeholder Advisory Committee meetings, 21 SCV-GSA Board of Directors meetings, 8 press releases and 16 advertisements, and about 20 social media posts on multiple platforms; and

**WHEREAS**, consistent with the Act and GSP development regulations, the SCV-GSA reviewed past technical documents regarding basin conditions, such as reports of basin water quality, geology, hydrogeology, and monitoring data; and

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**WHEREAS**, consistent with the Act and GSP development regulations, the SCV-GSA then determined the nature of new studies needed, performed several all-new basin studies for plan development, and proposes additional study during GSP implementation; and

**WHEREAS**, the GSP recognizes the Basin has been managed sustainably over the long term without chronic declines in groundwater elevations and groundwater storage; and

**WHEREAS**, the GSP includes future planning strategies that consider climate change, groundwater pumping strategies, expanded monitoring, and management actions to avoid undesirable results; and

**WHEREAS**, the Act and GSP regulations require that following GSA Board of Directors approval of a GSP, it be uploaded to the California Department of Water Resources and implemented by the GSA; and

**WHEREAS**, the SCV-GSA Board of Directors has reviewed and considered the public engagement process in support of the GSP, and has responded to public comments; and

**WHEREAS**, the SCV-GSA Board of Directors has reviewed and considered the GSP; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 10652 of the California Water Code provides that the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code) (CEQA) does not apply to the preparation and adoption of a GSP.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency hereby resolves as follows:

1. The Santa Clara River Valley East Groundwater Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan dated January 2022 is hereby adopted as amended by any changes incorporated by the SCV-GSA Board of Directors as a result of input received at the public hearing and ordered filed with the Secretary of the SCV-GSA Board of Directors.
2. The Secretary is directed to upload an electronic copy of the GSP to the Department of Water Resources website as required by the Act, prior to January 31, 2022.
3. The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to make the GSP available for public review at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water) offices during normal business hours or on the SCV-GSA website [scvgsa.org](http://scvgsa.org) no later than thirty (30) days after filing a copy of the Plan with DWR.
4. Consistent with the Administrative Services Agreement between the SCV-GSA and SCV Water, the SCV Water General Manager is hereby authorized and directed to implement the GSP in accordance with the Act and to provide recommendations to the SCV-GSA Board of Directors regarding the necessary budgets, procedures, rules, regulations, or further actions to carry out the effective and equitable implementation of the GSP.
5. The SCV-GSA Board of Directors finds and determines that this resolution is not subject to CEQA pursuant to Water Code Section 10652 because CEQA does not apply to the preparation and adoption, including addenda thereto, of a GSP.

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Item 4.3: Upon motion of Director Atkins seconded by Director Martin and carried, the Board approved authorization of SCV-GSA Letters of Support for Grant Applications by the following roll call votes:

Director Atkins	Yes	Vice President Gutzeit	Yes
Director Bryden	Yes	Director Martin	Yes
Director Cooper	Yes	President Natoli	Yes
Director Gibbs	Yes		

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Item 4.4: Steve Cole provided a status update on the Bouquet Canyon Creek restoration.

Item 5: Upon the approved rotational schedule to appoint the SCV-GSA Board President and Vice President the following appointment was made: Maria Gutzeit, Board President and Russ Bryden, Vice President for the 2022-year term.

Item 6: Director Atkins requested a continuous update on the status of the Bouquet Canyon Creek.

Item 7: The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM.

DocuSigned by:

*Eunie kang*

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Eunie Kang, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

*Maria Gutzeit*

22057BF07E3141D...

President of the Board



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**PRESIDENT**  
GINA NATOLI

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
MARIA GUTZEIT

B. J. ATKINS  
RUSS BRYDEN  
WILLIAM COOPER  
JASON GIBBS  
GARY MARTIN

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R.J. KELLY  
LYNNE PLAMBECK  
DAVID RYDMAN  
LAURENE WESTE

**GENERAL COUNSEL**  
THOMAS BUNN III

**SECRETARY**  
EUNIE KANG

**NOTICE AND AGENDA OF PUBLIC HEARING  
AND 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, January 3, 2022 at 2:30 PM**

**WEB AND TELECONFERENCE NOTICE**

Pursuant to the provisions of AB 361, which amends the Brown Act to allow legislative bodies or local agencies to meet remotely during declared emergencies under certain conditions, any Director may call into an Agency Board meeting using the Agency’s **Call-In Number 1 (833) 568 8864, Webinar ID: 160 001 1673 or Zoom by clicking on the link <https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1600011673>** without otherwise complying with the Brown Act’s teleconferencing requirements.

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 Zoom Webinar 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](mailto: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 within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Agency that are 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 at the time each item is considered. (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. SPECIAL PROCEDURES**

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- 2.1 \* Approve Continuation of Remote Meetings as Described in Assembly Bill 361 and Make Required Findings 1

**3. 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**

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- 3.1 \* Approve Minutes of the November 23, 2021, Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency Special Board of Directors Meeting 5

**4. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION AGENDA ITEMS**

**ITEMS**

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- 4.1 \* Public Hearing for the Approval of the SCV-GSA Santa Clara River Valley East Groundwater Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) 9

Direct Link to the Final Draft GSP:

<https://scvgsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/SCV-GSP-Sections-Combined-20211217.pdf>

Direct Link to the Final Draft GSP Appendices:

<https://scvgsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/SCV-GSP-Appendices-Combined-20211217.pdf>

Direct Link to the Redline Final Draft GSP:

<https://scvgsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/SCV-GSP-Section-Redlines-from-Public-Draft-20211217.pdf>

Direct Link to the Redline Final Draft GSP Appendices:

<https://scvgsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Appendices-Redlines-20211217.pdf>

Direct Link to Key Summary Changes to the GSP:

<https://scvgsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Summary-of-Key-Changes-to-GSP.pdf>

- 4.2 \* Approval of the SCV-GSA Resolution No. GSA 2022-01 Adopting the Santa Clara River Valley East Groundwater Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) 117

- 4.3 \* Authorization for SCV-GSA Letters of Support for Grant Applications 123
- 4.4 Status Update on Bouquet Canyon Creek

**5. \* APPOINTMENT OF BOARD PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR THE 2022 YEAR TERM 127**

**6. DIRECTOR REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

- \* Indicates attachment
- 🔥 To be distribute

**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 December 22, 2021