

## Water Commission's Meetings

### NOTICE OF TEMPORARY PROCEDURES FOR THE WATER COMMISSION MEETINGS

On March 17, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20, relating to the convening of public meetings in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The County of Tulare hereby provides notice that it will continue to convene its regularly scheduled public meetings of the Water Commission in the BOS Conference Rooms A&B at 2800 W. Burrell Ave, Visalia, as provided in the publicly posted agenda notice, and until further notice.

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Office, to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, members of the public are encouraged to participate in the Board meetings in the following ways:

1. REMOTE VIEWING: Listen to the live audio stream of the Water Commission meeting at

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tularecounty-ca.zoom.us/j/97308676203?pwd=bm9tZURaa09kb2FNVnFUSDJOVXIUT09>

Meeting ID: 973 0867 6203

Passcode: 599334

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 973 0867 6203

Passcode: 599334

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: If you choose not to attend the Water Commission meeting but wish to comment on a specific agenda item we have the following options available:

- a. Submit written comments on an agenda item to the Clerk of the Water Commission at [DEngland@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:DEngland@tularecounty.ca.gov) for distribution to the Water Commission before the meeting. If you would like to support, oppose, or otherwise comment on a Water Commission' agenda item, please consider sending in your comment rather than attending the meeting in person. All communication, whether it is a formal letter or a one-line informal email, is read by the Water Commission. Also, if you are part of a large group that would like to comment on an agenda item, please consider commenting in writing or sending one spokesperson to speak on behalf of the group.

Written comments may also be submitted by U.S. mail, at:

Tulare County Administrative Office

c/o Clerk of the Water Commission

2800 W. Burrell Ave.

Visalia, CA 93291

b. To participate during the Water Commission meeting, please call (559) 636-5000. Each caller will, one at a time, be connected to the Board room to address the Commission in the same manner as if the caller were there in person. The caller will be requested to state his or her name and address for the record, and the caller's statements will go through the PA system in order to be heard by everyone in the room. The statements will go out on the live audio stream. The three (3) minute limit will apply to all public comments.

c. Alternatively, you may participate during the Commission meeting by submitting an email as the item is being heard. Emails should include the sender's name and address for the record. Emails should include the agenda item number and sent to the Clerk of the Water Commission at DEngland@tularecounty.ca.gov. Every effort will be made to read your comment into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received before the end of the meeting.

d. If you attend the Water Commission meeting in person, all attendees will be requested to engage in social distancing measures by maintaining a 6-foot distance from other attendees. Exposed surfaces will be sanitized prior to the meeting and attendees are encouraged to avoid contact with surfaces such as microphones and door handles. Large groups wishing to comment on a common item are encouraged to submit comments in writing or to send one spokesperson to speak on behalf of the group.

Water Commission February 8, 2021 can be viewed live through Zoom. Click here to join the Water Commission Live Stream:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://tularecounty-ca.zoom.us/j/97308676203?pwd=bm9tZURaa09kb2FNVnFUSDJOVXIUUT09>

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**TULARE COUNTY WATER COMMISSION**  
**3:00 p.m. on Monday, July 12, 2021**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONFERENCE ROOM A&B**  
**ZOOM**  
**2800 W. BURREL AVE.**  
**VISALIA, CALIFORNIA 93291**

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**  
**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Water Commission at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to make comments at the time the item comes up for the Water Commission's consideration. Any person addressing the Water Commission will be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes so that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. At all times, please use the microphone and state your name and address for the record.

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
  2. Public Comment Period
  3. Approve May 10, 2021 Minutes (Action Item)
  4. Drought Update (Discussion, Possible Action)
  5. Resource Conservation Investment Strategy
  6. Subcommittee Reports
    - a. Legislation (Discussion, Possible Action)
  7. Staff Reports (Discussion, Possible Action)
    - a. Tulare-Kern DACII Program
    - b. SGMA Implementation
  8. Commissioners' Comments
  9. Future Agenda Topics
  10. Next meeting – Monday, August 9, 2021
  11. Adjourn
- Tulare County Water Commission Contact: Denise England, staff (559) 636-5000  
Tulare County Water Commission website: <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/board/index.cfm/committees-commissions/water-commission>

