

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

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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, July 2, 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**

Mrs. Kelly Gardner, Executive Officer, 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, Lynda Noriega, Steven Placido, and Martin Zvirbulis.

**ABSENT:** David Michalko and Jennifer Santana.

**STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT**

Staff present at the meeting included: Kelly Gardner, Executive Officer; Alfred Smith, 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: Anthony Alberti, Nathan Au, Dan Colby, John Corona, Pearl Escobar, Cris Fealy, Casey Feilen, Roy Frausto, Geo Herrera, Steve Kiggins, Stephanie Lobos, Matt Litchfield, Tom Love, Victor Magana, Jose Martinez, Jorge Marquez, Toby Moore, Stephanie Moreno, David Muse, Jeffrey Pellissier, Jose Reynoso, and Paul Zampielo.

**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. Steven Placido, 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. Paul Cranmer, seconded by Mr. Martin Zvirbulis, Secretary, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of a Regular Meeting held June 4, 2025 of Watermaster;
- b) Lists of Demands: Items 20883 through 20909, and four electronic debits, in the amount of \$576,869.41 on the Administrative Fund and Items 0625-S and 0625-U in the amount of \$162,469.00 on the Replacement Water Fund, and
- c) Financial Statements, June 2025.

## REPORT FROM BASIN WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Mrs. Kelly Gardner, Executive Officer, referred to a written Committee report included in the Board packet. She reported that the Basin Water Management Committee (BWMC) met on June 11, 2025, and discussed a few items, one which requires Watermaster action today.

### Water Quality Management Monitoring Program

Mrs. Gardner provided a brief overview of the purpose of the Water Quality Monitoring Program (Program), that is intended to serve as a guideline for the processing of future contaminant monitoring and the appropriate funding mechanisms for testing through Watermaster. Following a comment period, Watermaster staff recommended that the Program be considered for approval by the Watermaster Board and memorialized as an agency policy.

On motion made by Secretary Zvirbulis, seconded by Mr. Cranmer, and unanimously carried, the Water Quality Management Monitoring Program was received and filed.

## REQUEST FROM CALIFORNIA AMERICAN WATER TO PURCHASE 5,000 ACRE- FEET OF WATER FROM UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT FOR PRODUCER CYCLIC STORAGE

Mrs. Gardner reported that California American Water has submitted a request to purchase 5,000 acre-feet of water from Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD) for its producer cyclic storage account. She noted that there is available capacity within their existing account.

On motion made by Ms. Melissa Barbosa, Treasurer, seconded by Dr. Anthony Fellow, with Mr. Garry Hofer abstaining, and unanimously carried, Watermaster authorized the purchase of 5,000 acre-feet of cyclic storage water from USGVMWD for California American Water's individual producer cyclic storage account.

## ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Alfred Smith, Attorney, 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 continues working with Watermaster staff to update the

previous version of the Employee Handbook (2014) to comply with changes in State and Federal Labor Laws.

Lastly, Mr. Smith 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.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Ms. Heather Steele, Consulting Engineer, reported that the Key Well level was 245.9 feet on June 20, 2025, an increase of about 0.6 feet from the prior week, an increase of about 0.8 feet from the prior month, and about 7.0 feet higher than one year ago. She also reported that it includes about 170,000 acre-feet of untreated imported water in cyclic storage accounts, which represents about 21.0 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 June 25, 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 May 31, 2025 was 35,184 acre-feet.

Additionally, Ms. Steele stated that total combined canyon storage, as of June 24, 2025, was 21,656 acre-feet, about 26 percent of capacity. She also stated that as of June 24, 2025, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 32 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 32 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow was 32 cfs, release was 40 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 the Responsible Agencies and the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority for coordinating and including Watermaster in the San Gabriel Valley Water Supply Tour held on June 28, 2025 with Assemblymember Blanca Rubio and water industry professionals.

Mrs. Gardner reminded the Producers that the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Water Production Reports are due July 15, 2025, and to submit any requests for Waiver of Assessments for consideration.

