

Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency – March 20, 2024

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A special board meeting of the Board of Directors of the Santa Clarita Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SCV-GSA) was held in person at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, March 20, 2024. A copy of the Agenda is inserted in the Minute Book of the SCV-GSA preceding these minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: William C. Cooper, Jason Gibbs, Ramy Gindi (alternate for Russ Bryden) Maria Gutzeit, Dirk Marks, Gary Martin, Gina Natoli

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Russ Bryden

Also present in person: SCV-GSA General Counsel Tom Bunn, SCV-GSA Board Secretary Eunie Kang; SCV Water Agency Director of Water Resources Ali Elhassan, Principal Water Resource Planner Rick Viergutz, Controller Amy Aguer, Information Technology Technician II Jonathan Thomas and Consultants Tom Barnes, ESA Southern CA Water Group, and John Porcello, GSI Water Solutions Inc.

President Martin called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M. A quorum was present.

Item 1.3: There was no public comment.

Item 1.4: There were no changes to the March 20, 2024, Board Agenda and it was accepted as presented.

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Item 2.1: Upon motion of Director Marks, seconded by Director Natoli and carried, the Board approved the Consent Calendar by the following roll call votes:

|                  |     |                      |             |
|------------------|-----|----------------------|-------------|
| Director Cooper  | Yes | Director Natoli      | Yes         |
| Director Gindi   | Yes | Vice President Gibbs | Not Present |
| Director Gutzeit | Yes | President Martin     | Yes         |
| Director Marks   | Yes |                      |             |

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Item 3.1: Rick Viergutz and Amy Aguer reported on the SCV-GSA budget for FY 2022-23 and the first half of FY 2023-24. They highlighted the importance of comparing projected budgets with actual spending to ensure financial accountability.

Item 3.2: Rick Viergutz and Tom Barnes provided the recent data collection in understanding the health of oak trees in the upper watershed and summarized the Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Evaluation Report Year 2023 Oak Woodland Monitoring Results.

Item 3.3: Rick Viergutz and Tom Barnes, along with John Porcello, presented a detailed synopsis of the SCV-GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan Dependent Ecosystem Monitoring. River conditions reflected increased rainfall and no undesirable results to groundwater dependent ecosystems were identified.

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Item 3.4: Upon motion of Director Cooper, seconded by Vice President Gibbs and carried, the Board approved the Santa Clara River Valley East Groundwater Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan 2023 Annual Report by the following roll call votes:

|                  |     |                      |     |
|------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Director Cooper  | Yes | Director Natoli      | Yes |
| Director Gindi   | Yes | Vice President Gibbs | Yes |
| Director Gutzeit | Yes | President Martin     | Yes |
| Director Marks   | Yes |                      |     |

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Item 3.5: Rick Viergutz presented a proposed framework and timeline for implementing the recommended corrective actions from the Department of Water Resources on the approved Santa Clara River Valley East Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Additional details will be presented at the next SCV-GSA regular scheduled board meeting.


Item 4: Ali Elhassan acknowledged the collaborative efforts of the staff, the stakeholder engagements, and the board members that was instrumental in achieving the goal of the approval of the SCV-GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Item 5: There was no director request for future agenda item.

Item 6: The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 P.M.

DocuSigned by:  
  
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 Eunie Kang, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
  
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 Gary Martin  
 President of the Board