



WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021
11:00 AM

A regular scheduled meeting of the Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee was held on October 25, 2021, via zoom in San Jose, California.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Committee Board Members in attendance were: Committee Vice Chair, Director Nai Hsueh (District 5), Director Barbara Keegan (District 2), Committee Chair, Director Linda J. LeZotte (District 4).

Staff members in attendance were: Joseph Aranda, Aaron Baker, Ricardo Barajas, Roseryn Bhudsabourg, Neeta Bijoor, Glenna Brambill, Justin Burks, Theresa Chinte, Vanessa De La Piedra, Phil Dolan, Melissa Fels, Paola Giles, Vincent Gin, Alexander Gordon, Andy Gschwind, Jason Gurdak, Linh Hoang, Katrina Holden, Candice Kwok-Smith, Carlos Orellana, Metra Richert, Don Rocha, Mary Samar, Ashley Shannon, Nice Simard, Sherilyn Tran, Kirsten Struve, Toni Vye, and Jing Wu.

Guest Agencies in attendance were: Michael Bolzowski (California Water Service Company), Clint Byrum and Anthony Eulo (City of Morgan Hill), Anona L. Dutton and Kate Wuelfing (EKI Environment and Water, Inc.- Contractors), Tim Guster (Great Oaks Water Company), Jessie Maxfield (CA Depart of Fish and Wildlife-CDFW), John Tang (San Jose Water Company) and Martha Wien (County DEH).

Public in attendance were: Hon. Jim Beall, Nicole Harvie, Brian Manning, Doug Muirhead, and Esther.

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

There was no one present who wished to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Director Nai Hsueh, seconded by Director Barbara Keegan, and carried by unanimous vote, to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2021, Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee meeting as presented.

4.

ACTION ITEMS

4.1 MONTHLY UPDATE ON PROGRESS TOWARDS VALLEY WATER RESOLUTION 21-68'S WATER USE REDUCTION TARGET AND WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS RELATED TO THE DROUGHT EMERGENCY

Ms. Neeta Bijoor and Ms. Linh Hoang reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

Neeta gave a special verbal report on the following:

These efforts at Valley Water can help promote water wise requirements in new developments:

- ✚ First, Valley Water is encouraging jurisdictions to adopt the Model Ordinance for New Development, also called MWENDO, which provides water-efficiency requirements for new developments.
- ✚ Valley Water staff is timing the rollout of the MWENDO to coincide with the municipal Title 24 triennial building code update beginning this winter 2021 through February 2022.
- ✚ The 2022 version of Title 24 is now under development and expected to become effective on January 1, 2023, after a codification and publication period, which will run from February 2022 to July 2022. The publication date will be July 1, 2022.
- ✚ As mentioned, the MWENDO adoption advocacy was initiated at Valley Water's 2021 Drought Summit on Saturday (October 23, 2021).
- ✚ Next, Valley Water is working on the strategy to engage land use agencies on how to better integrate water management into land use planning including adding water wise features to new developments.
- ✚ The plan is to have annual 1:1 meetings with major cities and build relationships. The meetings will start early next year and are expected to be ongoing. Meetings with cities at the senior staff level are expected to occur from February to June next year, with follow-up actions thereafter.
- ✚ In addition, Valley Water comments on environmental review documents for large developments, for example the Water Supply Assessment for the Google development in San Jose and the Notice of Preparation for Cambrian Park Plaza.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: flow restrictors, City of San José Ordinance, drought tolerant landscaping/plants selections, City of San José usage/boundaries, consistent messaging is needed, Planning Commissions/Trades, Model Ordinance-large projects-water wise (potential work plan addition), Proposition 218 test, and aggregate water usage.

Mr. Tim Guster, Mr. Don Rocha, Director Nai Hsueh, Mr. Anthony Eulo, Ms. Ashley Shannon, Mr. Vincent Gin, Ms. Kirsten Struve, Ms. Metra Richert, and Mr. John Tang were available to answer questions.

Public Comments received:

Mr. Doug Muirhead commented on allocations fees, penalties and industrial utilities, Urban Water Management Plan and City of Morgan Hill is discussing wastewater plans at the end of the year. Suggested Valley Water track what agencies are doing regarding wastewater issues.

Mr. Anthony Eulo commented on reaching out to the Trades, requiring dual plumbing it may cost more but sustainable idea for new developments-housing growth.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

The Committee thanked staff for the work they did with the drought summit on Saturday, October 23rd (well attended, great response and feedback from the participants).

4.2 2021 WATER CONSERVATION STRATEGIC PLAN

Mr. Justin Burks reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: obstacles faced by lower income communities with landscape designs, offering classes for under-represented communities would be a great outreach tool, lawn buster budget increase, county programs as resources (home composting education program and Master Gardeners), and landscaping for small site customers (commercial strip malls) possibly finding organizations to inform them about water conservation.

Ms. Kat Wuelfing (EKI Environment and Water, Inc.- Contractors) was available to answer questions.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

4.3 2021 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE (ALTERNATIVE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT PLAN)

Mr. Jason Gurdak reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee discussed the following: modified outcome measures on bar chart, slide #7.

Public Comment Received:

Mr. Doug Muirhead is concerned about the shallow wells in the un-incorporated areas, stakeholders input process to include those living on top of the basin being able to give input, the framework is missing or needs a gate that corresponds to the urgency of the undesirable conditions and wanting to see action moving forward.

Ms. Vanessa De La Piedra was available to answer questions.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

4.4 STANDING ITEMS REPORT

Committee Chair Linda J. LeZotte reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

The Water Conservation and Demand Management Committee took no action.

4.5 REVIEW WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN, THE OUTCOMES OF BOARD ACTION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS; AND THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Ms. Glenna Brambill and Mr. Vincent Gin reviewed the materials as outlined in the agenda items.

Agenda Items for next meeting: Monthly Drought updates.

Work Plan additions: outreach messaging for water-wise concerns and review major developments within the county and working on contacting the Building Trades and Planning Commissions on adopting the Model Ordinances.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, November 22, 2021, 11:00 a.m.

5. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE'S REQUESTS

Ms. Glenna Brambill stated there were no action items for Board consideration.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Director Linda J. LeZotte recognized Hon. Jim Beall and adjourned at 12:55 p.m., to the next regularly scheduled meeting Monday, November 22, 2021, 11:00 a.m.

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

Approved: 11-22-2021