

CITY OF VENTURA

VENTURA WATER COMMISSION MINUTES

Gerhardt Hubner
Commissioner Chair

Robert McCord
Commissioner Vice-Chair

Nova Clite
Commissioner

Suzanne McCombs
Commissioner

Susan Mulligan
Commissioner

William Ackerman
Commissioner

Grant Burton
Commissioner

Susan Rungren, Ventura Water General Manager
Miles Hogan, Assistant City Attorney
Debra Gallegos, Recording Secretary

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 5:30 P.M.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE STAY AT HOME ORDER AND THE COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH OFFICER DECLARED LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AND BE WELL AT HOME ORDER RESULTING FROM THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19), CITY HALL IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

Water Commission conducted this meeting in accordance with California Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-20-20 and N-35-20 and COVID-19 pandemic protocols.

Commission Chair Hubner called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL – WATER COMMISSION

Present: Commissioners Ackerman, Clite, McCombs, Mulligan and Hubner. (all via teleconference/video conference)

Absent: Commissioners Burton and McCord.

WATER COMMISSION ITEMS

1. MINUTES

Approve the minutes of the December 15, 2020 Regular meeting.

Members of the Public: None.

Commissioner Clite moved to approve the minutes with the correction of the date to January 26, 2021. Commissioner Mulligan seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Ackerman, Clite, McCombs, Mulligan, and Hubner.
NOES: None.

Commissioner Chair Hubner declared the motion carried, 5-0.

2. 2020 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT UPDATE SCHEDULE

Staff recommends the Water Commission receive this written on the upcoming schedule for the development and review of the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan.

Members of the Public: None.

No Vote.

3. DRAFT 2020 WATER SHORTAGE EVENT CONTINGENCY PLAN

Staff recommends the Water Commission receive this written report and an oral update on the Draft 2020 Water Shortage Event Contingency Plan in conjunction with the development of the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan.

Members of the Public: None.

No Vote.

***Note Commissioner Mulligan recused herself from Agenda Item 4 due to potential conflict of interest and was removed from the virtual panel during the discussion at 6:29 p.m.*

4. STATE WATER INTERCONNECTION PROJECT – CONSTRUCTION/OPERATION INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

Staff recommends that the Water Commission:

- a) Receive this written report and oral presentation providing an overview of the Draft Construction/Operation Interagency Agreement (Attachment A).
- b) Review and provide comments on the Draft Construction/Operation Interagency Agreement.
- c) Make a recommendation to City Council to approve the Draft Construction/Operation Interagency Agreement provided prior approval by the other agencies (United Water Conservation District, Casitas Municipal Water District, and Calleguas Municipal Water District).

- d) Give authority to the Ventura Water General Manager to make final edits to the Construction/Operation Interagency Agreement to incorporate comments by legal staff and other agencies' boards, provided the general terms of the Agreement do not change.

Members of the Public: Burt Handy.

Commissioner McCombs moved that the Water Commission recommend that the draft construction operation and interagency agreement be recommended to City Council with the proviso that our legal department consult with the other legal departments at the various agencies to see if some appropriate modification could be agreed upon with regard to two sections – adding a dispute resolution provision and further defining “reasonable judgment” in the first sentence of Section 11 – to further investigate those elements we would recommend to approve the draft agreement and give the Ventura Water General Manager authority to make final edits that are consistent with the general terms as presented. Commissioner Hubner seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Ackerman, Clite, McCombs and Hubner.
NOES: None.

Commissioner Chair Hubner declared the motion carried, 4-0.

***Note Commissioner Mulligan was moved back to the virtual panel after Agenda Item 4 at 7:00 p.m.*

5. STATE WATER INTERCONNECTION PROJECT UPDATE

Staff recommends that the Water Commission receive this written report and oral presentation providing an update on the State Water Interconnection Project.

Members of the Public: None.

No Vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS: Commissioner Chair Hubner spoke regarding proposed California Assembly Bill 377 and the Clean Water Act.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT:

Outreach –

- Staff has been providing rates presentations to various groups.
 - February 24, 2021 - College Area Community Council

- March 3, 2021 - Westside Community Council
 - March 9, 2021 - Montalvo Community Council
- City Council meeting on Monday, February 22, 2021 was continued to Wednesday, February 24, 2021 due to a lack of quorum as a result of an internet outage.

Staffing Update -

- Finance and Technology Department (F&T) – Management Analyst position within VW to be staffed out of F&T – recruitment underway
- Water Utility Manager recruitment open (D3/T3 requirements)
- Program Director for VenturaWaterPure interviews underway
- Several interviews taking place for various positions

Past Council Info.

Council Action 2/22/2021 –

Public Works awarded the construction contract for the Emergency Generators Project Construction site and electricity modifications for permanent emergency generator at seven sites. Begin construction March 2021, complete construction May 2021.

Upcoming Council Meeting 2/24/2021 –

2021-2022 City Council Goal Setting Session, Formal Goal Setting scheduled for March 8, 2021.

Appointment of VenturaWaterPure Ad Hoc Committee Members

March 23 Meeting Agenda Items

Urban Water Management Plan – Overview of Public Draft

Comprehensive Water Resources Report – Draft

Water Shortage Event Contingency Plan - Final Draft

Financial Status Update

Proposed Revisions to Ordinances – Water Waste Ordinance, others

ADJOURNMENT: 7:28 P.M.