## **MINUTES**

## **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING**

#### of the

## WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

October 27, 2025

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Garcia called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

| Attendee<br>Name | Present                 | Absent | Arrived |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------|---------|
| Angela Garcia    | $\overline{\mathbf{V}}$ |        |         |
| Kelvin Moore     | $\overline{\mathbf{V}}$ |        |         |
| Socorro          | $\overline{\checkmark}$ |        |         |
| Pantaleon        |                         |        |         |
| John Thiel       | V                       |        |         |
| Isabelle Medina  | $\overline{\mathbf{V}}$ |        |         |

## II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Director Garcia inquired if anyone from the public would like to speak. No requests were received, therefore Director Garcia closed the public comment period.

## III. DISCUSSION ITEMS

## 1. Federal Update (Verbal)

David Turch & Associates representative Jones provided an update on the government shutdown, and discussed several key federal bills including H.R. 2656, Remove Nitrate and Arsenic in Drinking Water Act; H.R. 2269 / S.1092, WIPPES Act; H.R. 2344 / S.1118 Water Intelligence, Security, and Cyber Threat Protection Act; and H.R. 2766, Special District Fairness and Accessibility Act.

## 2. Legislative Proposal

California Strategies representative Olsen presented a year-end legislative recap, highlighting bills the district supported and opposed throughout the session. She noted that California Strategies will deliver a comprehensive year-end presentation to the Board of Directors on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Additionally, Kristin introduced a legislative proposal brought forward by Director Young to amend the Water Code and increase the meeting compensation limit from 10 to 20 meetings per month. The Committee agreed to move the proposal forward to the Board of Directors for review at the November 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

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## 3. San Bernardino Valley Regional Water Fellowship Presentation

Kelly Malloy, Strategic Communications Manager at San Bernardino Valley Water Municipal Water District, presented on the San Bernardino Valley Regional Water Fellowship Program in partnership with Cal State San Bernardino. The fellowship aims to engage and prepare participants by building their knowledge and skills to enter the workforce in water-related careers.

The Committee requested that Ms. Malloy provide a presentation to the full Board for consideration of funding a fellowship position at an upcoming Board meeting.

## 4. Updates to the External Affairs Committee

Manager of Public Outreach and Government Affairs Pantaleon provided an update on Proposition 218 outreach, including a draft informational video that will be added to the District's website to help customers better understand the need for a rate adjustment.

Additionally, the Public Outreach and Government Affairs Department was nominated for an award through the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA-IE) for Halle and Creek. The award ceremony will be held on November 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **5.** Sponsorship Request

Manager of Public Outreach and Government Affairs Pantaleon presented two sponsorships that were received: (1) \$2,500 for the Rialto High School Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Program and (2) \$2,500 for Senator Eloise Gomez Reyes 30 for 30 event for which the district will have an opportunity to provide an ad about careers in water.

The committee approved these sponsorship requests as per the Sponsorship Policy, they are within the committee's authorized amount for approval.

## **6.** Branding Guidelines

Manager of Public Outreach and Government Affairs Pantaleon presented the Branding Guidelines. The Committee reviewed secondary logos and requested minor changes. They approved the guidelines and proposed that the secondary logos move forward to the Board of Directors for review and approval.

## 7. Welcome Packet

Public Outreach and Government Affairs Representative Medina provided presented a modernized Welcome Packet to the committee to enhance the customer experience, promote water stewardship, and reduce customer service inquiries, and indicated that staff is currently completing the Spanish translation of the packet and will present it to the Board of Directors along with the Branding Guidelines.

## **8.** Social Media Report Sept. – Oct.

Public Outreach and Government Affairs Representative Medina provided the social media report, indicating an increase in tags and mentions across its social media platforms. These engagements covered a variety of events, including the Bloomington Main Replacement Groundbreaking, as well as fun shoutouts and award recognitions. The shoutouts came from followers, local agencies, and professional associations.

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# IV. ADJOURN

Director Garcia adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

Paola Lara

Paola Lara, Acting Board Secretary

Minutes were approved on November 24, 2025 by the External Affairs Committee of the West Valley Water District.

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