

**A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER
725 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA
HELD WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2025 AT 2:30 O'CLOCK P.M.**

A 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, June 4, 2025, at the hour of 2:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Noriega 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, Lynda Noriega, Steven Placido, Jennifer Santana, and Martin Zvirbulis.

ABSENT: None

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, Administration Manager; Ana Mata, Executive Assistant; Ana Rodriguez, Accountant II and Lauren Augino, Water Resources Analyst II.

Others present included: Dennis Ahlen, Anthony Alberti, Nathan Au, Dan Colby, John Corona, Paul DiMaggio, Cris Fealy, Casey Feilen, Jeff Hanlon, Geo Herrera, Steve Kiggins, Matt Litchfield, Stephanie Lobos, Tom Love, Stephanie Moreno, Tara Mullaly, Tara Robinson, and Paul Zampiello.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The 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.

TIME RESERVED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion made by Mr. David Michalko, Vice Chair, seconded by Mr. Martin Zvirbulis, Secretary, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of the Annual Hearing on Determination of Operating Safe Yield and a Regular Meeting held May 7, 2025 of Watermaster;
- b) Lists of Demands: Items 20855 through 20882, and three electronic debits, in the amount of \$588,886.91 on the Administrative Fund and Items 0525-S and 0525-U in the amount of \$157,613.75 on the Replacement Water Fund, and
- c) Financial Statements, May 2025.

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SIGN ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE PRODUCTION AGREEMENT WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES RELATIVE TO THE WHITTIER NARROWS OPERABLE UNIT

Mr. Fred Fudacz, Attorney, provided an update on the Water Production Agreement with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation to accept treated water from the Whittier Narrows Operable Unit (WNOU) treatment facility into Legg Lake, stating that the existing Water Production Agreement will include an additional one-year extension to June 30, 2026.

On motion made by Ms. Melissa Barbosa, Treasurer, seconded by Secretary Zvirbulis, and unanimously carried, authorized the Executive Officer to sign the extension of the Water Production Agreement with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Toxic Substances Control relative to the WNOU.

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 (BWMC) met on May 21, 2025, highlighting a presentation regarding Metropolitan Water District of Southern California 's (MWD) Climate Adaptation Master Plan by Mr. Adán Ortega, MWD's Board Chair. He added that the discussion also included concerns regarding the Golden Mussel, and the Letter Agreement regarding a Schedule for Payment of Cyclic Water Pre-Delivered to Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD) in Calendar Year 2025.

REQUEST FROM UNITED ROCK PRODUCTS CORPORATION TO PURCHASE 150.00 ACRE-FEET OF WATER FROM UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT FOR PRODUCER CYCLIC STORAGE

Mrs. Kelly Gardner, Executive Officer, reported that the United Rock Products Corporation has submitted a request to purchase 150.00 acre-feet of water from USGVMWD for its producer cyclic storage account. She noted that there is available capacity within their existing account.

On motion made by Dr. Fellow, seconded by Vice Chair Michalko, and unanimously carried, Watermaster authorized the purchase of 150.00 of cyclic storage water from USGVMWD for United Rock Products Corporation's individual producer cyclic storage account.

WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

San Gabriel County Water District, Section 28, "Application for Water Treatment Facility" - Well No. 12

Ms. Heather Steele, Consulting Engineer, reported that the San Gabriel County Water District (SGCWD) has submitted an Application for a Water Treatment Facility at its Well No. 12. The proposed Treatment Facility will have a capacity of 2,800 gallons per minute and use Bayoxide E33 Granular Ferric Oxide media treatment; and will be used to remove arsenic contamination from the groundwater produced from SGCWD's Well No. 12 and will only connect Well No. 12 to the Arsenic Treatment Facility.

Ms. Steele also reported that the aquifers in the vicinity of SGCWD Well No. 12 and the proposed Treatment Facility consist mainly of silt, sand, gravel, and boulders embedded with layers of clay exceeding 50 feet in thickness. The proposed Treatment Facility at SGCWD Well No. 12 will not conflict with any Basin Clean-up plan. Alternatives to the proposed Treatment Facility include purchasing water from nearby Producers and MWD, drilling a new well at a known contaminated area and providing wellhead treatment, and activating an inactive well. However, none of these alternatives would provide the same level of water supply reliability as the proposed project.

On motion made by Mr. Garry Hofer, seconded by Mr. Steven Placido, and unanimously carried, Watermaster approved SGCWD's application for a Water Treatment Facility - Well No. 12, subject to the conditions in the staff report.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Fudacz provided an update on the Baldwin Park Operable Unit Project Agreement renewal process, stating that pre-negotiation meetings are ongoing.

