# MINUTES SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

#### of the

#### WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

### September 23, 2021

Attendee Name	Present	Excused	Absent
Board of Directors			
Channing Hawkins	$\square$		
Michael Taylor	<b>☑</b> remote		
Kyle Crowther Arrived 6:30 p.m.	remote		
Clifford Young		$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$	
Gregory Young	V		
Staff			
Shamindra Manbahal	$\overline{\square}$		
Van Jew	V		
Naseem Farooqi			
Haydee Sainz			
Peggy Asche			
Linda Jadeski			
Jon Stephenson		. 🗆	
Joanne Chan			
Albert Clinger	V		
Jose Velasquez	$\square$		
Legal Counsel			
Robert Tafoya	<b>☑</b> remote		

#### **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Director Greg Young Opening Prayer – Led by Pastor Bratton, Grace Community Baptist Church Call to Order Roll Call of Board Members

#### ADOPT AGENDA

Director Greg Young motioned to adopt the agenda as presented and Director Dr. Michael Taylor second the motion. Hearing no discussion, the following vote was taken:

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RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Gregory Young, Director SECONDER: Michael Taylor, Director

AYES: Channing Hawkins, Michael Taylor, Kyle Crowther, Gregory Young

**EXCUSED:** Clifford Young

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Peggy Asche, Board Secretary, stated that no requests were received to speak via email. President Channing Hawkins inquired if anyone from the public would like to speak. There were no requests.

#### **BOARD WORKSHOP**

## • LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT PROJECTS

Mr. Shamindra Manbahal, General Manager, stated that tonight's meeting is designed to inform the Board and public of projects that Staff has identified that are pertinent to the district and infrastructure. These projects will help maintain quality drinking water and provide good customer service to our ratepayers. Staff has prepared a list of approximately 20 projects that highlights the needs, which is very appropriate at this time to engage and kick off this legislative workshop as there are several activities at the State and Federal levels. Mr. Manbahal stated that he is pleased to announce that the district's Federal Lobbyist, Jamie Jones, David Turch and Associates, and the State Lobbyist, Senator Richard Polanco are joining us tonight to provide an in-depth analysis as to how the district can achieve some of the fundings for the district's projects listed. At this time, Mr. Van Jew, Assistant General Manager Operations & Engineering, reiterated what Mr. Manbahal had stated, and that a list has been prepared for projects needed in the district. Mr. Jew reported that this list is grouped by priorities; however, he will only introduce the priority "one" projects and two new "TBD" projects tonight. Mr. Jew went on to discuss the following projects: Oliver P. Roemer Water Filtration Facility Expansion, SCADA Upgrades, Bloomington Alleyway Main Replacement (Phase 3C), Emergency Generator for the Oliver P. Roemer Water Filtration Facility, Groundwater Replenishment Basin, Water Use Efficiency Education and Water Conservation, Green Fleet (electric vehicles) and Bloomington Septic to Sewer. Director Greg Young thanked Staff for the list and the work that was put into it. Director Greg Young stated that he would like to see the potential for the Bloomington Septic to Sewer project move forward but understands that it may not be feasible. President Hawkins stated possibly staff can study this idea and provide a staff report to see if it would be feasible. President Hawkins mentioned that he would like to enhance the visual aesthetics in front of the Oliver P. Roemer Water Filtration Facility. Linda Jadeski, Director of Engineering, reported that a landscape architect has previously looked at this area and plans are to install curbs, gutters and new landscaping. There has also been a brief meeting with City of Rialto to discuss enhancing that area. President Hawkins would like to also consider a small area in the north end of Rialto that are on septic tanks to possibly convert to sewer. Mr. Van Jew stated that the district can start the process to meet with the local agencies to investigate the possibility of a sewer system. Discussion ensued with the Board. Senator Richard Polanco, State Lobbyist,

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provided a brief update on Bills monitored and the status of them. Senator Polanco mentioned that the budget reflects a total spending plan of \$262.6 billion, of which \$196.4 billion is from the General Fund, and total General Fund reserves equaling a record \$25.2 billion. For water, the following are budget highlights: Immediate Drought Support, Drinking Water, Wastewater, and Water Supply Reliability, Flood Management, Restoration of Natural Areas and Ecosystems, Groundwater Sustainability and Water Conveyance. The Board thanked Senator Polanco for providing the information tonight. Mr. Jamie Jones, Federal Lobbyist, updated the Board on Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations Accounts and Funded Projects and Community Funding Requests. The new fiscal year starts October 1, 2021. Mr. Jones stated that he is aware that the district has requested project fundings (Aguilar, Feinstein and Padilla) for \$500,000 for an Emergency Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System and Infrastructure Upgrade. Also, submitted \$550,000 to acquire two emergency generators to help better manage SCE power shutoffs and \$600,000 for a new well in north Fontana. Mr. Jones recommended for the next cycle to provide tours of these facilities. He is pleased to hear that Congresswoman Norma Torres submitted \$2,000,000 for the Bloomington Alleyway Pipeline Project. Mr. Jones advocated to the Board that they visit Washington D.C. on a regular basis. Director Greg Young thanked him for coming to the Workshop tonight and his hard work. Director Dr. Michael Taylor thanked him for his presentation tonight and Senator Richard Polanco. President Hawkins thanked Mr. Jones for what he has done and the impact on our region.

President Hawkins announced that Mr. Naseem Farooqi was not able to be here tonight due to the recent passing of his mother-in-law. His thoughts and prayers are with the family, and he would like to adjourn the meeting tonight in honor of her.

#### **ADJOURN**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. in memory of Naseem Farooqi's mother-in-law.

Channing Hawkins
President of the Board of Directors
of West Valley Water District

ATTEST:

Peggy Asche, Board Secretary

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