



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, June 6, 2022
12:00 p.m. -1:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

SCCSDA President Stephanie Moreno called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Members:

Stephanie Moreno, Executive Director, Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District (SCCSDA President)
Sue Fitzpatrick, Trustee, Saratoga Cemetery District (Vice President)
Tony Estremera, Director, Valley Water Board of Directors (SCCSDA Treasurer)
Steve Wesolowski, Director, Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District
Helen Chapman, Director, Santa Clara Valley Open Space District
Bill Bosworth, Director, Cupertino Sanitary 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
Christine West, Executive Director, South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District

Presenter(s):

Dr. Laura Feinstein, Sustainability and Resilience Policy Director, SPUR

Attendees (Non-Voting):

Anurag Pal, District Director, Office of Assemblymember Lee
Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer, Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County
Yoriko Kishimoto, Director, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Ryan Clausnitzer, President, California Special Districts Association
Dane Wadlé, Public Affairs Field Coordinator, California Special Districts Association
Eugenia Rendler, Planning & Grants Manager, Los Altos Hills County Fire District
Rocelia G. Kmak, Principal Civil Engineer - Infrastructure Development Division, Santa Clara County Department of Roads and Airports
Noor Tietze, Santa Clara County Vector Control District
Babak Ebrahimi, Santa Clara County Vector Control District

SCCSDA Support Staff:

Marta Lugo, Assistant Officer for External Affairs, Valley Water
Genevieve Yip, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water
Nadia Webster, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water
Kathy Nguyen, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water

2. Public Comment

None.



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3. State Legislative Office Updates

Anurag Pal, District Director for the Office of Assemblymember Alex, reported that Assemblymember Lee will be hosting a Rebates & Incentives Workshop on June 12, 2022 at the Milpitas Library on available rebates, incentives, and assistance programs from Valley Water, Alameda County Water District, California Air Resources Board, Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), and Silicon Valley Clean Energy.

4. Business

a. Discussion and Approval of March 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Director Wesolowski, seconded by Director Bosworth, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the March 7, 2022 meeting minutes.

b. Discussion and Approval of Financial Report

It was moved by Director Wesolowski, seconded by Director Chapman, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the quarterly financial report ending on May 31, 2022.

5. Partner Agency Reports

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

Neelima Palacherla, Executive Director for LAFCO, reported that LAFCO approved the final budget for FY 2023 at the June 1, 2022 LAFCO meeting, and that a copy of the budget and an invoice will be sent to cities, special districts, and the County.

b. California Special Districts Association (CSDA)

Dane Wadlé, CSDA Public Affairs Field Coordinator, reported on CSDA's Take Action Brief held in-person, as well as on CSDA's proposed ballot initiative on taxpayer protection and government accountability and sponsorship of H.R. 3728, the Fire Station Construction Grants Act, which would establish the "Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grant" and cover the building, rebuilding, or renovation of fire and emergency medical services facilities and stations. President Moreno expressed concerns about SB 938 and its potential impact on special districts; Mr. Wadlé responded. CSDA President Ryan Clausnitzer announced upcoming CSDA conferences and events.

6. Santa Clara County Special District Association Member Reports

Director Siemens reported on the progress of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's new headquarters. Director Estremera reported that the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit and South San Francisco Shoreline projects are moving along. Director Quigley reported on VTA's ongoing projects and initiatives and reported that VTA held a day of remembrance on May 26, 2022, honoring the victims of the VTA rail yard shooting last year. Director Chapman reported that the CEQA documents for the Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve Public Access Improvement Project were approved by the Open Space Authority's Board of Directors on April 14, 2022. Director Logan reported on fire risk reduction projects. Director Cowan reported on hospital improvement projects. Director Wesolowski reported that Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District is preparing for the main summer season in terms of lessons and open swim. President Moreno reported that GCRCD will be publishing water conservation resources on its website with links to Valley Water's information webpage, and encouraged other districts to consider publishing resources to water conservation as well.



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7. **Guest Presentation on Bay Area Growth Without Increasing Water Demand**

Dr. Laura Feinstein, Sustainability and Resilience Policy Director for SPUR, gave a presentation on *Bay Area Growth Without Increasing Water Demand*, and responded to questions from attendees. Dr. Feinstein reported that, without careful long-term planning, water limitations could prevent us from building housing in the right places. Dr. Feinstein also reported that growth doesn't always equate to more water use and that, over the past 30 years, the Bay Area's population grew by a third yet total water use fell by a third. Dr. Feinstein reported on SPUR's research findings on whether the Bay Area can grow and build the housing it needs without increasing water demands and their three proposed strategies (decrease demand with conservation and efficiency; pursue compact land use growth with a high share of multifamily housing; and invest in alternative water supplies, strengthen mechanisms for cooperation to share water regionally and ensure a portion of water saved through conservation and efficiency is returned to ecosystems) and 16 recommendations.

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 meeting scheduled on September 12, 2022