

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER
729 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA
HELD WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023 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, August 2, 2023, 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

Mr. David Michalko, Vice Chair, led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL OF WATERMASTER MEMBERS

The following members of Watermaster were present on roll call:

PRESENT: David DeJesus, Dr. Anthony Fellow, Benjamin Lewis, Jr., David Michalko, Lynda Noriega, Jennifer Santana and Martin Zvirbulis.

ABSENT: Steven Placido and Anteneh Tesfaye.

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT

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

Others present included: Anthony Alberti, Ed Chavez, Mykela Coleman, John Corona, Paul Cranmer, Casey Feilen, Erik Hitchman, Steve Kiggins, Matthew Litchfield, Tom Love, Jared Macias, Victor Magana, Jose Martinez, Stephanie Moreno, Chisom Obegolu, Lenet Pacheco, Jeffrey Pellissier, Carlos Solis and Ernesto Venegas.

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 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 Mr. Martin Zvirbulis, Secretary, seconded by Mr. David DeJesus, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Watermaster held July 5, 2023;
- b) Lists of Demands: Items 20184 through 20211, and three electronic debits, in the amount of \$495,952.05 on the Administrative Fund and Items 0823-A, 0823-S and 0823-U in the amount of \$580,337.41 on the Replacement Water Fund;
- c) Financial Statements, July 2023;
- d) Authorization to attend Association of California Water Agencies Fall Conference, November 28 – 30, 2023;
- e) Stipulation Re Intervention After Judgment of:
 - i) Martin Marietta Southern California Aggregates LLC

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

The Attorney, Mr. Fred Fudacz, reported that a Status Conference before Presiding Judge, the Honorable Maureen Duffy-Lewis regarding Main Basin conditions is scheduled for September 20, 2023. He added that notice to all Parties will be sent including posting on the Watermaster website.

Mr. Fudacz provided an update on the matter with the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation related to Watermaster assessments for Legg Lakes water usage as part of a water production agreement for the Whittier Narrows Operable Unit, stating that discussions continue.

He reported that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service that administers the Habitat Conservation Plan for the Santa Ana sucker (SAS) in the Santa Ana River intends to relocate a population of SAS to other watersheds i.e., San Gabriel Watershed. He noted that this would be an opportunity for Watermaster to have an active role in the process.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Steve Johnson, Consulting Engineer, reported that the Baldwin Park Key Well level was 230.0 feet on July 21, 2023, a decrease 0.6 feet from the prior week; about 2.6 feet lower from the prior month, and about 47.0 feet higher than one year ago. He also reported that it includes about 104,000 acre-feet of untreated imported water in cyclic storage accounts, which represents about 13 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.

Mr. Johnson then reported briefly on hydrologic conditions as of July 26, 2023, stating that total rainfall at Puddingstone Dam is 28.06 inches, which is about 155 percent of

average; and at the Los Angeles Civic Center, rainfall is 28.40 inches, which is 188 percent of average, for this time of year.

Additionally, Mr. Johnson stated that total combined canyon storage, as of July 25, 2023, was 16,279 acre-feet, about 20 percent of capacity. He also stated that as of July 25, 2023, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 149 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 153 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow was 148 cfs, release was 20 cfs, noting that 20 cfs of the release was diverted from the San Gabriel River at the Azusa/Duarte intake for use by the San Gabriel River Water Committee. He also provided a water quality update.

Mr. Johnson then reported that the Azusa Land Reclamation and Peck Road landfills 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. Anthony Zampello, reported that a written copy of his report on Outside Activities is included in the Board packet.

He reported that the Basin Water Management Committee/Watermaster 101 scheduled for August 9, 2023 has been rescheduled to August 16, 2023 at the American Legion Building in Glendora. He stated that discussion will include an overview of the Resource Development Assessment.

Additionally, he provided a brief update on water releases from the Canyon.

Mr. Zampello reported that the preparation of the Watermaster Annual Report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 is currently in progress, noting that a kick-off meeting was held this morning to begin gathering data.

REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Dr. Fellow reported on behalf of Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD), stating that USGVMWD will be hosting a Women in Water event honoring Congresswoman Grace Napolitano for her dedication and commitment to San Gabriel Valley water supply.

He provided a brief discussion on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Subcommittee on Public Affairs Meeting held on July 25, 2023, regarding the conservation messaging focus group results.

Dr. Fellow also provided an update on the Association of California Water Agencies Region 8 Meeting held on July 13, 2023, stating that the program included a panel discussion on "Perpetual Water Shortage and What Does it Mean?" He added that that panel consisted of Mr. Tony Goff, Calleguas Municipal Water District Municipal Water District; Mr. Tom Love, USGVMWD; David Pedersen, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and Ms. Jennifer Pierre, State Water Contractors.

Ms. Jennifer Santana also reported on behalf of USGVMWD, stated that on July 12, 2023, the USGVMWD approved their water rates and charges for calendar year 2024.

Chair Noriega asked Watermaster staff to coordinate a meeting to discuss unified messaging related to drought and conservation measures.

Mr. Matthew Litchfield, General Manager, reported on behalf of Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD), stated that there was nothing new to report at this time.

Mr. Steve Kiggins, Assistant General Manager, reported on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), stated that the SGVMWD Board of Directors approved the following on July 10, 2023:

- Garvey Unified School District Stormwater Capture Project
- Legislative Update by California Advocates
- Approved proposal by EcoTech Services Inc. for a Water Use Efficiency Program for water customers providing irrigation retrofit services.
- Approved funding for its pipeline fabrication
- Approved funding for Pipeline “T” Fabrication to provide an access manhole

REPORT FROM OUTSIDE COMMITTEE LIAISONS

Chair Noriega reported that any reports from the Outside Committee Liaisons 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 168.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Lucy A. Rosedale and Harry E. Rosedale III Trustees of the Harry E. Rosedale Jr. Trust Dated May 24, 1985 to Canyon Water Company for FY 2023-24
- b) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District monthly report for May 2023

COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS

Dr. Fellow reported that USGVMWD have hosted informational booths at community events on water conservation, noting most recently one in the City of Bradbury on July 27, 2023. He added that the next event is on August 3, 2023 in the City of Arcadia.

Chair Noriega thanked everyone for attending today’s meeting.

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 the next regular meeting of Watermaster on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 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

DRAFT