



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

5770 Almaden Expressway • San Jose, California 95118 • (408) 265-2600

Meeting Minutes

Santa Clara County Special Districts Association
Monday, March 7, 2022
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

SCCSDA President Steve Wesolowski called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Members:

Steve Wesolowski, Director, Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District (SCCSDA President)
Linda LeZotte, Director, Valley Water Board of Directors (SCCSDA Treasurer)
Helen Chapman, Director, Santa Clara Valley Open Space District
Bill Bosworth, Director, Cupertino Sanitary District
Sue Fitzpatrick, Trustee, Saratoga Cemetery District
Pete Siemens, Director, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Jo Anne "J" Logan, General Manager, Los Altos Hills County Fire District
Aaron Quigley, Senior Policy Analyst for Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)
Jonathan Cowan, Director of Government & Community Relations, El Camino Healthcare District
Dwight Good, Assistant Chief - Cooperative Fire Protection (CalFire), South Santa Clara County Fire Protection District
Rocelia G. Kmak, Principal Civil Engineer - Infrastructure Development Division, Santa Clara County Department of Roads and Airports
Christine West, Executive Director, South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District
Joshua Hugg, Governmental Affairs Specialist, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Presenter(s):

Jared Lewis, Manager, Environmental Planning and Natural Resources for San Jose Water Company

Attendees (Non-Voting):

Yoriko Kishimoto, Director, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Anurag Pal, District Director, Office of Assemblymember Lee
Doug Muirhead, Morgan Hill resident

SCCSDA Support Staff:

Don Rocha, Deputy Administrative Officer for Office of Government Relations, Valley Water
Genevieve Yip, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water
Kathy Nguyen, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water

2. Public Comment

None.

3. SCCSDA Guest Presentation on Regional Wildfire Early Detection Network

Jared Lewis, Manager of Environmental Planning and Natural Resources for San Jose Water Company, reported that San Jose Water Company has been working with partners and stakeholders in Santa Clara County to identify key actions that would have the greatest potential to catalyze responses to wildfire throughout the region. He reported that the core



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objectives of the Regional Wildfire Early Detection Network program are to reduce risk of catastrophic wildfire in communities in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI); provide resources to support existing detection and rapid response efforts; increase the accuracy and precision of wildfire detection; streamline allocation of resources for monitoring and suppression; and improve interagency coordination and response.

4. State Legislative Office Updates

Anurag Pal, District Director for the Office of Assemblymember Alex, reported that, in an effort to remove barriers to and encourage community engagement, Assemblymember Lee introduced AB 1944 to require a remote participation option for members of the public as well as allow members of a local legislative body, upon majority vote, to waive Brown Act requirements of publishing their private addresses and making their private address open and accessible to members of the public.

5. Business

a. Discussion and Approval of December 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by President Wesolowski, seconded by Director Fitzpatrick, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the December 6, 2021 meeting minutes.

b. Discussion and Approval of Financial Report

It was moved by President Wesolowski, seconded by Director Fitzpatrick, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the quarterly financial report ending on February 28, 2022.

c. Officer Elections (Discussion and Action)

It was discussed that it would be best to appoint the designee from Valley Water as Treasurer since the officer appointments will run through March 2023, which would be after the Board Committee appointments have been approved for the new year. It was moved by Vice President Moreno, seconded by President Wesolowski, and unanimously carried, that the Board appoint the SCCSDA designee from the Valley Water Board of Directors as the Treasurer.

President Wesolowski commented that he will be stepping down as President as this will be his last year on the Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District. He suggested Vice President Moreno for the President appointment as she has worked closely with him in her role as Vice President and that her experience would be well-suited for the appointment. It was moved by President Wesolowski, seconded by Director Chapman and unanimously carried, that the Board appoint Vice President Moreno as the new SCCSDA President.

It was moved by President Wesolowski, seconded by Director Cowan and unanimously carried, that the Board appoint Director Fitzpatrick as the new SCCSDA Vice President. The Board agreed by consensus that that the appointments will take effect after the March 7th meeting concluded.



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d. SCCSDA Website Update (Informational Report)

Staff reported that the updated SCCSDA website successfully transitioned to its new host server and is now live.

6. Partner Agency Reports

a. Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County (LAFCO)

Neelima Palacherla, Executive Director for LAFCO, reported that LAFCO will consider urban service area and sphere of influence amendments for the cities of Cupertino and San Jose.

b. California Special Districts Association (CSDA)

Colleen Haley, Bay Area Network Representative for California Special Districts Association, reported on CSDA's advocacy efforts with AB 678 to stop or amend efforts to severely restrict the development impact fees that fund local infrastructure projects needed to support new housing. She also reported on the CSDA's Take Action toolkit that has resources help promote and advocate for one's special district.

7. Santa Clara County Special District Association Member Reports

Director Cowan reported that COVID-19 vaccinations were available at El Camino Hospital Mountain View Outpatient Pharmacy and that no health insurance was required. Director Estremera reported on the Bolsa Road Fish Passage Improvements Project aimed to restore the fish passage at the Union Pacific Railroad crossing of Uvas Creek to allow steelhead and aquatic organisms to move freely between the lower and upper reaches of the creek. Director Good commented on concerns regarding the ongoing drought conditions. Vice President Moreno commented that the Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District is continuing to seek partnerships and has been working with the City of San Jose on the rollout of their zero-emissions pilot project. Director Chapman reported that the San Jose City Council unanimously approved zoning changes to protect Coyote Valley by removing industrial land-use designation and rezoning it for open space and agriculture. President Wesolowski reported that Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District had their pools operating at a limited capacity due to the pandemic and commented that he was concerned about pools being able to be filled in the future due to water supply shortages. Director Siemens announced that next year will be Midpen's 50th anniversary and that several events were planned to commemorate this milestone. President Wesolowski also reported that the City of Cupertino's Parks and Recreation staff recommended against the acquisition of the Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District at this time. The SCCSDA Board of Directors took turns to thank President Wesolowski for his years of service as President of SCCSDA.

8. Review of Action Items and Adjournment

a. Action Item Review

There were no action items from this meeting.

b. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:28 p.m. to the next regular meeting scheduled on June 6, 2022.