



# SANTA CLARA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

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

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## Meeting Agenda

Santa Clara County Special Districts Association

Monday, March 6, 2023

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

### Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/9747509355>

Meeting ID: 974 750 9355

### Join by Phone:

1 (669) 900-9128, 9747509355#

### 1. Call to Order

Welcome and Introductions

### 2. Public Comment

Opportunity for members of the public to make comments (3 minutes/speaker)

### 3. Presentation on Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) Distribution

Jacelyn Ma, Division Manager, County of Santa Clara Controller-Treasurer's Office

### 4. State Legislative Office Updates

Opportunity to hear updates and ask questions of attending legislative staff

### 5. Business

- a. Discussion and Approval of December 5, 2022 Meeting Minutes (Pages 3-6)
- b. Discussion and Approval of Financial Report (Page 7)
- c. Discussion and Possible Action on 2023 SCCSDA Officers
- d. Discussion and Consideration of Resuming In-Person Meetings

### 6. Partner Agency Reports

- a. Local Agency Formation Commission of Santa Clara County (LAFCO)
  - Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer
  - Yoriko Kishimoto, Special District Representative on LAFCO
- b. California Special Districts Association (CSDA)
  - Colleen Haley, Public Affairs Field Coordinator, CSDA

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

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Officers: Stephanie Moreno, President • Sue Fitzpatrick, Vice President • Tony Estremera, Treasurer

Members: Cupertino Sanitary District • El Camino Healthcare District • Guadalupe Coyote Resource Conservation District • Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District • Los Altos Hills County Fire District • Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District • Purissima Hills Water District • Rancho Rinconada Recreation & Park District • San Martin County Water District • Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District • Santa Clara County Roads & Airports • Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority • Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority • Santa Clara Valley Water District • Saratoga Cemetery District • Saratoga Fire Protection District • South Santa Clara County Fire District • South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District • West Bay Sanitary District • West Valley Sanitation District of Santa Clara County



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

- a. Action Item Review
- b. Adjourn

*The next meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2023.*

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**Officers: Stephanie Moreno, President • Sue Fitzpatrick, Vice President • Tony Estremera, Treasurer**

**Members:** Cupertino Sanitary District • El Camino Healthcare District • Guadalupe Coyote Resource Conservation District • Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District • Los Altos Hills County Fire District • Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District • Purissima Hills Water District • Rancho Rinconada Recreation & Park District • San Martin County Water District • Santa Clara County Central Fire Protection District • Santa Clara County Roads & Airports • Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority • Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority • Santa Clara Valley Water District • Saratoga Cemetery District • Saratoga Fire Protection District • South Santa Clara County Fire District • South Santa Clara Valley Memorial District • West Bay Sanitary District • West Valley Sanitation District of Santa Clara County



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## Meeting Minutes

Santa Clara County Special Districts Association  
Monday, December 5, 2022  
12:00 p.m. -1:30 p.m.

### 1. Call to Order

SCCSDA Vice President Sue Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

#### **Members:**

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  
Jonathan Cowan, Director of Government & Community Relations, El Camino Healthcare District  
Peter Van Dyke, Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District

#### **Presenter(s):**

Cole Arreola-Karr, Federal Advocacy Director, National Special Districts Coalition

#### **Attendees (Non-Voting):**

Richard Santos, Director, Valley Water Board of Directors  
Gary Kremen, Director, 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  
Joshua Hugg, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District  
Lea Rauscher, Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority  
Kevin Davis, Rancho Rinconada Recreation & Park District

#### **SCCSDA Support Staff:**

Marta Lugo, Assistant Officer for External Affairs, Valley Water  
Roseryn Bhudsabourng, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water  
Nadia Webster, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water  
Heather Hamp, Office of Government Relations, Valley Water

### 2. Public Comment

None.

### 3. Presentation on Special District Concerns on EPA's Proposed Rule Designating PFAS Under Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and Federal Updates Pertaining to Special Districts

Cole Arreola-Karr, Federal Advocacy Director for the National Special Districts Coalition (NSDC), presented on the EPA's proposed rule designating Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS) under CERCLA and its potential implications for special districts. He provided a brief history on key PFAS federal action, and explained that PFAS is an entire



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class of chemicals known as “forever chemicals” because it takes forever to breakdown in the human body and environment. Legacy contamination has occurred on sites where special districts operate their public services (e.g., water, dumps, fire protection). In November 2021, EPA released the PFAS Strategic Roadmap to address PFAS to lay out steps for EPA to enforce public health advisories on PFAS (PFOS and PFOA). The proposed rule is to regulate PFAS as a hazardous substance regulated under CERCLA to strengthen the ability to hold polluters financially accountable.

He reported NSDC has a major concern over the vagueness of the proposal and would like to see cost considerations as a factor for developing these regulations (e.g., it would cost \$370 billion for public agencies to cleanup PFAS from the environment). He added there is no specificity within the regulation on whether the polluter would pay for it, or if the district or agency that has the pollutant pass through just by touching the water.

