

**A PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER
725 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA
HELD WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025 AT 2:30 O'CLOCK P.M.**

A public hearing and regular meeting of the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Watermaster) was duly and regularly held in the Conference Room of the City of Azusa Light and Water Administration Facility, at 729 North Azusa Avenue, in the City of Azusa, County of Los Angeles, State of California, 91702 on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at the hour of 2:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. David Michalko, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order and presided thereover.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Michalko led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF WATERMASTER MEMBERS

The following members of Watermaster were present on roll call:

PRESENT: Melissa Barbosa, Paul Cranmer, Dr. Anthony Fellow, Garry Hofer, David Michalko, Steven Placido, Jennifer Santana and Martin Zvirbulis.

ABSENT: Lynda Noriega

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT

Staff present at the meeting included: Kelly Gardner, Executive Officer; Fred Fudacz, Attorney; Steve Johnson, Consulting Engineer; Heather Steele, Consulting Engineer; Arrica Jimenez, Director of Administrative Services; Ana Mata, Executive Assistant; Ana Rodriguez, Accountant II; Lauren Augino, Water Resources Analyst II, and Jocelyn Garcia, Student Intern.

Others present included: Anthony Alberti, Carlos Cardona, Dan Colby, John Corona, Pearl Escobar, Cris Fealy, Casey Feilen, Roy Frausto, Shawn Harkness, Steve Kiggins, Susan Kishi Lew, Matt Litchfield, Stephanie Lobos, Tom Love, Victor Magana, Dusty Moisio, Stephanie Moreno, Jeffrey Pellissier, Jose Reynoso, Tara Robinson, Carlos Solis, and Paul Zampielo.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED WAIVER OF ASSESSMENTS

In accordance with Section 45(b)(5) of the Amended Judgment, the Vice Chair opened the public hearing for public comments regarding one request for waiver of assessments for water pumped, treated and discharged in association with water treatment facilities. The Vice Chair asked if there was any public comment associated with the application. With no public comment, Vice Chair Michalko called on Ms. Heather Steele, Consulting Engineer, to review the staff report.

Ms. Steele explained that Section 18(e) of Watermaster's Rules and Regulations allows a Producer to apply in writing to Watermaster for a waiver of all or any part of Watermaster assessments for water pumped for the purpose of testing, protecting or improving water quality.

La Puente Valley County Water District – Ms. Steele reported that the waiver application before Watermaster today is from La Puente Valley County Water District (LPVCWD) for 357.20 acre-feet of water treated through the LPVCWD's treatment facility and discharged to the San Jose Creek for testing, protecting and improving the water quality of the Main San Gabriel Basin (Main Basin) as part of the Puente Valley Operable Unit (PVOU).

Ms. Steele stated that following the staff's review of the information, it was determined that 357.20 acre-feet of treated water from PVOU-Intermediate Zone (IZ) treatment facility was discharged to San Jose Creek for the Division of Drinking Water testing, protecting, and improving the water quality of the Main Basin as part of the PVOU. As a result, LPVCWD met the requirements for a waiver of assessment on only 352.39 acre-feet of treated water, which was conserved in the Main Basin.

The staff's recommendation on the request from LPVCWD is that Watermaster waive the appropriate assessments associated with LPVCWD's PVOU-IZ Treatment Facility operations and discharge during Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 to San Jose Creek, totaling 352.39 acre-feet.

On motion by Mr. Cranmer, seconded by Mrs. Jennifer Santana, and unanimously carried, Watermaster approved the waiver of the Replacement Water Assessment associated with the LPVCWD's PVOU-IZ treatment facility operations and discharge to San Jose Creek during FY 2024-25.

TIME RESERVED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion made by Mr. Martin Zvirbulis, Secretary, seconded by Mrs. Santana, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of a Public Hearing and Regular Meeting of Watermaster held on August 6, 2025;
- b) Lists of Demands: Items 20940 through 20964, and four electronic debits, in

the amount of \$251,266.15 on the Administrative Fund; Items 0925-S, 0925-T, 0925-U in the amount of \$5,289,679.25 on the Replacement Water Fund and Item 925-U2 in the amount of \$123,500.00 on the Make-Up Fund, and

- c) Financial Statements, August 2025.

REPORT FROM BASIN WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Vice Chair Michalko referred to a written Committee report included in the Board packet. He reported that the Basin Water Management Committee met on August 13, 2025, and discussed a few items, one which requires Watermaster action today.

