



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

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

Meeting Minutes

Santa Clara County Special Districts Association

December 4, 2023

12:00 p.m. -1:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

SCCSDA President Sue Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Members:

Sue Fitzpatrick, Trustee, Saratoga Cemetery District (President)

Helen Chapman, Director, Santa Clara Valley Open Space District (Vice President)

Tony Estremera, Director, Valley Water Board of Directors (Treasurer)

Bill Bosworth, Director, Cupertino Sanitary District

Jo Anne "J" Logan, General Manager, Los Altos Hills County Fire District

Jonathan Cowan, Director of Government & Community Relations, El Camino Healthcare District

Peter Van Dyke, Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District

Joshua Hugg, Governmental Affairs Specialist, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District,

Brian Glass, Assistant Fire Chief, Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District

Christine West, Executive Director, South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District

Gene Zambetti, Commissioner, Saratoga Fire Protection District

Brandon Kwan, Director, Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District

Presenter(s):

Alex Gordon, Assistant Officer for Emergency, Safety, and Security, Valley Water

Attendees (Non-Voting):

Barbara Keegan, Vice Chair, Valley Water Board of Directors

Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer, Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County

Yoriko Kishimoto, Director, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Colleen Haley, Public Affairs Field Coordinator, California Special Districts Association

Rocelia Kmak, Principal Civil Engineer - Infrastructure Development Division, Santa Clara County

Caroline Hernandez, Clerk of the Board, Open Space Authority

SCCSDA Support Staff:

Genevieve Yip, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Flood Preparedness and Flood Safety Resources

Alex Gordon, Assistant Officer for Emergency, Safety, and Security for Valley Water gave a presentation on Valley Water's flood preparedness efforts in preparation for winter, shared flood preparedness resources, and answered questions. The Board asked questions related to flood preparedness, the McKelvey Park Detention Basin Project, using the FEMA 100-year flood plain as standard for identifying flood risk, and sediment disposal.



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4. State Legislative Office Updates

None.

5. Business

a. Discussion and Approval of September 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Director Bosworth, seconded by Vice President Chapman, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the September 11, 2023 meeting minutes.

b. Discussion and Approval of Financial Report

It was moved by Director Bosworth, seconded by Director Kwan, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the quarterly financial report ending on December 1, 2023.

c. Discussion and Consideration of 2024 Meeting Schedule

There were no objections to the proposed meeting schedule. No formal action was taken.

d. Discussion and Consideration of 2024 Budget

It was moved by Director Kwan, seconded by Vice President Chapman, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the 2024 budget.

6. Partner Agency Reports

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

Neelima reported that LAFCO adopted the Countywide Fire Service Review at their October 4, 2023 meeting, and that LAFCO will be reaching out to the agencies affected by the recommendations in the report. Neelima also reported that staff will provide a comprehensive review and update of LAFCO policies at their next meeting scheduled on February 7, 2024.

b. California Special Districts Association (CSDA)

Colleen Haley, CSDA Public Affairs Field Coordinator, reported that CSDA completed their annual end-of-year legislative report. She reported CSDA reviewed 3,030 measures during the first year of the 2023-24 Legislative Session and that CSDA's Legislative Committee maintained positions on 1,181 bills, including 100 priority positions. She also reported, of the 38 bills opposed by CSDA, only 7 became law, and that, of the 61 bills supported by CSDA, 33 became law. Colleen also reported CSDA's latest edition of the special districts handbook will be coming out in January/February 2024.

7. Santa Clara County Special District Association Member Reports

Vice President Chapman reported that it has been a great year for Open Space Authority, noting the celebration of their 30th anniversary and the opening of the Máyyan 'Ooyákma-Coyote Ridge Open Space Preserve. Director Van Dyke reported that the Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District was in the process of helping growers with paperwork for flood damage. Director Kishimoto introduced Craig Gleason, who will be the new representative for Midpeninsula Open Space District. Director Kwan reported on the installation of a new pool heater for Rancho Riconada Recreation & Park District's aquatics program. Director Logan reported the Los Altos Hills County Fire District is gearing up for winter weather events, working to complete evacuation routes on roads in Los Altos Hills to make it easier for residents and vehicles to get out in the event of an emergency and emergency personnel to get, as well as organizing neighborhoods into "Firewise" neighborhoods for disaster preparedness and to protect against the threat of insurance



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cancellations. Director Zambetti reported that the Saratoga Fire Protection District is working on speed bumps in high fire zones, completing evacuation routes, as well as continually working on fire insurance issues.

8. Review of Action Items and Adjournment

a. Action Item Review

Valley Water staff will share the flood preparedness presentation and send responses to the inquiries made during the presentation. Both action items were completed following the meeting.

b. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:18 p.m.