

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER
725 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA
HELD WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2022 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 Watermaster Conference Room at 725 North Azusa Avenue, in the City of Azusa, County of Los Angeles, State of California, 91702, and via Zoom Meeting (web-based video conferencing) on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, 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: David DeJesus, Dr. Anthony Fellow, Garry Hofer, David Michalko, Lynda Noriega, Steven Placido, Anteneh Tesfaye, Charles Treviño and Martin Zvirbulis.

ABSENT: None

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT

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

Others present included: Anthony Alberti, Dan Arrighi, Melissa Barbosa, Brian Bowcock, Ed Chavez, Dan Colby, Ray Cordero, Patricia Cortez, Cris Fealy, Casey Feilen, Roy Frausto, Erik Hitchman, Steve Kiggins, Bob Kuhn, Benjamin Lewis, Jr., Matthew Litchfield, Tom Love, Charles Luas, Victor Magana, Myra Malner, Jose Martinez, Dusty Moisio, Stephanie Moreno, David Muse, Hai-Van Nguyen, Chisom Obegolu, Lenet Pacheco, Jim Prior, Kevin Sage, Randy Schoellerman, Sherry Shaw, Jessica Taylor, Joseph Velasco, Ernesto Venegas 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. Tesfaye, seconded by Mr. 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. DeJesus, seconded by Mr. Placido, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Watermaster held September 7, 2022;
- b) Lists of Demands: Items 19881 through 19916, and three electronic debits, in the amount of \$341,489.93 on the Administrative Fund and Items 1022-I, 1022-S and 1022-U in the amount of \$192,512.84 on the Replacement Water Fund;
- c) Financial Statements, September 2022.

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE EXTENSION AGREEMENT FOR SAN GABRIEL VALLEY WATER COMPANY PRODUCER CYCLIC STORAGE ACCOUNT

Mr. Anthony Zampielo, Executive Officer, reported that San Gabriel Valley Water Company requested an extension agreement to the terms of its Individual Producer Cyclic Storage Account. He stated that this is a routine item, and no additional storage has been requested by San Gabriel Valley Water Company.

On motion made by Mr. Michalko, seconded by Mr. Tesfaye, with Mr. Zvirbulis abstaining, and unanimously carried, Watermaster authorized the extension agreement for San Gabriel Valley Water Company/Watermaster Cyclic Storage Agreement for a period of five years, to expire on October 5, 2027.

RECEIVE AND FILE THREE-YEAR PURCHASED WATER PLAN FOR FISCAL YEARS 2022-23 TO 2024-25

Mr. Zampielo explained that the Three-year Purchased Water Plan (Plan) was developed to assist with facilitating coordination between Watermaster and the Responsible Agencies relative to anticipated imported water needs.

The Consulting Engineer, Mr. Steve Johnson, then provided an overview of the Plan including how it relates to Watermaster's responsibilities under the amended Judgment.

Mr. Johnson added that many aspects of Watermaster's operations are considered in the preparation of the Plan, including Replacement Water obligations, Supplemental Water Reliability Storage Program (RDA I), Supplemental Water Stormwater Augmentation Program (RDA II), the In-Lieu Program, the Operating Safe Yield and pumping restrictions.

On motion made by Mr. Treviño, seconded by Mr. Michalko, and unanimously carried, the Three-year Purchased Water Plan for Fiscal Years 2022-23 to 2024-25 was received and filed.

REPORT FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Tesfaye reported that the Finance Committee met on September 29, 2022 and discussed two items requiring Watermaster action. Mr. Tesfaye then deferred to Mr. Zampielo to provide an overview on the following items:

- a) Receive and File Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2021-22 – as presented by CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA). Mr. Zampielo discussed the audit components and reported that all accounting standards have been met. He stated that the Committee recommends that Watermaster receive and file the audit report.

On motion made by Mr. DeJesus, seconded by Mr. Michalko, and unanimously carried, the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2021-22 as presented by CLA be received and filed.

- b) Reaffirm Cash Investment Policy – Mr. Zampielo reported that, as required each year, the Finance Committee has also reviewed Watermaster's Cash Investment Policy. He stated that the consensus of the Committee was to recommend that Watermaster approve and reaffirm the Cash Investment Policy.

On motion made by Mr. DeJesus, seconded by Mr. Tesfaye, and unanimously carried, Watermaster reaffirmed its Cash Investment Policy.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

The Attorney, Mr. Alfred Smith, reported that on September 15, 2022 a Status Conference before Presiding Judge, the Honorable Maureen Duffy-Lewis was held regarding Main San Gabriel Basin (Main Basin) conditions. He added that the Status Conference went very well and the update was favorably received by the Honorable Duffy-Lewis. As a result, the Honorable Duffy-Lewis requested an on-site visit/tour and hearing for Spring, 2023. Mr. Smith added that once scheduled, Watermaster staff will send appropriate and required notice.