Lastly, Mrs. Gardner reported that the Azusa Land Reclamation (ALR) has submitted a request regarding placement of material in ALR's Zone V at the Azusa Landfill as part

of underwater fill materials. She stated that Watermaster is working with Stetson Engineers to ensure that the permitting and water quality testing process is met.

## **REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES**

Dr. Fellow reported on Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) activities, which included an update on MWD's recruitment process for a new General Manager. He then reported on USGVMWD activities, stating that on June 11, 2025, the USGVMWD Board approved a 3% cost-of-living adjustment effective July 1, 2025 and on June 25, 2025, received an update from the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority, General Manager, Mr. Randy Schoellerman.

Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, also reported on behalf of USGVMWD, providing a water supply update that included USG-3 imported water deliveries. He then provided a brief update on the status of the Golden Mussel, stating that USG-3 was added to sampling and there has been no detection; however, monitoring will continue. Lastly, Mr. Love stated that the USGVMWD's Producer meeting on July 9, 2025 is cancelled.

Mr. Matt Litchfield, General Manager, reported on behalf of TVMWD, providing an update on water supply and deliveries. He also reported that a Golden Mussel Mitigation Plan/Coordination meeting regarding the Golden Mussel was held on June 24, 2025 with the three Responsible Agencies and Watermaster.

He introduced Mr. Jorge Marquez, TVMWD Board Member, and announced that the TVMWD Board meetings for the months of July and August 2025 will be dark.

Mr. Steven Placido reported on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), stating that he enjoyed attending the San Gabriel Valley Water Supply Tour. He announced and introduced Mr. Jose Reynoso as SGVMWD's new General Manager. He also reported that that SGVMWD sponsored along with ActiveSGV, a 5K bike tour along the Emerald Necklace, highlighting the Pure Water Southern California program.

Mr. Jose Reynoso, General Manager, SGVMWD, stated he looks forward to working with Watermaster, the Responsible Agencies and the Producers.

Mr. Steve Kiggins, Assistant General Manager, also reported on behalf of SGVMWD, stating that their pipeline has resumed deliveries.

## **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 46.82 acre-feet of Production Right from Phillip G. Tate & Sieglinde Tate, Trustees of the Tate Family Trust to La Puente Valley County Water District for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- b) Temporary assignment or lease of 250.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Azusa Valley Water Company to Suburban Water Systems for Fiscal Year 2024-25

- c) Temporary assignment or lease of 393.95 acre-feet of Production Right from Covina Valley Water Company to Canyon Water Company for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- d) Temporary assignment or lease of 500.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Amarillo Mutual Water Company to San Gabriel Valley Water Company for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- e) Temporary assignment or lease of 1,650.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Martin Marietta Southern California Aggregates, LLC to California Domestic Water Company for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- f) Temporary assignment or lease of 70.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Del Rio Mutual Water Company to California Domestic Water Company for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- g) Temporary assignment or lease of 125.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Sonoco Products Company to California Domestic Water Company for Fiscal Year 2025-26
- h) Temporary assignment or lease of 300.00 acre-feet of Production Right from San Gabriel County Water District to Suburban Water Systems for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- i) Temporary assignment or lease of 393.95 acre-feet of Production Right from Canyon Water Company to Suburban Water Systems for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- j) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Monthly Report for May 2025

#### **COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS**

Treasurer Barbosa commented on the Women in Water, San Gabriel Valley Region, event held on June 26, 2025, stating that it was highly informative and well-received.

Chair Noriega thanked USGVMWD for hosting the Women in Water event featuring Ms. Jennifer Capitolo, Executive Director, California Water Association. She also thanked the agencies who participated in the tour with Assemblymember Rubio, San Gabriel Valley Water Company's B6 site, and Valley County Water District for hosting lunch.

Mr. Cranmer welcomed Mr. Reynoso.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- a) Public Hearing on August 6, 2025 Regarding Any Requests for Waivers of Assessment

#### **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 public hearing and regular meeting of Watermaster on Wednesday, August 6, 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