



**SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)
AND PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC MEETINGS**

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom declared a State of Emergency resulting from the threat of COVID-19. Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20 (3-12-20) and Executive Order N-29-20 (3-17-20) which temporarily suspend portions of the Brown Act relative to conducting public meetings. Subsequent thereto, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20 (3-19-20) ordering all individuals to stay at home or at their place of residence. Accordingly, it has been determined that all Board and Workshop meetings of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District will be held pursuant to the Brown Act and will be conducted via teleconference. There will be no public access to the meeting venue.

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2021 – 3:00 P.M.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation is welcome and encouraged. You may participate in the September 30, 2021, meeting of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District online and by telephone as follows:

**Dial-in Info: (877) 853 5247 US Toll-free
Meeting ID: 684 456 030
PASSCODE: 3802020**

<https://sbvmwd.zoom.us/j/684456030>

If you are unable to participate online or by telephone, you may also submit your comments and questions in writing for the District's consideration by sending them to comments@sbvmwd.com with the subject line "Public Comment Item #" (insert the agenda item number relevant to your comment) or "Public Comment Non-Agenda Item". Submit your written comments by 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 29, 2021. All public comments will be provided to the President and may be read into the record or compiled as part of the record.

IMPORTANT PRIVACY NOTE: Participation in the meeting via the Zoom app is strongly encouraged. Online participants MUST log in with a Zoom account. The Zoom app is a free download. Please keep in mind: (1) This is a public meeting; as such, the virtual meeting information is published on the World Wide Web and available to everyone. (2) Should you participate remotely via telephone, your telephone number will be your "identifier" during the meeting and available to all meeting participants; there is no way to protect your privacy if you elect to call in to the meeting.



SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
380 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AGENDA

3:00 PM Thursday, September 30, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

1) PUBLIC COMMENT

Any person may address the Board on matters within its jurisdiction.

2) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

- 2.1 Consider Resolution No. 1128 authorizing the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District to conduct remote meetings for the period October 1, 2021 through October 30, 2021 (Page 2)
[Staff Memo - Consider Resolution No. 1128 authorizing the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District to conduct remote meetings for the period October 1, 2021 through October 30, 2021](#)
[Resolution No. 1128](#)

3) ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE NOTE:

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the District's office located at 380 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, during normal business hours. Also, such documents are available on the District's website at www.sbvmd.com subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting. The District recognizes its obligation to provide equal access to those individuals with disabilities. Please contact Melissa Zoba at (909) 387-9228 two working days prior to the meeting with any special requests for reasonable accommodation.



DATE: September 30, 2021

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Heather Dyer, CEO/General Manager

SUBJECT: Consider Resolution No. 1128 authorizing the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District to conduct remote meetings for the period October 1, 2021 through October 30, 2021

This item was brought to the Board of Directors by General Counsel, Bradley Neufeld, during the September 21, 2021, Regular Board of Director's meeting as a method to continue remote teleconference meetings of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District in accordance with the Brown Act.

Background

On March 17, 2020, due to the COVID-19 global pandemic emergency, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20, which allowed local agencies to hold meetings via teleconferences and to make meetings accessible electronically without violating the open meetings laws in the Brown Act by relaxing the teleconferencing rules.

On June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, which replaced the text in Executive Order N-29-20. Executive Order N-08-21 stated the relaxed Brown Act provisions shall apply through September 30, 2021.

The recently signed Assembly Bill No. 361 provides additional flexibility for local agencies looking to meet remotely in order to continue providing the public with essential services during a proclaimed state of emergency. The goal of Assembly Bill No. 361 is "to improve and enhance public access to state and local agency meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic and future emergencies by allowing broader access through teleconferencing options."

Assembly Bill No. 361 allows a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with certain Brown Act provisions in any of the following circumstances:

1. The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency, and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing.
2. The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency for the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.
3. The legislative body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency and has determined, by majority vote that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

Assembly Bill No. 361 will be in effect on October 1, 2021. A local agency is authorized to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements in the Brown Act when meetings are held during a declared state of emergency until January 1, 2024. In order to do so, the local agency must adopt a Resolution making the following findings by majority vote:

1. The legislative body has considered the circumstances of the state-of-emergency; and
2. Any of the following circumstances exist:
 - a. The state-of-emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; or
 - b. State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Fiscal Impact

None

Staff Recommendation

Adopt Resolution No. 1128 authorizing remote teleconference of the legislative bodies of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District for the period October 1, 2021 through October 30, 2021.

Attachment

Resolution No. 1128

RESOLUTION NO. 1128

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM ON MARCH 4, 2020, AND AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2021, THROUGH OCTOBER 30, 2021, PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS, the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (District) is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District's legislative bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Gov't Code § 54950 *et seq.*), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the District's legislative bodies conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, a proclamation is made when there is an actual incident, threat of disaster, or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the jurisdictions that are within the District's boundaries, caused by natural, technological, or human-caused disasters; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist in the District, specifically, a state of emergency has been proclaimed due to an outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the San Bernardino County Department of Health has recommended measures to promote social distancing;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the current state of emergency with respect to COVID-19, local official recommendations to promote social distancing, and conditions

causing imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees have caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the District that are likely to be beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the District, and desires to proclaim a local emergency and ratify the proclamation of state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the legislative bodies of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District shall conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Proclamation of Local Emergency. The Board hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the District, and declares that meeting in person would not comply with local official recommendations to promote social distancing and would present imminent risk to the health and safety of attendees.

Section 3. Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Board hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of a State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020.

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The General Manager and legislative bodies of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect on October 1, 2021, and shall be effective until the earlier of (a) October 30, 2021, or (b) such time the Board of Directors adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

Paul R. Kielhold
President

Heather P. Dyer
Secretary