He reported NSDC commented to EPA that special district facilities should not be subject to being a superfund location and NSDC is advocating for protection from chemicals that are released in the air due to these chemicals. EPA received 62k comments were submitted to proposed rule. The final rule for PFOA and PFOS drinking water regulation is anticipated to come out in Summer 2023.

#### **4. State Legislative Office Updates**

None.

#### **5. Business**

##### **a. Discussion and Approval of September 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

It was moved by Director Bosworth, seconded by Director Chapman, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the September 12, 2022 meeting minutes.

##### **b. Discussion and Approval of Financial Report**

It was moved by Director Siemens, seconded by Director Bosworth, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the quarterly financial report ending on November 30, 2022.

##### **c. Discussion and Consideration of 2023 Meeting Schedule**

Vice Chair Fitzpatrick went over the proposed 2023 meeting schedule. It was moved by Director Chapman, seconded by Director Bosworth, and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the proposed 2023 meeting schedule.

##### **d. Discussion and Consideration of 2023 Budget**

Vice Chair Fitzpatrick briefly went over the proposed 2023 budget. It was moved by Director Estremera, seconded by Director Davis, and unanimously carried, that the Board approved the proposed 2023 budget.

##### **e. Discussion and Consideration of Membership Dues**

Vice Chair Fitzpatrick sought input from the Board on whether membership dues should be raised. Director Bosworth commented that he saw no reason to raise the membership dues. Director Siemens commented that he was in agreement with Director Bosworth. It was determined the membership dues will remain status quo.



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### **6. Partner Agency Reports**

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

Neelima Palacherla, Executive Officer, reported LAFCO is working with AP Triton Consulting to collect data from local fire service providers for the service review of fire service and emergency medical service (EMS) provision in Santa Clara County. Ms. Palacherla reported the collection of data is difficult, not only due to the broad scope of the study, but also because the variety of CAD services used makes collating the information to standardized data complex and time intensive. As a result, they've had to push out the schedule for the project. She reported data collection phase is nearly complete and consultants will compile a profile for each of the agencies. After LAFCO staff reviews the findings, it will be shared with agencies for validation. The consultant will then create draft public review for comment.

#### **b. California Special Districts Association (CSDA)**

Colleen Haley, Public Affairs Field Coordinator for CSDA, reported that Congressman Ro Khanna was nominated as Legislator of the Year. Ms. Haley also reported the new CSDA State Representative is Heidi Hannaman. Ms. Haley noted Assemblymember Robert Rivas new Speaker of the California State Assembly, effective June 30, 2023. It was suggested we invite a member of his staff to attend one of our meetings. Ms. Haley also reported on the passage of AB 2449 ("Limited Teleconferencing in Specified Scenarios"), which allows legislative bodies to hold remote meetings in specified scenarios, and SB 1100 ("Removing Disruptive Meeting Attendees"), which allows the removal of disruptive individuals in meetings.

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

Director Estremera introduced Valley Water's Board Members, Jim Beall (District 4) and Rebecca Eisenberg (District 7).

Director Chapman introduced new Santa Clara Open Space District Board Member, Garnetta Annable (District 4).

Director Logan reported that the Los Altos Hills County Fire District is working with partners on a vegetation mitigation project to prepare for next fire season.

Director Cowan introduced El Camino Healthcare District's new Board Members, Dr. Peter Fung and Dr. George Ting. He also reported the annual Community Benefit Grant Program application cycle is open now through February 24, 2023.

Director Siemens reported Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District has been ramping up the fire prevention work and dedicated a new headquarters building in Los Altos. Director Siemens reported that he will be retiring at the end of the year and Craig Gleason will be the joining the Board of Directors to represent Ward 1.

Director Van Dyke reported out that Loma Prieta Resource Conservation District has been assisting a grower with his pump issues regarding a spill. He also reported they are trying to create a Recycling Program for the plastic drip tape and plastic mulch that growers have a hard time disposing. He also noted they completed a carbon sequestration project in San Benito County.



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Kevin Davis recognized that Director Wesolowski served 30 years on the Rancho Rinconada Recreation and Park District Board and that Wayne Lin will begin serving on the Board in 2023. Vice President Fitzpatrick reported that the Saratoga Cemetery District Board will be changing their President and Vice President in January.

Heather Hamp thanked CSDA on behalf of Valley Water for making homeless encampment resolution funding for special districts one of the legislative priorities.

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

### **a. Action Item Review**

The December 5, 2022 meeting had the following action items:

- (1) Invite Assemblymember Robert Rivas to a future meeting to be determined.
- (2) Invite Rep. Gail Pellerin to a future meeting to be determined.
- (3) Look into recognition and send-off for outgoing Directors (Linda LeZotte, Steve Wesolowski, and Pete Siemens).

### **b. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 p.m. to the next meeting scheduled on March 6, 2023.



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## Item 5B. Financial Report

<b>Balance as of 12/1/2022</b>	<b>\$6,793.47</b>
Deposits	+\$1,300.00
Withdrawals	-\$0.00
<b>Balance on hand as of 03/02/2023</b>	<b>\$8,093.47</b>