Authorize the Executive Officer to sign a three-year renewal contract with Blaine Tech Services

Vice Chair Michalko provided an overview of services provided by Blaine Tech Services for specialized testing for the Baldin Park Operable Unit (BPOU) Project. She noted that the cost of this contract is a direct pass-through for BPOU and fully reimbursable to Watermaster from the Cooperating Respondents.

On motion made by Dr. Fellow, seconded by Mr. Garry Hofer, and unanimously carried, Watermaster authorized the Executive Officer to sign a three-year renewal with Blaine Tech Services for the BPOU Project.

Authorize staff to proceed with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Maximum Contaminant Level Compliance and Monitoring in Accordance with the Water Quality Monitoring Program Policy

Vice Chair Michalko announced that this item will be tabled for clarification and discussion at a future Committee meeting.

AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN JOINT REPRESENTATION AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES BETWEEN THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER AND SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY, AND NOSSAMAN LLP FOR THE BALDWIN PARK OPERABLE UNIT PROJECT AGREEMENT RENEWAL

Mrs. Kelly Gardner, Executive Officer, reported that the agreement is with Watermaster and the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority (WQA) to have Nossaman LLP provide joint legal representation for negotiations to extend the BPOU Project Agreement. She stated that the proposed agreement is similar to the joint agreement approved by the Watermaster Board in 2015 for the 2017 BPOU Project Agreement negotiation. She noted that the current BPOU Project Agreement expires in 2027 and that negotiations will begin soon. She stated that the agreement has been reviewed by Watermaster's attorney and would be effective August 1, 2025.

On motion made by Secretary Zvirbulis, seconded by Mrs. Santana, and unanimously carried, Watermaster authorized the Executive Officer to sign Joint Representation Agreement for Legal Services Between the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster and San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority, and Nossaman LLP for the BPOU Project Agreement Renewal.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Fred Fudacz, Attorney, reported that on December 5, 2025 a hearing before Presiding Judge Maureen Duffy-Lewis is scheduled to confirm the Watermaster Board of Directors' nominees for Calendar Year 2026 and a Status Conference on Main Basin conditions. He suggested that staff include an update on impacts related to the Golden Mussel, and an update on the BPOU Project Agreement renewal process at the Status Conference.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ms. Steele reported that the Key Well level was 249.3 feet on August 22, 2025, an increase of about 0.4 feet from the prior week, an increase of about 0.4 feet from the prior month, and about 8.0 feet higher than one year ago. She also reported that it includes about 194,000 acre-feet of untreated imported water in cyclic storage accounts, which represents about 24.0 feet of groundwater elevation at the Key Well. The historic low for the Key Well has been established at 169.4 feet on November 21, 2018.

Ms. Steele then reported briefly on hydrologic conditions as of August 31, 2025, stating that total rainfall at Puddingstone Dam is 7.58 inches, which is about 42 percent of average; and at the Los Angeles Civic Center, rainfall is 7.96 inches, which is 53 percent of average, for this time of year. Additionally, she reported that stormwater capture for Water Year 2024-25 as of July 31, 2025 was 41,973 acre-feet.

Additionally, Ms. Steele stated that total combined canyon storage, as of August 26, 2025, was 20,727 acre-feet, about 25 percent of capacity. She also stated that as of August 26, 2025, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 25 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 25 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow was 19 cfs, release was 25 cfs. She also provided an update on imported water deliveries and water quality.

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

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mrs. Gardner stated that a written copy of her report on Outside Activities is included in the Board packet. She reminded everyone that assessment payments for FY 2024-25 are due September 20, 2025.

Related to the Golden Mussel, she stated that she and the Responsible Agencies met with representatives from the Los Angeles County Public Works Flood Control, where they stated there is no intention to order a shutdown of imported water at this time.

She reported that she along with Chair Lynda Noriega, Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD) and Mr. Matt Litchfield, General Manager, TVMWD; attended last month's Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (MWD) Board of Directors meeting and provided public comments in support of the Pure Water Southern California Project. She noted that it was well received and positive feedback in seeing a joint venture working together

displaying the importance from each of our respective jurisdiction and responsibilities to the Main Basin.

Related to the Lario Staging Area used for the Eaton Fire hazardous debris placement and sorting, Mrs. Gardner provide a brief update on Watermaster's correspondence to the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers regarding ongoing concerns that included follow-up testing measures, continued monitoring and reporting to ensure that any potential for unintended impacts or adverse effects are mitigated in the watershed, and that the water supply serving Main Basin communities remains safe and reliable. She reported that Watermaster will be submitting an expanded list of additional questions itemizing the specific data being requested including a list of Main Basin constituents that have contacted Watermaster asking the same of EPA.

REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Dr. Fellow reported on MWD activities, providing an update on MWD's recruitment process for a new General Manager and on the Delta Conveyance Project.

Mrs. Santana reported on behalf of USGVMWD stating that on August 13, 2025, their Board of Directors Meeting a presentation on the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water by Mr. Adán Ortega, Chair, MWD Board of Directors. She highlighted that, as part of USGVMWD's community outreach initiatives, staff is attending public school board meetings promoting water conservation and education.

Mr. Love also reported on behalf of USGVMWD, providing a water supply update that included cyclic storage deliveries. He then provided a brief discussion on the status of the Golden Mussel, stating that the Responsible Agencies and Watermaster are working together developing a control plan with Stetson Engineers.

He reported that the USGVMWD Board of Directors meeting on September 10, 2025, will include the adoption of water rates and charges for calendar year 2026.

Lastly, Mr. Love also reported that a Producer Meeting will be held on September 10, 2025, stating that the discussion will include water rates, MWD budget drivers, and the Golden Mussel.

Mr. Litchfield reported on behalf of Three Valleys Municipal Water District, providing an update on water deliveries and storage. He added that this morning's TVMWD Board of Directors meeting, the discussion included an update on the Golden Mussel.

Mr. Jose Reynoso, General Manager, reported on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), providing an update on water purchases and deliveries. He then stated that the SGVMWD is currently working with Watermaster and the other Responsible Agencies on the Golden Mussel Control Plan, noting completion by end of October 2025. He also reported that the State Water Contractors will be scheduling a technical workshop on the Golden Mussel Control Plan, noting that the SGVMWD intends to participate to ensure the regional plan is consistent with state-level guidance and best practices.

Lastly, Mr. Reynoso stated that the next SGVMWD Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2025.

Mr. Dusty Moisio, Assistant General Manager, Rowland Water District, stated that the Southern California Water Utilities Association Breakfast meeting scheduled for September 25, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. will include a presentation on the Golden Mussel.

INFORMATION ITEMS

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

- a) Change of Designee for Southern California Edison Company to Andrew Nichiporuk, Manager, Real Properties, Metro West Region
- b) Change of Designee for Tyler Nursery - Fumiko Kishi to Susan Kishi Lew
- c) Letter to the United States Environmental Protection Agency regarding the Lario Park Site
- d) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District monthly report for July 2025

COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS

Dr. Fellow reported that the Association of California Water Agencies Regions 8, 9 and 10 Conference is scheduled for November 13 – 14, 2025. He also reported that he along with Ms. Gloria Gray, MWD Board Member, will be hosting a Bay Delta Study Tour on January 8, 9, and 10, 2026.

Treasurer Melissa Barbosa expressed appreciation among Watermaster and the Responsible Agencies for the collaboration and continued efforts in addressing the Golden Mussel issue.

Mr. Cranmer emphasized the importance of remaining engaged with EPA regarding the Lario Park Site and thanked Watermaster for their continued efforts.

Mr. Hofer acknowledged the Key Well level at 250.0 feet is a testament to the management of the Main Basin and thanked the Watermaster Board and Producers.

Vice Chair Michalko thanked everyone for the collaboration on the Golden Mussel issue.

Vice Chair Michalko announced that today's meeting will be adjourned in honor and memory of:

Mr. William Michael Valdez, Mrs. Arrica Jimenez' father

Mr. Jorge Perez Flores, Mrs. Ana Rodriguez' father-in-law

Mr. Louie Rodriguez, Treasurer Melissa Barbosa's grandfather

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Three-year Purchased Water Plan
- b) Authorize staff to proceed with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Maximum Contaminant Level Compliance and Monitoring in Accordance with the Water Quality Monitoring Program Policy.

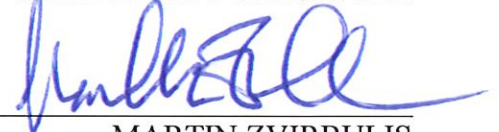
CLOSED SESSION

A Closed Session was not held.

ADJOURNMENT

The Vice Chair asked if there were other business to come before Watermaster, and there being none, the meeting was adjourned in honor and memory of Mr. William Michael Valdez, Mr. Jorge Perez Flores, and Mr. Louie Rodriguez to a regular meeting of Watermaster on Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at 2:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the City of Azusa Light and Water Administration Facility at 729 North Azusa Avenue, Azusa, CA 91702.

SECRETARY'S SIGNATURE



MARTIN ZVIRBULIS

ATTEST:



DAVID MICHALKO
VICE CHAIR