



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

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

Meeting Minutes

Santa Clara County Special Districts Association

June 3, 2024

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
Gene Zambetti, Commissioner, Saratoga Fire Protection District
Brandon Kwan, Director, Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District
Rita Delgado, Director, South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District
Suwanna Kerdkaew, Fire Chief, Santa Clara County Fire Department
Craig Gleason, Director, Midpeninsula Open Space District

Attendees (Non-Voting):

Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer, Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County
Colleen Haley, Public Affairs Field Coordinator, CSDA

SCCSDA Support Staff:

Genevieve Yip, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Roundtable Discussion on Member Plans through 2024.

Director Tony Estremera reported on Valley Water's latest progress on the Anderson Dam Tunnel Project. Director Estremera also reported on the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and Valley Water's long-term planning efforts in the Water Supply Master Plan. Director Craig Gleason report that Midpeninsula Open Space District's fire season protocols go into place on June 10. Director Gleason also reported that the district chose the location for wildlife uncrossing that will connect the Bay Area Ridge trail from Sierra Azul to El Sereno. He also reported on the district's project to open the Bear Creek Redwoods Phase 2 trail system by end of year. Vice President Helen Chapman reported that the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority is hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve on June 8. She also reported on the latest progress on the Coyote Valley Conservation Areas Master Plan. Los Altos Hills County Fire District General Manager Jo Anne "J" Logan reported that the district held the Wildfire Community Preparedness Day in preparation for wildfire season and that the event featured Firewise USA educational updates, insurance updates and questions, as well as talks on how to protect your homes in and perform



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vegetation mitigation/home gardening. Santa Clara County Fire Chief Suwanna Kerdkaew reported on the collaboration between Santa Clara County Fire Department and Los Altos Hills County Fire District and their vested interest to educate and mitigate. She also reported on the County of Santa Clara's official emergency alert and warning system, AlertSCC, to ensure the community can get fire alerts in real time. El Camino Healthcare District Director of Government & Community Relations Jonathan Cowan reported the district is nearing end of annual grant review process and finalizing recommendations for next fiscal year, so that they can start executing grant agreements on the construction side. He also reported the district in the process of renovating the main hospital to include a new connectivity path between their main hospital and psychiatric hospital. He also reported on the district's NICU behavioral health support program for parents of children delivered early while they have a baby in the NICU, and that the district is hosting a Men's Health Fair on June 15. Director Barbara Keegan thanked Director Estremera for reporting on the progress of Valley Water's projects. Director Keegan briefly reported on the Water Resources Protection Zone Ordinance that Valley Water is developing to address the impacts on encampments along our waterways and that Valley Water is also working with the City of San Jose to potentially use Valley Water property for interim housing. Director Brandon Kwan reported on Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District's summer opening events and the district recently hired a new marketing director.

4. State Legislative Office Updates

None.

5. Business

a. Discussion and Approval of March 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Director Bosworth, seconded by Director Estremera, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the March 4, 2024 meeting minutes.

b. Discussion and Approval of Financial Report

It was moved by Director Bosworth, seconded by Director Vice President Chapman, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the quarterly financial report ending on May 21, 2024.

6. Partner Agency Reports

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

LAFCO Executive Director Neelima Palacherla reported on LAFCO's completion of the Countywide Fire Service Review responses received from agencies and they sent out letters to the agencies, service provider agencies, fire districts, and cities that have fire departments with the recommendations that are applicable to each of those agencies and following up those agencies about their respective plans for implementation. Neelima also shared that the Annual CALAFCO Conference will be held October 16-18, 2024 at Tenaya Lodge in Fish Camp.

b. California Special Districts Association (CSDA)

CSDA Public Affairs Field Coordinator Colleen Haley shared that the San Mateo Chapter will be hosting a Congressional Districts Forum in District 18. Colleen also provided advocacy updates on HR 7525 (Special District Grant Accessibility Act), which would direct federal agencies to recognize special districts as local governments for the purpose of ensuring that districts are eligible to receive appropriate forms of federal assistance, including funding and resources through key grant programs. She also reported that CSDA is monitoring the Governor's Budget proposal on Educational



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Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) that would take excess ERAF funding from local governments for charter schools and that CSDA has been very active in communicating to local government agencies special districts, cities, and asking them to send letters to the legislators to fight this.

7. **Santa Clara County Special District Association Member Reports**

Chair Fitzpatrick announced that this item would typically be used for Directors to share latest updates from their special districts, but that this item would be skipped since reports were given under Item 4.

8. **Review of Action Items and Adjournment**

a. **Action Item Review**

Valley Water staff will follow up with Midpeninsula Open Space District staff on coordination to host the next SCCSDA meeting on September 9th.

b. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 p.m.