

CITY OF VENTURA

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# VENTURA WATER COMMISSION MINUTES

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**Grant Burton**  
Commissioner Chair

**Susan Mulligan**  
Commissioner Vice-Chair

**Nova Clite**  
Commissioner

**Suzanne McCombs**  
Commissioner

**Gerhardt Hubner**  
Commissioner

**William Ackerman**  
Commissioner

**Robert McCord**  
Commissioner

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

## REGULAR MEETING

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020, 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 Burton called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.**

### **ROLL CALL – WATER COMMISSION**

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

**Absent:** Commissioners Ackerman and McCord.

### **WATER COMMISSION ITEMS**

#### **1. MINUTES**

Approve the minutes of the October 27, 2020 Special meeting.

Members of the Public: None.

Commissioner Mulligan moved to approve the recommendation.  
Commissioner McCombs seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Clite, McCombs, Mulligan and Burton.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: Commissioner Hubner.

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

*\*Commissioner Ackerman joined the meeting at 5:40 p.m.*

**2. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCIES AND SANTA PAULA BASIN TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Staff recommends the Water Commission receive an oral update on the status and activities of local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and the Santa Paula Basin Technical Advisory Committee.

Members of the Public: None.

No Vote.

**3. 2020 WATER AND WASTEWATER RATE STUDY – REVISED FINANCIAL PLANS & RATE STRUCTURE MODIFICATION OPTIONS**

It is recommended that the Water Commission:

- a) Receive this written report and oral presentation by Raftelis Financial Consultants Inc.
- b) Review changes to the Financial Plan Scenario and approve moving forward with a 5-Year rate adjustment schedule.
- c) Establish annual rate check-in each Spring of the study period to authorize rate adjustment necessary for upcoming July increase.

Members of the Public: Burt Handy.

Commissioner McCombs moved to approve the recommendation. Commissioner Mulligan seconded the motion. The vote was as follows:

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

Commissioner Chair Burton declared the motion carried, 6-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Burt Handy.

**COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS: NONE.**

## **GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT:**

### Outreach –

- Revised some of the language on the rates website
- Continue to get questions and update our FAQ's

### Staffing Update -

- Hired Management Analyst at Wastewater
- Finance and IT Department – Ventura Water position hired to help with Lucity, SCADA, EnQuesta, etc.
- Biologist interviews underway
- Water Utility Manager recruitment is currently out on the street
- Program Director for VenturaWaterPure out on the street soon
- Unfortunately, we have lost a few water distribution operators

### Past Council Info.

#### Council Action 11/16/2020 –

- General Plan Update (Overview and Update from Raimi & Associates)
- Infrastructure/Operations Update Post Thomas Fire

#### Agenda Items for Tuesday December 15, 2020

- ✓ Preliminary Rates and Drought Rates
- ✓ Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Event Plan Update
- ✓ Conservation Update

**ADJOURNMENT: 7:49 P.M.**