MINUTES OF A PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER 729 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026 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, January 7, 2026, 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, Cris Fealy, Garry Hofer, David Michalko, Lynda Noriega, Steven Placido, and Jennifer Santana.

ABSENT: Paul Cranmer and Dr. Anthony Fellow.

Dr. Anthony Fellow joined later in the meeting.

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, Ed Chavez, Haley Cole, John Corona, Patricia Cortez, Casey Feilen, Roy Frausto, Jeff Hanlon, Cole Johnson, Steve Kiggins, Ted Koerner, Matt Litchfield, Tom Love, Victor Magana, Jose Martinez, Dusty Moisio, Toby Moore, Stephanie Moreno, Jeffrey Pellissier, Jose Reynoso, Michael Vasquez, and Paul Zampiello.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Garry Hofer presented a slate of officers for appointment: Lynda Noriega, Chair; David Michalko, Vice Chair; Cris Fealy, Secretary, and Melissa Barbosa, Treasurer.

There being no further nominations, a unanimous ballot was cast for Watermaster's 2026 Officers.

Dr. Fellow joined the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING ON WATERMASTER DRAFT FIVE-YEAR WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY PLAN

The Chair stated that it was the time and place duly noticed for the public hearing on the Watermaster Draft Five-Year Water Quality and Supply Plan (Plan). She declared the hearing open and asked Ms. Heather Steele, Consulting Engineer, for any comments.

Ms. Steele referred to the Plan, stating that it had been presented in detail at the November 5, 2025 Watermaster Board of Directors Meeting. She explained that the Plan is prepared every year in accordance with Section 28(g) of Watermaster's Rules and Regulations and notice of the public hearing was distributed to all Parties on November 6, 2025. Ms. Steele then reported that the Plan consists of an introduction, current water supply conditions, current water quality conditions that make up the actual plan and appendices with supporting data.

Lastly, Ms. Steele stated that during the comment period, Watermaster has not received any comments on the Plan.

The Chair asked if there were any other comments before closing the public hearing. No comments were offered; therefore, on motion made by Mr. David Michalko, Vice Chair, seconded by Chair Noriega, and unanimously carried, Watermaster closed the Public Hearing.

On motion made by Vice Chair Michalko, seconded by Chair Noriega, and unanimously carried, Watermaster adopted the Draft Five-Year Water Quality and Supply Plan as presented.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair asked if there were any changes to be made to the agenda. On motion made by Mrs. Jennifer Santana, seconded by Vice Chair Michalko, and unanimously carried, the agenda was adopted as presented.

TIME RESERVED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion made by Dr. Fellow, seconded by Chair Noriega, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

a) Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Watermaster held December 10, 2025;

b) Lists of Demands: Items 21048 through 21076, and four electronic debits, in the amount of $550,661.51 on the Administrative Fund and Items 0126-S and 0126-U in the amount of $161,213.60 on the Replacement Water Fund;

c) Financial Statements, December 2025.

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER SUPPORTING PURE WATER SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (Resolution No. 01-26-342)

Chair Noriega reported that Watermaster has been a long-standing supporter of the Pure Water Southern California project. She stated that as Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) prepares to adopt the Environmental Impact Report and consider moving the project forward, it is important to restate our support, noting that she and the Executive Officer regularly submit public comments in support at MWD Board meetings. Recognizing the challenges in securing replenishment water for our region, she stressed the importance of this project and its full-scale implementation.

Resolution No. 01-26-342 – The Chair stated that a Resolution has been prepared supporting Pure Water Southern California.

On motion made by Mr. Hofer, seconded by Vice Chair Michalko, and unanimously carried, the following Resolution was adopted and passed as read:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-26-342

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER SUPPORTING PURE WATER SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

(*see next page*)

REPLACEMENT WATER/SURCHARGE ACCOUNTING

Mrs. Kelly Gardner, Executive Officer, provided an overview and a detailed explanation of the funds and corresponding water purchases on the Replacement Water/Surcharge Accounting. She added that in order to reduce the impacts of possible future reduction or restriction of deliveries, Watermaster has taken steps to deliver and store as much water as possible when available. Adopting the $100.00 surcharge on Replacement Water beginning with the 2013-14 production year for the Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD) and Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD) encourages pre-purchases and helps reduce variability in orders.

Mrs. Gardner explained that although the surcharge is intended as a financial incentive, Watermaster cannot retain these funds, noting that surcharge funds can only be used to purchase a proportionate amount of water for each specific Producer that incurred the charge. She noted that as a result, Watermaster adjusted the affected Producer production rights for FY 2025-26 and has requested that TVMWD deliver 4.7 acre-feet of water at the 2025 rate of $912.00 per acre-foot from its current cyclic account or transferred from the water pre-delivered during calendar year 2025; and USGVMWD deliver 13.84 acre-feet of water at the 2025 rate of $1,015.00 per acre-foot from its cyclic account or transferred from the cyclic water pre-delivered as part of the 2024 letter agreement.

The Chair asked for any questions of Mrs. Gardner, and with none offered, ordered the Replacement Water/Surcharge Accounting received and filed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Fred Fudacz, Attorney, reported that a Watermaster Status Conference is scheduled for February 5, 2026 that will address the impact(s) of the Golden Mussel issue on supplemental water replenishment operations under the Judgment. He noted that the Los Angeles County of Public Works' will also be participating.

Related to the Baldwin Park Operable Unit Agreement renewal process, he reported that a meeting is scheduled on January 20, 2026 with the Cooperating Respondents and Water Entities to address their respective list of items/issues.

