

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER
729 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA
HELD WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2022 AT 2:30 O'CLOCK P.M.**

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-1-22 issued by Governor Newsom in response to the declaration of a state of emergency by the State of California in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a regular meeting of the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Watermaster) was duly and regularly held via Zoom Meeting (web-based video conferencing) on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at the hour of 2:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Lynda Noriega, Chair, called the meeting to order and presided thereover.

ROLL CALL OF WATERMASTER MEMBERS

The following members of Watermaster were present on roll call:

PRESENT: David DeJesus, Dr. Anthony Fellow, Garry Hofer, Lynda Noriega, Steven Placido, Anteneh Tesfaye, Charles Treviño and Martin Zvirbulis

ABSENT: David Michalko

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT

Staff present at the meeting included: Anthony Zampielo, Executive Officer; Fred Fudacz, Attorney; Kelly Gardner, Assistant Executive Officer; Arrica Jimenez, Administration Manager; Steve Johnson, Consulting Engineer; Jenny Savron, Consulting Engineer; Ana Mata, Executive Assistant; and Lauren Augino, Water Resources Analyst.

Others present included: Dan Arrighi, Brian Bowcock, Robert Bowcock, Kyle Cason, Dan Colby, Ray Cordero, John Corona, Patricia Cortez, Paul Cranmer, Cris Fealy, Roy Frausto, Greg Galindo, Wayne Goehring, Richard Gonzales, Erik Hitchman, Steve Kiggins, Sylvie Lee, Benjamin Lewis, Jr., Matthew Litchfield, Tom Love, Chuck Lucas, Jared Macias, Victor Magana, Myra Malner, Jose Martinez, Liz Mendelson, Dusty Moisiso, Stephanie Moreno, Jeffrey Pellissier, Alec Phillips, Cesar Rangel, Tara Robinson, Randy Schoellerman, Sherry Shaw and Paul Zampielo.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair asked if there were any changes to be made to the agenda. On motion made by Mr. Hofer, seconded by Dr. Fellow, and unanimously carried, the agenda was adopted as presented.

TIME RESERVED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion made by Mr. Treviño, seconded by Mr. DeJesus, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of a Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of Watermaster held January 5, 2022, noting a correction made by Chair Noriega to reflect the Baldwin Park Key Well was 182.0 on January 1, 2022 on the Engineer's Report.
- b) Lists of Demands: Items 19633 through 19666, and three electronic debits, in the amount of \$333,358.52 on the Administrative Fund and Items 0222-S, 0222-T and 0222-U in the amount of \$26,800,449.50 on the Replacement Water Fund.
- c) Financial Statements, January 2022
- d) Authorization to attend Association of California Water Agencies Spring Conference, May 3 – 6, 2022

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE CYCLIC STORAGE AGREEMENT AMONG METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT AND MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER

Mr. Anthony Zampello, Executive Officer, referenced the Cyclic Storage Agreement (Agreement) among Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD) and Watermaster included in the Board packet. He provided additional background, stating that MWD staff required the execution of a new Agreement versus a renewal of the existing Agreement due to a change in term length and account capacity. He added that Watermaster staff and legal counsel reviewed the new Agreement and determined its consistency with the previous Agreement including increased flexibility by extending the term to ten years from five years and increasing storage capacity.

On motion made by Mr. DeJesus, seconded by Dr. Placido, and unanimously carried, Watermaster authorized to execute the Cyclic Storage Agreement Among MWD, USGVMWD and Watermaster.

REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Zvirbulis referred to a written Committee report included in the Board packet, stating that the Administrative Committee met on January 19, 2022 to discuss one item, which requires Watermaster action today. Mr. Zvirbulis also stated that if there were others who would like to be included in any of the Committees to contact either the Executive Officer or the Assistant Executive Officer directly. Lastly, he added that the Committee report includes an informational item that was discussed.

Recommendation of 2022 Watermaster Committee Assignments and Representatives to Outside Organizations: On motion made by Mr. Hofer, seconded by Chair Noriega, and

unanimously carried, Watermaster approved the 2022 Watermaster Committee Assignments, as presented.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Fudacz provided an update related to the petition pending by California Trout to the California Fish and Game Commission to list its Southern California Steelhead as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act, stating that he continues working with Watermaster and Stetson Engineers on the potential impacts on the Main San Gabriel Basin (Main Basin) and the San Gabriel River, adding that a meeting with the County of Los Angeles is scheduled to be held on February 8, 2022. Additionally, he reported that the California Fish and Game Commission will be holding a hearing on February 17, 2022 to consider and determine its listing. He will keep the Watermaster Board of Directors apprised of any developments.

Related to the Agreement among MWD, USGVMWD and Watermaster, Mr. Fudacz reported that a hearing for approval has been scheduled for August 1, 2022, first available date, before Presiding Judge, the Honorable Maureen Duffy-Lewis. He noted that an ex parte application petitioning for an earlier date may be filed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The Consulting Engineer, Mr. Steve Johnson, reported that the Baldwin Park Key Well level was 182.3 feet on January 21, 2022, noting an increase of about 0.1 feet from the prior week; an increase of about 0.3 feet from the prior month, and about 17.0 feet lower than one year ago. The historic low for the Key Well has been established at 169.4 feet on November 21, 2018. He also stated that it includes an estimated 129,000 acre-feet of untreated imported water in cyclic storage accounts, which represents about 18 feet of groundwater elevation at the Key Well.