He additionally reported that he is working with Watermaster staff to update the previous version of the Employee Handbook (2014) to comply with changes in State and Federal Labor Laws.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ms. Steele reported that the Key Well level was 245.1 feet on May 23, 2025, a decrease of about 1.0 feet from the prior week, an increase of about 1.8 feet from the prior month, and about 4.0 feet higher than one year ago. She also reported that it includes about 158,000 acre-feet of water in Producer cyclic storage accounts, which represents about 20.0 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 May 31, 2025, stating that total rainfall at Puddingstone Dam is 7.41 inches, which is about 41 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 March 31, 2025 was 23,714 acre-feet.

Additionally, Ms. Steele stated that total combined canyon storage, as of May 27, 2025, was 21,556 acre-feet, about 26 percent of capacity. She also stated that as of May 27, 2025, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 50 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 50 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow was 51 cfs, release was 45 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 thanked Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, USGVMWD, and Mr. Matt Litchfield, General Manager, Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD), for jointly presenting along with her at last week's Pure Water Alternative Recharge Basin Working Group meeting on the importance of Pure Water to our region's water supply.

Mrs. Gardner provided an update on current Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) activities referencing a report submitted in advance by the LACFCD to Watermaster.

REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Dr. Fellow reported on MWD activities, providing an update on MWD's budget process, legislative activities and recruitment strategy for a new General Manager.

Mrs. Jennifer Santana reported on behalf of USGVMWD, referencing a report provided by USGVMWD to Watermaster.

Mr. Love also reported that a Producer meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2025, stating that the discussion will include the Golden Mussel, imported water deliveries and Pure Water Southern California. Additionally, he noted that MWD and the San Diego County Water Authority has reached a settlement agreement regarding water rates.

Mr. Litchfield reported on behalf of TVMWD, providing brief comments regarding the Golden Mussel.

Mr. Placido reported on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), stating that on May 12, 2025, the SGVMWD Board of Directors approved the 2025-26 Draft Budget; and a temporary position for the current General Manager for the period of July 1 to December 31, 2025 to overlap and cross-train with the new General Manager whose start date is July 1, 2025.

Mr. Steve Kiggins, Assistant General Manager, also reported on behalf of SGVMWD, provided an operational update on their pipeline outage schedule.

Chair Noriega thanked the Responsible Agencies and Watermaster for their collaborative efforts in providing the Producers with the necessary information for a better understanding of the Golden Mussel issue, and looks forward to updates as they become available.

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 1,200.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Azusa Valley Water Company to San Gabriel Valley Water Company for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- b) Temporary assignment or lease of 800.00 acre-feet of Production Right from City of Whittier to San Gabriel Valley Water Company for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- c) Temporary assignment or lease of 650.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Covina Valley Water Company to Valley County Water District for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- d) Temporary assignment or lease of 500.00 acre-feet of Carryover Right from Golden State Water Company – San Dimas District to Covina Valley Water Company for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- e) Temporary assignment or lease of 500.00 acre-feet of Carryover Right from Golden State Water Company – San Dimas District to Golden State Water Company – San Gabriel District for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- f) Temporary assignment or lease of 520.72 acre-feet of Production Right and 488.18 acre-feet of Carryover Right from Cadway, Inc. to Suburban Water Systems for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- g) Temporary assignment or lease of 991.10 acre-feet of Production Right from California Domestic Water Company to Suburban Water Systems for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- h) Temporary assignment or lease of 500.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Azusa Valley Water Company to City of South Pasadena for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- i) Temporary assignment or lease of 950.00 acre-feet of Production Right from IBY, LLC to Azusa Valley Water Company for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- j) Temporary assignment or lease of 1,200.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Covina Valley Water Company to City of Arcadia for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- k) Temporary assignment or lease of 285.38 acre-feet of Production Right from City of Irwindale to Valley County Water District for Fiscal Year 2024-25

- l) Temporary assignment or lease of 82.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Hemlock Mutual Water Company to California Domestic Water Company for Fiscal Year 2025-26
- m) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Monthly Report for April 2025

COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS

Dr. Fellow also reported that MWD and the San Diego County Water Authority have reached a settlement agreement following a 15-year legal dispute over rates. He also reported that he along with former MWD Chair, Ms. Gloria Gray, will be hosting a study trip to the Bay-Delta.

Mr. Cranmer thanked Ms. Steele for a thorough Engineer's Report.

Vice Chair Michalko encouraged participation at the next BWMC meeting on June 11, 2025 that will include an update on the Water Quality Monitoring Program and the Golden Mussel.

Chair Noriega thanked USGVMWD for the creation of the coalition letter for the San Gabriel Valley regarding the Delta Conveyance Project. She reminded everyone that the deadline for signing on to the coalition letter is June 5, 2025.

Chair Noriega announced that today's Board meeting will be adjourned in honor and memory of Mrs. Gardner's aunt, Mrs. Susan Cox, who passed away on May 8, 2025.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items were offered.

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 in honor and memory of Mrs. Susan Cox to a regular meeting of Watermaster on Wednesday, July 2, 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:



LYNDA NORIEGA
CHAIR