Lastly, Mr. Fudacz reported briefly on the proposed Wild and Scenic legislation by Senator Alex Padilla.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Ms. Steele reported that the Baldwin Park Key Well level was 244.2 feet on December 26, 2025, a decrease of about 0.3 feet from the prior week, a decrease of about 1.9 feet from the prior month, and about 3.0 feet lower than one year ago. She also reported that it includes about 230,000 acre-feet of untreated imported water in cyclic storage accounts, which represents about 29.0 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 December 28, 2025, stating that total rainfall at Puddingstone Dam is 9.90 inches, which is about 165 percent of average; and at the Los Angeles Civic Center, rainfall is 11.10 inches, which is four percent of average, for this time of year.

Additionally, Ms. Steele stated that total combined canyon storage, as of December 23, 2025, was 27,313 acre-feet, about 32 percent of capacity. She also stated that as of December 23, 2025, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 68 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 0 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow was 3 cfs, release was 40 cfs, noting that these numbers do not include the storm flows in late December 2025.

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 referenced that a written copy of her report on Outside Activities is included in the Board packet.

She reported that the San Gabriel Valley Water Association Board of Director meeting on January 26, 2026 will include a discussion on the Golden Mussel, Wild and Scenic legislation and a resolution of support for Pure Water Southern California.

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.

Lastly, she reported briefly on a meeting she attended regarding guiding principles for the installation of dry wells.

REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Dr. Fellow reported on behalf of USGVMWD, provided a brief discussion on MWD activities, that included the Colorado River. He also reported on his appointment to the Agriculture and Tribal Partnerships Committee. Additionally, Dr. Fellow thanked and expressed appreciation to Mrs. Gardner for her work related to Pure Water Southern California.

He reported that the installation of the Association of California Water Agencies' President, Mr. Ernie Avila, and Vice President, Ms. Carol Lee Gonzales-Brady was held today.

Lastly, Dr. Fellow announced the retirement of Mr. Richard Atwater from the Foothill Municipal Water District Board of Directors effective February 1, 2026.

Mrs. Santana also reported on behalf of USGVMWD, stating that USGVMWD's report is available at the sign-in table. She noted that USGVMWD bid farewell to long-time employee Ms. Evelyn Rodriguez, Chief Financial Officer, and that an interim CFO has been appointed during the recruitment process.

Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, also reported on behalf of USGVMWD, stating that USGVMWD's Urban Water Management Plan is currently underway. He provided a brief discussion on MWD activities, that included the State Water Project allocation, Cyclic Cost Offset Program and Pure Water Southern California.

Lastly, he provided the following key dates:

- January 22, 2026 at 8:00 a.m., Doubletree Hotel, Monrovia – Meet and greet with Mr. Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager, MWD
- January 22, 2026 at 11:30 a.m., San Dimas Canyon Golf Course – Southern California Water Utilities Association luncheon featuring Mr. John Bednarksi, Assistant General Manager, MWD.

Mr. Jeff Hanlon, Board Member, reported on behalf of TVMWD, stating that the TVMWD's Executive Committee have discussed Pure Water Southern California and are in support.

Mr. Matt Litchfield, General Manager, reported on behalf of TVMWD, stating that the TVMWD Board of Directors meeting on January 21, 2026 will include adoption of a resolution supporting for Pure Water Southern California.

He announced that the next TVMWD Leadership Breakfast is scheduled for February 26, 2026 and will feature Mr. Deshmukh as the guest speaker.

Mr. Steven Placido, reported on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), stating that there is nothing new to report at this time and the next SGVMWD Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2026.

Mr. Jose Reynoso, General Manager, also reported on behalf of SGVMWD, stating that at this morning's San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Committee meeting, Watermaster provided a status update on the Golden Mussel; as well as an update on the aqueduct subsidence by Ms. Jennifer Pierre, General Manager, State Water Contractors.

Lastly, Mr. Reynoso stated that Senator Alex Padilla will be introducing new legislation to address the subsidence on the Central Valley portion of the California Aqueduct Subsidence Program.

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 34.82 acre-feet of Production Right from

Rados Brothers to San Gabriel Valley Water Company for Fiscal Year 2025-26

b) Temporary assignment or lease of 145.83 acre-feet of Prescriptive Pumping Right from Fox Family Trust, Michael Edward Fox and Crystal Marie Fox, Trustees to California Domestic Water Company for Fiscal Years July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2030

c) Temporary assignment or lease of 173.49 acre-feet of Production Right from Anton C. and Anita Garnier Family Trust to San Gabriel Valley Water Company for Fiscal Year 2025-26

d) ACWA-JPIA "President's Special Recognition Award" on all JPIA Programs

e) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Monthly Report for October & November 2025

COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS

Dr. Fellow, Mrs. Santana and Treasurer Barbosa wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mr. Cris Fealy thanked the Board on the nomination and appointment as Secretary of the Watermaster Board.

Vice Chair Michalko welcomed Mr. Fealy to the Watermaster Board and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He also announced that the Basin Water Management Committee meeting on January 15, 2026 will include updates on the Golden Mussel and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Regulations.

Mr. Hofer welcomed Mr. Fealy to the Watermaster Board.

Chair Noriega welcomed Mr. Fealy to the Watermaster Board.

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 to a regular meeting of Watermaster on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 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

CRIS FEALY

ATTEST:

LYNDA NORIEGA
CHAIR