Mr. Johnson then reported briefly on hydrologic conditions as of January 31, 2022, stating that total rainfall at Puddingstone Dam is about 8.30 inches, which is about 88 percent of average; and at the Los Angeles Civic Center, rainfall is about 10.35 inches, which is about 143 percent of average, for this time of year.

Additionally, Mr. Johnson stated that total combined canyon storage, as of January 24, 2022, was 37,677 acre-feet, about 45 percent of capacity. He also stated that as of January 24, 2022, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 92 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 0 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow and release was 0 cfs.

Lastly, he reported that the landfills, Azusa Land Reclamation and Peck Road, were inspected and found to be operating normally with no violations. He referred to a written report included in the Board packet that includes additional water supply and rainfall information.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Executive Officer, Mr. Zampiello, reported that a written copy of a report on Outside Activities is included in the Board packet.

Additionally, he provided an overview on water deliveries, stating that a detailed report will be distributed along with the agenda for the Basin Water Management Committee scheduled for February 9, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

Related to Watermaster's Outreach Campaign, *The Waters That Connect Us*, Mr. Zampielo reported that he along with Mr. Eric Batman, Senior Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Public Works, co-hosted an Instagram Live: *Water Talk with Tony "Z"* earlier today at 12:00 p.m., discussing recent rainfall and regional efforts to capture and infiltrate as much as possible.

He reported that the 2022 Annual Association of Groundwater Water Agencies/American Ground Water Trust Conference scheduled for February 8 and 9, 2022, has been rescheduled to March 29 and 30, 2022 at The Centre at Sycamore Plaza in Lakewood, California. The conference remains planned as an in-person event and he encouraged everyone to register.

REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Dr. Anthony Fellow, reporting on behalf of USGVMWD, referenced a report provided by USGVMWD to Watermaster. He reported on the following items that were approved by the USGVMWD Board of Directors on January 12, 2022:

- Election of Officers for Calendar Year 2022
- Adopted Resolution No. 01-22-632, re-ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom, and reauthorizing remote teleconference meetings

He also reported that the following items by the USGVMWD Board of Directors on January 26, 2022:

- Reappointed the current Representative and Alternate for the following:
 - Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority
 - San Gabriel Valley Water Association
 - San Gabriel Valley Protective Association
 - San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
- Redistricting Plan and Map – preparation of district map based on existing boundaries with an option for further discussion and potential amendment.

Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, also reporting on behalf of USGVMWD, provided a brief discussion on the State Water Project allocation. Additionally, he provided the following key dates:

- USGVMWD Water Resources and Facility Management Committee – February 2, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.
- Producer Meeting – February 9, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Matthew Litchfield, General Manager, reporting on behalf of Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD), reported that at this morning's TVMWD Board of Directors meeting, the discussion included a Letter of Intent for the Big Dalton Spreading Grounds Improvements and New PM-26A Interconnection Project between TVMWD, Los Angeles County Flood Control District and the City of Glendora. He also reported that TVMWD is working with Watermaster and Stetson Engineers on a groundwater modeling proposal.

He reminded everyone that the TVMWD Leadership Breakfast will be held on February 24, 2022 at 7:30 a.m. at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel, Pomona, stating that the program will include a presentation by Mr. Brad Coffey, Group Manager-Water Resource Management, MWD, on "*Living in the Dash: Planning for a Managing through the 2020--?? Drought.*"

Mr. Placido, reporting on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), reported that the SGVMWD Board of Directors met on January 10, 2022, stating that the discussion included routine items.

Mr. Steve Kiggins, Assistant General Manager, also reporting on behalf of SGVMWD, provided an operational update, stating that the Department of Water Resources completed the replacement of the flow meter allowing for water deliveries to resume on the morning of January 28, 2022 on behalf of USGVMWD and TVMWD. He noted an anticipated 28-day outage on the pipeline scheduled for late Spring 2022.

REPORT FROM OUTSIDE COMMITTEE LIAISONS

The Chair reported that any Outside Committee Liaisons reports are included in the Board packet.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items listed on the agenda for information of Watermaster were noted, and ordered received and filed:

- a) Temporary assignment or lease of 871.15 acre-feet of Production Right from Covina Irrigating Company to California Domestic Water Company for FY 2021-22
- b) Chang of Designee for Ralph Munoz to Ralph Munoz and Michael Munoz
- c) ACWA/JPIA "President's Special Recognition Award" certificate
- d) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Monthly Report for December 2021

COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS

Mr. Tesfaye commended Watermaster staff for all their excellent work.

Mr. DeJesus provided comments regarding the State Water Project 15% allocation.

Chair Noriega commended Watermaster staff for all their efforts in working with MWD and the stakeholders to ensure and manage water deliveries to the Main Basin.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No agenda items were provided.

CLOSED SESSION

A closed session was not held.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair asked if there were other business to come before Watermaster, and there being none, the meeting was adjourned to the next regular meeting of Watermaster on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. to be held via Zoom Meeting.

SECRETARY'S SIGNATURE



MARTIN ZVIRBULIS

ATTEST:



LYNDA NORIEGA
CHAIR