Documents related to the items on this Agenda, submitted to the Board after distribution of the Agenda packet, are available for public inspection in the Board of Supervisors Office, 2800 W. Burrel Avenue, Visalia, CA during normal business hours. Such documents are also available online, subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting, at the following website: <https://tularecounty.ca.gov/board/index.cfm/committees-commissions/water-commission>

**As a courtesy to those in attendance, please turn off or place in alert mode all cell phones and pagers.**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board's Office at (559) 636-5000

# **TULARE COUNTY WATER COMMISSION**

**3:00 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 2021**

## **MEETING NOTES**

### **Members Present:**

Pete Vander Poel, Board Representative and Chairman  
Martha Flores, TCAG Representative  
Eric Quinley, District 2 Appointee  
Dominic Fino, At-Large Appointee  
Jessi Snyder, At-Large Appointee  
Mike Lane, At-Large Appointee

### **Members Absent:**

Dennis Townsend, Board Alternate  
VACANT, District 1 Appointee  
VACANT, District 3 Appointee  
Chad Wegley, District 4 Appointee\*Unable to join via phone due to technical difficulties  
Steve Etchegaray, District 5 Appointee

### **Staff Present:**

Denise England, Tulare County Administration Office  
Aaron Zaheen, County Counsel  
Matt Wang, Tulare County Counsel  
Bob Irvine, TCiCT  
Jessica Gocke, HHSA-Environmental Health  
Ben Guiliani, Tulare County LAFCo

### **Members of the Public Present:**

Pat Pinkham	Jeremy Barroll
Richard Garcia	Tricia Stever Blattler

1. Call to Order  
Chairman Vander Poel called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.
2. Public Comment Period  
There was no public comment.
3. Approve March 8, 2021 and April 12, 2021 minutes  
On a motion made by Commissioner Flores and seconded by Commissioner Fino, the Commission approved the minutes with Commissioner Snyder abstaining.
4. Annual Re-organization of the Water Commission
  - a. Vice Chair  
On a motion made by Commissioner Quinley and seconded by Commissioner Lane, the Commission voted unanimously to appoint Commissioner Lane as the Vice Chair.
  - b. Secretary  
On a motion made by Commissioner Lane and seconded by Commissioner Flores, the Commission voted unanimously to appoint Commissioner Quinley as the Secretary.
5. Subcommittee Appointments  
On a motion made by Commissioner Quinley and seconded by Commissioner Lane the Commission voted unanimously to appoint Commissioners Quinley, Lane, and Snyder to the Legislative Subcommittee.
6. State Water Resources Control Board Water Rights and Climate Change Report  
Commissioner Lane requested this item be added to the agenda. He explained the Mid Kaweah GSA and Tulare Irrigation District submitted a letter outlining the organizations' concerns with the Report. The Report appears to suggest modifying water rights outside of existing water rights law, including opening up Fully Appropriated Stream Designations. The Commission recommended staff take a letter of concern to the Board of Supervisors for action.

7. Drought Response

Denise England, Tulare County Water Resources Director, provided an update on the County's drought response. She indicated the County declared a local emergency on April 27, 2021. She went on to say the Governor was holding a press conference during the Commission meeting to add Tulare County to his previous drought declaration. She reported that many of the programs were still in place from the last drought, such as household tanks, bottled water, and well assistance, but there was insufficient funding to expand those programs for a more widespread drought response. Commissioner Snyder shared that Tulare Irrigation District offered to use their equipment to assist with bottled water deliveries, as well as provide storage space to stage pallets of bottled water.

8. Subcommittee Reports

a. Legislation

There was no additional information regarding legislation.

9. Staff Reports

a. Tulare-Kern DACII Program

Denise England reported the Program is moving forward on schedule. She indicated there may be money available through the Program to augment the Needs Assessment Tool for drought response.

b. SGMA Implementation

There were no SGMA updates.

c. Form 700

Ms. England reminded the Commissioners, if not already filed, their Form 700s were due April 1, 2021.

d. AB 1234 Ethics Training

Ms. England reminded Commissioners to complete their AB 1234 Ethics training.

10. Commissioners Comments

There were no Commissioner comments.

11. Future Agenda Topics-

Commissioner Fino asked that the Commission consider coordinating water safety with canal safety.

12. Next meeting – Monday, June 14, 2021 3:00 PM

13. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:34 pm

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