



SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021
6:00 PM**

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission (Youth Commission) was held on February 24, 2021, teleconference via Zoom.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Ms. Ishita Verma called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

1.1 ROLL CALL

A quorum was established with 16 Members present.

Members in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Ishita Verma		
District 2	Colin Lim	Elise Mullen*	Soren Ryan-Jensen
District 3	Anika Kulkarni	Vaibhavi Kulkarni	Matthew Walsh
District 4	Anousha Athreya	Aroshi Ghosh	
District 5	Hillary Chang	Alden Hughes	
District 6	Kathryn Bravo	Tammy Cao	Nilansh Dey Ghosh
District 7	Ye'ela Bronicki	Yehchan Martin Kim	Arushi Saxena

Members not in attendance were:

<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
District 1	Paula Escobar	Jonathan Xia	
District 4	Vedant Janapaty		
District 5	Michael Zhao		

Board members in attendance were: Director Nai Hsueh, Director Barbara Keegan and Director John L. Varela, Board Representatives.

Staff members in attendance were: Julie Abbatelli, Glenna Brambill, Lilian Bui, Mera Burton, Chelsea Busick, Leonardo Foster, Janet Hedley, Matt Keller, Marta Lugo, Linda Nguyen, Sherilyn Tran, Warren Whitlock, and Kristen Yasukawa.

2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON AGENDA

There was no one present who wished to speak.

3. WELCOME

We had welcoming remarks from Youth Commission Board Representatives Director Nai Hsueh, Director John L. Varela and Director Barbara Keegan.

4. OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Glenna Brambill administered the Oath of Office to the new Youth Commission Member Mr. Yehchan Martin Kim representing District 7.

5. INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY

The Youth Commissioners introduced themselves with their name, school attend, and Grade (16 Members=Verma, Lim, Ryan-Jensen, A. Kulkarni, V. Kulkarni, Walsh, Athreya, Gosh, Chang, Hughes, Bravo, Cao, Dey Ghose, Bronicki, Kim and Saxena).

Ms. Mera Burton and Ms. Janet Hedley facilitated the interactive activity, where the Youth Commissioners engaged in an interactive Kahoot game. Congratulations to the Top 3 winners; 1. Arushi Saxena, 2. Anika Kulkarni and 3. Vaibhavi Kulkarni.

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Sherilyn Tran introduced Mr. Matt Keller who gave tips on communication-social media, writing blogs by telling a story, keeping it simple, being open to feedback and be courageous.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

7.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Colin Lim, seconded by Ms. Ye'ela Bronicki,, by roll call and unanimous vote carried, to approve the November 18, 2020, Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission meeting minutes as presented.

8. ACTION ITEMS

8.1 PRESENTATION OF THE PILOT MURAL ART PROJECT

Ms. Kristen Yasukawa reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Youth Commission discussed the following (Mr. Colin Lim, Ms. Ishita Verma and Ms. Anika Kulkarni) support the project, beautify the area, rename the Adopt-a Bench Working Group to Mural Art Project Working Group, and anti-graffiti coating to protect this project.

The Santa Clara Valley Water District Youth Commission took the following action. It was moved by Ms. Aroshi Ghosh, seconded by Ms. Anika Kulkarni, by roll call and unanimous vote carried, to approve the staff's recommendation that the Board of Directors consider approving the Youth Commission's participation in the pilot Mural Art Project; and approve the location for the pilot mural at the Blossom Hill Annex building at 1020 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose, CA.

8.2 UPDATE FROM SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION'S WORKING GROUPS

Vice Chair Ishita Verma reviewed the agenda item and received Youth Commissioner's reports for the working groups:

The Youth Commission reported on the following Working Groups' activities:

Mr. Alden Hughes reported on behalf of the Adopt-A-Bench Project; the benches are completed and installed, working on completing the advertising with videos, social media and maps of the district benches. The ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on March 18, 2021.

Ms. Ye'ela Bronicki reported on behalf of the Creek Stewardship; looked at making the adopt-a-creek maps easier to read to identify locations of the creeks, and recruiting more members.

Mr. Nilansh Dey Ghosh reported on behalf of the Youth Citizen Science Network; contacting different organizations for outreach, the Synopsys Fair for Junior (Middle) and High School students is occurring March 10-11, 2021. Expressed having the Youth Commission recommend that the Valley Water Board consider approving being an annual sponsor for the Synopsys Championship Science Fair's Special Awards, depending on the budget, to start in 2022, for those students that place emphasis on water related projects.

The Youth Commission took the following action.

It was moved by Ms. Anika Kulkarni, seconded by Ms. Vaibhavi Kulkarni, by roll call and unanimous vote carried, approving the Youth Commission's recommendation that the Valley Water Board consider approving being an annual sponsor for the Synopsys Championship Science Fair's Special Awards (depending on the budget) to begin in 2022, for those students that place emphasis on water related projects.

Mr. Colin Lim reported on behalf of the Job Shadow and Mentorship; the virtual February 18, 2021, Job Shadow Day, record number of 128 students signed up but 64 in attendance, 56 Valley Water Staff Mentors, Staff Panelists, the breakout sessions, it was a great turnout and engaging. Thanked everyone that worked on the Job Shadow Day.

Ms. Aroshi Ghosh reported on behalf of the new group Outreach-Media, the new website is live and shows Commissioners' head shots, the working groups, the Job Shadow Day information and posting of events.

8.3 REVIEW AND DISCUSS SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT YOUTH COMMISSION WORK PLAN, AND PROPOSE THE COMMISSION'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Ms. Glenna Brambill reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 26, 2021 (subject to change).

The Youth Commission took no action.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

9.1 UPDATE ON VALLEY WATER'S CREATION OF NEW OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION AND BOARD ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC RACISM AND PROMOTING EQUITY

Ms. Lynda Nguyen reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda item.

The Youth Commission took no action

10. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMISSION REQUESTS TO THE BOARD

Ms. Glenna Brambill reported two action items for Board consideration.

Agenda Item 8.1

The Youth Commission by roll call and unanimous vote approved Staff's recommendation: That the Board of Directors consider approving the Youth Commission's participation in the pilot Mural Art Project; and approve the location for the pilot mural at the Blossom Hill Annex building at 1020 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose, CA.

Agenda Item 8.2

The Youth Commission by roll call and unanimous vote approved the Youth Commission's recommendation that the Valley Water Board consider approving being an annual sponsor for the Synopsys Championship Science Fair's Special Awards (depending on the budget) to begin in 2022, for those students that place emphasis on water related projects.

11. ADJOURN

Vice Chair Ishita Verma adjourned at 7:25 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, at 6:00 p.m., to be called to order in compliance with the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20. {This date is subject to change.}

Glenna Brambill
Board Committee Liaison
Office of the Clerk of the Board

Approved: 5-19-2021