



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
(831) 454-2022 FAX: (831) 454-3128

AGENDA

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday August 4, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

[Microsoft Teams Meeting:](#)

Please see information on meeting access and procedures on the page 3 of the Packet.

A. **OPENING**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 2, 2021**

C. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on matters that are within the Commission's area of responsibility, but not on today's agenda.

D. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

Opportunity for Commissioners to report on matters that are not on today's agenda.

E. **STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Presentation by Marilyn Underwood and Heather Reynolds providing an update on the Local Area Management Plan (LAMP), and possible action to provide a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors.

G. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS and UPDATES**

1. Pajaro Floodplain Management
2. Pajaro Valley Groundwater Management
3. Santa Margarita Groundwater Management
4. Mid-County Groundwater Management
5. WAC Workplan Subcommittee Update
6. Coordination with Other Commissions
7. Brown Act Training, Commission to choose training date the week of August 30th

H. **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Invitation for water tour from Rosemary Menard

I. **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER:**

June 8, 2021

[DOC-2021-550 : Public hearing to consider resolution confirming proposed Fiscal Year 2021-22 assessment/service charge reports for County Service Area 12, Wastewater Management, as outlined in the memorandum of the Director of Health Services](#)

[DOC-2021-509 : As the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz County Zone 4 Flood Control and Water Conservation District, authorize annual cost shares in the amount of \\$30,000 to Mid-County Groundwater Agency and \\$20,500 to Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency for Fiscal Year 2021-22; accept and file a report on groundwater sustainability planning; approve amendment to agreement with the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency for a total amount of \\$254,000 for groundwater and streamflow monitoring; and take related actions, as recommended by the Director of Health Services](#)

[Copy of Notice of Availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report - City of Santa Cruz Water Department](#)

J. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

L. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE CONTACT SIERRA RYAN (831) 345-5202, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

Commissioner and Public Participation Information and Guidelines

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United States, Sacramento

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AGENDA

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday June 2, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

[Microsoft Teams Meeting:](#)

Please see information on meeting access and procedures on the page 3 of the Packet.

A. OPENING

1. Call to Order 4:02
2. Roll Call

In attendance:

Commission: Frank Cheap, Linda Wilson, Brian Lockwood, Bryan Largay, Chris Berry, Paul Lego

Staff: Sierra Ryan

Other: Carol Monkerud, Owen Sharp, Tim Carson

3. Introduction of two new Commissioners, Frank Cheap and Paul Lego

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 3, 2021; April 7, 2021

Fix date on the February Minutes. Lockwood moves with correction, Linda Wilson seconds.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Tim Carson introduced himself.

D. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Berry thanks Carol and Owen for service to the commission.

The Santa Cruz Water Rights EIR is coming out next week. Will move water management into the 21st century from a fisheries, conjunctive use, and water supply perspective.

E. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Water Resources Manager position is moving forward, the salary was recently approved by the Board and the position will likely be posted very soon.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Water Advisory Commission Work Program and Communication with Supervisors.**

Commissioners reported on conversations with the supervisors they represented. Focus was on the Work Plan for the Commission, and coordination with other Commissions. Some key takeaways include:

Frank Cheap gave a brief presentation outlining some of his priorities. His objective at a high level is to focus on what is achievable, such as conservation programs for well owners, septic system management for water quality benefits, and promoting the water quality testing program.

Chris Berry said that when the commission was developed there was a focus on developmental pressure and now there is a lot of communication between agencies. Initially the County was going through an era of transition, and they really needed help going through all these issues.

Piret Harmon suggested that youth engagement is really important, and that the commission acts more now as an information exchange and clearing house. Water agencies are much more heavily regulated than they were when the Commission was formed.

Linda Wilson doesn't want to plan on only specific items of focus because she thinks it's important to be available as things come up, and that's the way it's always been. She is most concerned with Environmental Protection. It worries her that there won't be enough water for everyone. She's also not willing to bury the desal idea.

Brian Lockwood met with Supervisor Caput last week. SGMA has forced more collaboration including between scientists and policy makers. Could start off each meeting with a SGMA update from each of the 3 basins. Also need to recognize that the City is largely surface water so it would be interesting to get a brief update on reservoir level comparing it to previous years. Would like to focus more on County-wide education, getting these up front can keep people who are representatives able to participate during normal working hours.

Owen Sharp didn't get specific answers from Zach but did note that the oversight of some topics the commission might have overseen in the past have been taken over by separate entities. The supervisors need to go back and review what they think the commission should do. The small mutual companies probably have a set of agendas. Paul could synthesize what's common between them to make sure they supervisors are aware of them.

Chris Berry remarked that asking the supervisors to define the role is a good idea but we also need to help them figure out what we could do, as they are very busy.

Brian Lockwood said this commission could be the place where all of this comes together – high level activity updates from across the County.

Chris Berry agreed that the Commission meeting could give the public a place to go to hear about everything happening rather than making members of the public go to a dozen other meetings.

Bryan Largay had reached out to McPherson and did not get a response. This is an important conversation; he would like to understand how the commission influences decisions. In theory they influence decisions made by County supervisors, though likely more often influence staff. The big themes in District 5 include the Santa Margarita, septic regulations, San Lorenzo River water quality as it relates to contact recreation, streamflows for steelhead, and coordinated water resource management between the agencies with the county being sort of separate.

Chris Berry pointed out that Bryan brought up the role of political cover for contentious policy making, the commission provides QA/QC and political cover for the BOS and staff.

