



**MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING – 6:00 PM
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2021**

In response to COVID-19 (coronavirus), Soquel Creek Water District's September 28, 2021 Board Meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

Recorded Meetings: Recorded meetings are available on the District's website:
<https://www.soquelcreekwater.org/AgendaCenter>

President Lather called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm via Zoom.

0. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

Rachél Lather, President
Dr. Thomas LaHue, Vice-President
Dr. Bruce Daniels – *Arrived at 6:15 pm*
Carla Christensen
Dr. Bruce Jaffe

District Counsel

Joshua Nelson, District Counsel

Staff Members Present:

Ron Duncan, General Manager
Taj Dufour, Engineering Manager
Leslie Strohm, Finance Manager
Traci Hart, Human Resources Manager
Christine Mead, Operations & Maintenance Manager
Melanie Mow Schumacher, Special Projects-Communications Manager
Emma Olin, Executive Assistant/Board Clerk
Rebecca Rubin, Public Outreach Coordinator

Others Present:

1 member of the public

1. **PUBLIC HEARING** – *None*
2. **BOARD MEMBERS' OPPORTUNITY TO REMOVE ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA** – *None*
3. **CONSENT AGENDA** – *None*
4. **ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS** (*items not on the Agenda*)

Written communications addressed to the Board are available on the District's website:
<https://www.soquelcreekwater.org/AgendaCenter>

One public comment was heard.

5. **REPORTS** – *None*

6. **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

6.1 Consider Adopting Resolution 21-20, Authorizing Virtual Public Meetings in Accordance with AB 361

Ms. Olin stated that this item is presented for the Board to consider adopting Resolution 21-20, authorizing virtual public meetings in accordance with California Assembly Bill (AB) 361.

Ms. Olin stated that AB 361 is similar to the previous Executive Orders, with the following exceptions:

- It only applies when a declared State emergency has been issued and remains active.
- The Board may adopt a resolution authorizing virtual public meetings for a maximum period of 30 days. Prior to expiration of the 30-day period, the local agency would need to renew its resolution.
- Written/oral public comment must be accepted until the point at which the public comment period is formally closed; registration/sign-up to provide/be recognized to provide public comment can only be closed when the public comment period is formally closed.

One public comment was heard.

In response to a question posed by Director Christensen, Ms. Olin explained that the District will permit public comment through the “raise hand” feature on zoom (in addition to a Request to Speak). If attendees are dialing in by phone, they may “raise their hand,” by dialing *9. Once District staff allows attendees to speak, then they may unmute by dialing *6.

MOTION: Vice-President LaHue; Second: Director Jaffe; To adopt Resolution 21-20, authorizing virtual public meetings in accordance with California Assembly Bill (AB) 361. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote. Director Daniels absent.
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7. **CLOSED SESSION**

7.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section §54956.9(d)(1)

Steinbruner vs. Soquel Creek Water District et al., Santa Cruz County Superior Court Case Nos. 19AP00031 19AP00030 19CV00181; CA Sixth District Court of Appeals Case No. H047733

Steinbruner vs. California Coastal Commission, et al., San Francisco County Superior Court Case No. CPF-20517119; CA First District Court of Appeals Case No. Pending

Steinbruner vs. Soquel Creek Water District et al., Santa Cruz County Superior Court Case No. 21CV00537

Steinbruner v. Soquel Creek Water District, et al. Santa Cruz County Superior Court Case No. 21CV01517

At 6:013 pm, President Lather announced that the Board will meet in closed session to discuss Item 7.1.

One public comment was heard.

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION – 6:15 pm

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – 7:37 pm

President Lather adjourned the closed session and returned to open session at 7:37 pm.

President Lather reported that the Board discussed Item 7.1, in closed session. No reportable action was taken.

8. ADJOURNMENT

President Lather adjourned the meeting at 7:37 pm.

SUBMITTED:



Emma Olin, Board Clerk

APPROVED:



Rachél Lather, President