

**COMMISSIONERS***KATHY MAC LAREN-GOMEZ, Chair**ROBERT PARRIS, Vice Chair**LEO THIBAULT, Treasurer-Auditor**DON WILSON, Secretary**KEITH DYAS, Commissioner**BARBARA HOGAN, Commissioner***OFFICERS***PETER THOMPSON II, General Manager**DENNIS HOFFMEYER, Controller*

August 21, 2024

**Agenda for the Special Meeting of the Commissioners  
of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association  
to be held at Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency at  
6450 West Avenue N, Palmdale 93551**

**Teleconference: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID 839 3795 7835, Passcode 0**

**Video Conference:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83937957835?pwd=ak1XbmprdBuQnRZOWszWU91VHdyUT09>

***Wednesday, August 28th, 2024***

**6:00 p.m.**

**NOTICE:** Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953, Subdivision (b), this Special Meeting of the Commissioners will include teleconference participation by Commissioner Dyas from: 2856 Owens Way, Rosamond, CA 93560; Commissioners Thibault and Hogan from: 35141 87<sup>th</sup> Street East, Littlerock, CA 93543.

NOTE: To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to participate in any Association meeting please contact Angel Fitzpatrick at 661-943-3201 x0211 at least 48 hours prior to an Association meeting to inform us of your needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

Agenda item materials, as well as materials related to agenda items submitted after distribution of the agenda packets, are available for public review at the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency's office located at 6500 West Avenue N, Palmdale or at <https://www.avswca.org/commissioner-meetings>. Please call Angel Fitzpatrick at 661-943-3201 x0211 for public review of materials.

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES: The prescribed time limit per speaker is three-minutes. Please refrain from public displays or outbursts such as unsolicited applause, comments, or cheering. Any disruptive activities that substantially interfere with the ability of the Association to conduct its meeting will not be permitted and offenders will be requested to leave the meeting.

Each item on the agenda shall be deemed to include any appropriate motion, resolution, or ordinance to take action on any item.

- 1) Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) Roll call.
- 3) Adoption of agenda.

- 4) Public comments for non-agenda items.
- 5) Special Presentation: Culverts Project and Grant Funding (Tom Barnes, AVEK / Jack Husted, Senior Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Public Works)
- 6) Consideration and Possible Action on approval to recommend to the Association's representative boards to cooperate with Los Angeles County Public Works on the preparation and submission of grant applications for the Culverts Project. (General Manager Thompson II)
- 7) General Manager's Report
- 8) Commission Members' requests for future agenda items.
- 9) Adjournment.



# COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 28, 2024

**TO:** AVSWCA COMMISSIONERS

**VIA:** Mrs. Pam Clark, AVEK

**RE:** *AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 – CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL TO RECOMMEND TO THE ASSOCIATION’S RESPECTIVE BOARDS TO COOPERATE WITH LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS ON THE PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR THE CULVERTS PROJECT*

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Commissioners of the AVSWCA (Association) approve recommending to the Association’s respective boards to cooperate with Los Angeles County Public Works on the preparation and submission of grant applications for the Culverts Project.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Staff has been in discussions with Los Angeles County Public Works (L.A. County) staff and their consultants to identify potential grant funding opportunities for culvert installations that will reduce flooding on roadways and enable improved recharge at Big Rock, Littlerock, and Upper Amargosa Creeks. Culverts are being proposed along West Avenue N in Palmdale, along East Palmdale Boulevard in Littlerock, and along East Avenue T and East Avenue S in Pearblossom / Llano.

Two grant funding opportunities have been identified for the Culverts Project (Project). The first is the Bureau of Reclamation’s WaterSMART Drought Resiliency Program which focuses on water storage capacity that increases surface water or groundwater storage. This program has a maximum project cost of \$10 million with a 50% cost share. A notice of funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 for this program was posted on July 24. Applications are due by October 7, 2024.

The WaterSMART Small Storage Program is another grant program that aligns well with the Project. This program has a maximum \$30 million project cost with a 25% cost share. Applications for the second round of funding from this program are due on April 30, 2025. The Project may qualify for a disadvantaged communities cost share waiver.

With support and cooperation from AVSWCA, L.A. County staff has agreed to work with their consultants to prepare and submit grant applications to the WaterSMART Program for this multi-benefit Project and would cover the costs associated with application preparation. Time is of the essence to begin working on an application package for the Drought Resiliency Program to meet the deadline of October 7, 2024. L.A. County has requested that the Association or one of its respective agencies be placed as lead agency

on this application for the purpose of limiting competitive conflicts as L.A. County may apply for funding under this program for other public works projects.

If the Association approves, a recommendation would be made to its respective boards to individually consider approving working with L.A. County to prepare and submit grant applications for the WatersMART Programs. This item is presented with a sense of urgency with respect to the short time frame to apply for 2025 FY funding from the Drought Resiliency Program.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

N/A