Sierra Ryan said that for staff it could be really valuable to have additional support for some policies that could be politically challenging, for example, requiring meters and reporting on a new non-de minimis wells. She summarized that the Commission could start the meeting with a quick round of updates on the top issues that we identify. Sometimes we will invite a representative to have a half hour to provide an overview of where they stand on various items. The second half of the meetings could be focused on policies that either staff or the commission bring forward. Continue to re-evaluate regularly.

After some further discussion, a subcommittee was formed of Brian Lockwood, Linda Wilson, and Frank Cheap to work on updating the work plan.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS and UPDATES

1. Pajaro Valley Groundwater Management Issues
The rate structure was adopted with amendments moving forward. The ordinances that were adopted will provide the funding for the debt service for the projects that are in the work plan – College Lake and Watsonville Slough. College Lake should be at 60% designs by end of summer, construction in 2022 or 2023. Board will be considering adoption of the final project this month.
2. Santa Margarita Groundwater Management Issues
Draft GSP will be out in July.
3. Mid-County Groundwater Mgt
4. Pajaro Floodplain Management
Jimmy Panetta and others signed the design paperwork including the budget to do the design work.
5. Coordination with Other Commissions
The inter-commission coordination working group is meeting next week to talk about next steps. With Carol Monkerud's resignation there is a vacancy if someone wants to move it forward.
6. Homeless encampments and Water Issues
There was a workshop on May 5th. Several commissions are talking about this issue, and the lack of awareness from other regulators including DDW about the impact on water systems that this population can have.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Email and Attachment from Emma Olin at Soquel Creek Water District with a Pure Water Soquel update.

I. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER:

May 11, 2021

10. [DOC-2021-415 : AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DAVENPORT COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT: Public hearing to consider ordinance amending Title 3 of the District Code establishing 2021-22 water service charges, and ordinance amending Title 4 of the District Code establishing 2021-22 sewer service charges, for the Davenport County Sanitation District; direct the Clerk of the Board to place the ordinance on the May 18, 2021 agenda for final adoption; set Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. or thereafter, as the date and time for a public hearing on the service charge reports; and take related actions, as outlined in the memorandum of the District Engineer](#)
29. [DOC-2021-392 : Adopt resolution amending Resolution 279-75 to create the classification and set the salary range for the Water Resources Program Manager, and take related actions, as recommended by the Personnel Director](#)
42. [DOC-2021-403 : Adopt resolution confirming the established benefit assessments/service charges for County Service Area 12, Wastewater Management \(CSA 12\) for Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2021-22; adopt resolution setting a public hearing for June 8, 2021, on the proposed FY 2021-22 Assessment/Service Charge Reports for CSA 12; and take related actions, as recommended by the Director of Health Services](#)

May 18, 2021

14. [10784 : AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DAVENPORT COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT: Adopt Ordinance No. D-97 amending District Code Title 4, Chapter 4.08, Article III, Sections](#)

[4.08.160 through 4.08.180 Sewer Service Charges and adopt Ordinance No. D-98 amending District Code Title 3, Chapter 3.08, Article III, Sections 3.08.160 through 3.08.180 Water Service Charges \(Ordinances approved in concept on May 11, 2021\)](#)

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- Workplan and intercommission coordination.
- Brown Act training for new commissioners.

L. ADJOURNMENT 6:04

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From: [Rosemary Menard](#)
To: [Rosemary Menard](#); [Katy Fitzgerald](#)
Cc: [Chris Berry](#)
Subject: RE: tour planning
Date: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 12:58:04 PM

******CAUTION:**This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.****

Good Afternoon All – Chris Berry has indicated that a number of you are interested in an opportunity to tour the Santa Cruz water system. We have organized a couple of day tours in the upcoming weeks and invite you to sign up to participate if either of these days work for you. Please see the information below.

-
-
Water System Tour -- TWO dates are available

- **Date:** Tuesday, **July 27, 2021** and Monday, **August 16, 2021**
- **Time:** 9 am to 3:30 pm – lunch provided (participants will be given a the opportunity to order lunch from menu from Zoccali’s prior to the tour date).
- **Meeting place:** Water Department Office at 212 Locust Street
- **Maximum number of participants:** 6 to 8
- **What you’ll see:** The **Water System Tour** visits key water system sites including west-side storage and pumping facilities, Laguna diversion, Loch Lomond reservoir and dam, the Felton Diversion, and Graham Hill Water Treatment Plant. At each site you’ll learn about natural resources management and water system operations and planning issues, challenges and opportunities we face, as well as how we’re dealing with changing conditions driven by climate change such as increased risk of wildfire, changing water quality, system vulnerabilities and strategies for improving resilience and reliability.
- **How to reserve your seat:** Please email Katy Fitzgerald at kfitzgerald@cityofsantacruz.com or phone her at 831.420.5206 to reserve your place. Please specify tour date of your choice and System Tour in your email.

We appreciate your interest in our facilities and the major projects we’re working on and look forward to the opportunity to share more about them with you on one of these tours.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have questions or need additional information.

Best Regards

Rosemary Menard

Rosemary Menard
Water Director

City of Santa Cruz

rmenard@cityofsantacruz.com

Office: 831-420-5205

Hi Rosemary – Copied are members of the County Water Advisory Commission who may be interested in upcoming tours. I've also included Sierra so she is in the loop (though she may also be interested in the tours). Finally, I've also copied Sean Abbey (who staffs the County Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission). Hopefully, he can reach out to that commission and see if there is interest among them in tours as well.

Thanks.

Chris Berry

City of Santa Cruz Water Department

Watershed Compliance Manager

cberry@cityofsantacruz.com

(831) 420-5483