Additionally, Mr. Smith provided the following key dates:

- December 16, 2022 – Confirmation hearing of Watermaster Board of Directors' nominees for calendar year 2023.
- September 20, 2023 – Status Conference before the Honorable Duffy-Lewis, regarding Main Basin conditions.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Johnson, reported that the Baldwin Park Key Well level was 178.2 feet on September 23, 2022, noting a decrease of 0.2 feet from the prior week; about 1.6 feet lower from the prior month, and about 7.0 feet lower than one year ago. He also reported that it includes about 110,000 acre-feet of untreated imported water in cyclic storage accounts, which represents about 14 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 September 30, 2022, stating that total rainfall at Puddingstone Dam is 0.43 inches, which is about 108 percent of average; and at the Los Angeles Civic Center, rainfall is 0.37 inches, which is 137 percent of average, for this time of year.

Additionally, Mr. Johnson stated that total combined canyon storage, as of September 26, 2022, was 13,256 acre-feet, about 16 percent of capacity. He also stated that as of September 26, 2022, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 6 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 6 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow was 15 cfs, release was 38 cfs. He also provided a water quality update.

Mr. Johnson also 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

Mr. Zampielo reported that a written copy of his report on Outside Activities is included in the Board packet. He provided a brief update on the Quagga Mussel Mitigation Plan (Plan), stating that the Plan has been submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for review.

REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Dr. Anthony Fellow, reporting on behalf of Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD), referenced a report provided by USGVMWD to Watermaster. He reported that on September 28, 2022, the USGVMWD Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 09-22-648 recognizing Water Professionals Appreciation Week and received an update on the State Water Project and Bay Delta issues by Mr. Steve Arakawa, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD).

Dr. Fellow also reported that WaterFest is scheduled for October 15, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Arcadia County Park, in partnership with Los Angeles County Supervisor, Kathryn Barger. The event will include a special presentation at 12:30 p.m. honoring Congresswoman Grace Napolitano with the *Water Drop Legislator of the Year Award*.

Additionally, Dr. Fellow stated that MWD, the Colorado River Board of California and several California water agencies sent a letter to the United States (U.S.) Department of Interior and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation proposing to conserve up to an additional 400,000 acre-feet of water in Lake Mead each year, beginning in 2023 and running through 2026. He added that this water will meaningfully contribute to stabilizing the Colorado River reservoir system.

Mr. Treviño echoed Dr. Fellow's comments related to the Colorado River water delivery efforts.

Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, USGVMWD, also reporting on behalf of USGVMWD, provided an update on the Quagga Mussel Mitigation Plan and Colorado River water supplies.

Additionally, he provided the following key dates:

- USGVMWD Board of Directors Meeting – October 12, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.
- Producers Meeting – October 12, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Matthew Litchfield, General Manager, reporting on behalf of Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD), reported briefly on MWD's Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report and Notice of Public Scoping Meetings relative to the Pure Water Southern California recycled water project. He also reported that TVMWD is considering the Reverse Cyclic Program, noting that internal discussions will begin next week.

Mr. Steven Placido, reporting on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), stated that the SGVMWD Board of Directors met on September 12, 2022 and the discussion included administrative matters and the pipeline repair project.

Mr. Steve Kiggins, Assistant General Manager, also reporting on behalf of SGVMWD, provided an operational update, stating that in mid-September SGVMWD completed the condition assessment and pipeline repairs in the City of Glendora. He added that the SGVMWD's water deliveries/State Water Project allocation began on September 20, 2022, noting that deliveries ceased this morning during the USG-3 delivery and the balance of the small allocation will be delivered before the end of this calendar year.

REPORT FROM OUTSIDE COMMITTEE LIAISONS

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

INFORMATION ITEM

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

- a) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District monthly report for August 2022

COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS

Dr. Fellow extended an invitation and welcomed everyone to attend WaterFest on October 15, 2022.

Chair Noriega acknowledged Mr. Litchfield for reporting on the release of information related to MWD's Pure Water Southern California recycled water project preliminary environmental documents and public engagement. She stated that this morning

Watermaster distributed the notice by email to the Producers and Parties to the Judgment, stressing the importance in participation and to provide any comments to their respective agencies to be conveyed at the meetings.

Related to the Status Conference before the Honorable Duffy-Lewis on September 15, 2022, Chair Noriega thanked and commended Mrs. Kelly Gardner, Assistant Executive Officer; Mr. Steve Johnson, Consulting Engineer; Mr. Fred Fudacz, Attorney and Mr. Alfred Smith, Attorney, on a great presentation and for addressing issues in the Main Basin. Chair Noriega added that it was evident that the Honorable Duffy-Lewis appreciated the information on the Pure Water Southern California Project as she expressed interest in scheduling an on-site hearing/tour in support of moving the project forward. Chair Noriega also thanked Mr. Tesfaye for attending.

Chair Noriega emphasized the importance for the Producers to remain engaged in order to provide input and gain a better understanding as to what needs to be done moving forward. She stated that the Main Basin has been very collaborative for several years and now this collaboration will be of the utmost importance as we work together to find solutions to current and upcoming water supply challenges.

She stated that the Producers have expressed a need and desire among water agencies to collaborate and expand operational knowledge. She added that she will be working with Mr. Michalko in scheduling one-on-one meetings with the agencies as well as group engagements.

Mr. Zampietro reported that an updated communications plan for Watermaster's Outreach Campaign, *The Waters That Connect Us*, is currently underway for Fiscal Year 2022-23.

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, November 2, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. to be held via Zoom Meeting.

SECRETARY'S SIGNATURE



MARTIN ZVIRBULIS

ATTEST:



LYNDA NORIEGA
CHAIR