
State Water Resources Control Board

Virtual and Teleconference Meeting During COVID-19 Emergency

This meeting will occur via remote presence only as a result of the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing.

****REVISED PUBLIC NOTICE****

Notice of Public Meeting

Identification of a Potential Administrator for Sierra Vista Association

February 4, 2021, 6:00pm

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) invites you to attend a meeting to learn about California Rural Water Association/Specialized Utility Services Program (CRWA/SUSP) as a potential administrator to the Sierra Vista Association (Association). An administrator is a person or entity that is appointed to partially or completely manage a designated water system in order to provide an adequate supply of safe and affordable drinking water. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information on the following:

- Current status of drinking water in the Sierra Vista Association.
- Purpose and role of an administrator.
- Administrator qualifications, conflicts of interest, and scope of work.

The meeting will also include an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide comments. The public can submit questions and comments through **February 11, 2021**. Below the Meeting Logistics section is background information on the process and the proposed administrator.

MEETING LOGISTICS

- If you wish to join the meeting by Zoom in English or Spanish:
http://bit.ly/Sierra_Vista_Administrator
- If you wish to join the meeting by telephone call: 1 (669) 900-9128; Meeting ID: 973 1323 0215
- If you wish to join via telephone in Spanish, call: (916) 227-1132 (No ID required)
- To receive meeting materials, please register at: https://bit.ly/SierraVista_updates

LANGUAGE SERVICES

To request language interpretation or sign language services, please submit your request at least 10 business days before the meeting, by January 19 by contacting Marina Pérez at (916) 322-4265.

ACCESSIBILITY

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

MEETING MATERIALS

To receive meeting materials before the meeting, please register.

- To register for this meeting: http://bit.ly/SierraVista_updates

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- Meeting materials and details on remote participation are also available at https://bit.ly/DDW_AdminWebsite and will be emailed to **registered** participants before the meeting.

HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS – DEADLINE: February 11, 2021

Mail: Caitlin Juarez

State Water Resources Control Board – Division of Drinking Water
265 W. Bullard Avenue Suite #101 Fresno, CA 93704

Email: DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov

BACKGROUND

On August 27, 2020, the State Water Board, took the first step in designating the Sierra Vista Association as a water system in need of an administrator because it has not consistently provided an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water to its customers. The Association has active compliance orders for violation of the nitrate and 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) maximum contaminant levels. Currently, households served by the Association are approved to receive bottled water from Tulare County’s Bottled Water Program.

The State Water Board proposes appointing an administrator for the Association to manage the water system. All actions taken by an administrator are required to be in the best interest of the community served by the water system and include the following:

- Developing access to an adequate supply of safe and affordable drinking water.
- Holding public meetings at least every three months.

Any ratepayer, renter, or property owner who receives water from a designated water system can submit a petition to the State Water Board to reverse or modify an administrator decision or to replace an administrator. A description of this process and the administrator authority is contained in Health and Safety Code Section 116686 and in the State Water Board’s Administrator Policy Handbook (Sept. 2019).

Information on Proposed Administrator

NAME OF ADMINISTRATOR: California Rural Water Association/Specialized Utility Services Program (CRWA/SUSP) has been identified as a viable candidate to be appointed as an administrator of the Sierra Vista Association. Their qualifications include:

- Staff has combined 150 years’ experience in water system management and operation
- Currently provides operational and management services to eight communities
- Experience planning solutions for water quality problems

SCOPE OF APPOINTMENT & SERVICES PROVIDED: This administrator will be a Full-Scope Administrator as defined in the Administrator Policy Handbook available online at http://bit.ly/SAFER_administrator_handbook.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: No conflict of interest has been found by the State Water Board or reported by CRWA/SUSP at this time. If at any time a proposed action would create a conflict of interest, an administrator is required to provide written notice the State Water Board in addition to all ratepayers, renters and property owners, who receive water service from the designated water system 30 days prior to taking the action.

More information: Contact Caitlin Juarez at (559) 447-3395 or DDW-Administrator@waterboards.ca.gov, or visit the Water Board website at: https://bit.ly/DDW_AdminWebsite