



**PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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**PROJECTS & FACILITY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Teleconference Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 25, 2022, 3:00 p.m.**

<b>Committee Members</b>	
<b>Present</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
Mary Bannister, Director, Chair	Abel Sanchez, Director
Sam Cooley, Vice Chair	Stephen Rider, Director
Rosemarie Imazio	Frank Capurro
Jonathan Pilch	
<b>Staff &amp; Other Attendees</b>	
Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM)	Chuy Martinez, Water Systems Operations Supervisor (WSOS)
Shinehah Bigham, Water System Operator (WSO)	Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist (AH)
Amy Newell, Director	

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Chair Bannister called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.
2. **Public and Member comments.** None.
3. **Consider Approval of March 30, 2022 Projects and Facility Operations Committee Meeting Minutes.** Committee Member Imazio moved to approve the March 30, 2022 minutes; Committee Member Pilch seconded. The motion carried by the following voice vote:  
  
Ayes: Bannister, Cooley, Imazio, Pilch  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Sanchez, Rider, Capurro
4. **Receive Projects and Programs Update.**
  - a. **College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project.** GM Lockwood reported that he and Chair Bannister participated in a Department of Water Resources (DWR) “Big Check” ceremony earlier this month for a \$7.6 million Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Grant award for the College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project. PV Water also applied for a Department of Conservation \$10 million Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program Grant to help fund project construction however recently received notification that the proposal would not be awarded. Agency staff are conducting a review of the 90% design plans for the College Lake Pipeline and are working with MWH Constructors to perform a constructability and bid-ability review of the project.

GM Lockwood shared that Jacobs, under his direction, conducted a few out-of-scope tasks to reduce overall project expenses and a contract amendment will go to the Administration and Finance Committee and subsequently the Board of Directors for approval. Staff and consultants continue to meet with interested parties and agencies as permitting and property acquisition efforts continue. This includes a due diligence investigation of the Water Treatment Plant parcel where a new well is planned to support on-site facilities. GM Lockwood reported that staff are considering upsizing the size of the well to additionally function as a blend well for the Coastal Distribution System. He provided a conceptual overview of the well's dual function and solicited guidance from the Committee whether to investigate the concept further. Following a roundtable discussion, the Committee, through unanimous verbal consensus, directed staff to continue investigating the concept.

- b. Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects.** GM Lockwood reported that he met with Valley Water staff to discuss water availability analysis requirements for water right permits and opportunities to collaborate to benefit the Struve Slough Project permit application. Each agency has performed an analysis for their respective projects in the Pajaro River Watershed which affords an opportunity to leverage work already performed to satisfy additional information requests from the state. GM Lockwood shared that a memo and resolution for a release of priority, from a water right filed by the state on behalf of the County of Santa Cruz, to the Struve Slough Project water right permit application will be presented to the Santa Cruz County Water Advisory Commission and subsequently the Board of Supervisors for approval.
  - c. Recycled Water Facility Improvements Project.** GM Lockwood reported that a letter was sent to the State Water Resources Control Board providing notification that Phase III of the project will not proceed. The Reliability Operations and Condition Assessment is underway and included a recent site visit for the engineers. PV Water and City of Watsonville staff are in discussions over electrical billing charges that have been exceptionally high in recent quarters. He reported that Carollo Engineers, acting as a third party, performed an analysis of the billing methodology and as a result an anticipated credit of \$500,000 will be issued to PV Water for excess charges in the last two quarters.
- 5. Receive Facility Operations Report.** WSOS Martinez reported that two additional staff members entered the on-call rotation and are operating the system. Delivered water demand is increasing as the growing season enters the peak summer months and through April approximately 906 acre-feet of water has been distributed. He noted that the Operations Team is working with a pump contractor to evaluate variable frequency drive (VFD) upgrades of the blend wells and will soon seek bids for the work. Lastly, WSOS Martinez shared that June quarterly meter reads will begin next week and that last month agency staff hosted a grower meeting.
  - 6. Receive Water Quality Quarterly Report.** AH Meusel presented the 2022-Q1 water quality results to the Committee; tables and graphs summarizing the results are included in the agenda packet available on the Committee's webpage (<https://www.pvwater.org/projects-facility-operations-committee>)
  - 7. Discuss Future Agenda Items.** None.
  - 8. Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June 29, 2022, at 3:00 p.m.

**9. Meeting Adjourned at 3:56 p.m.**