

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER
729 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA
HELD WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 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, September 6, 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

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, Benjamin Lewis, Jr., David Michalko, Lynda Noriega, Steven Placido, Jennifer Santana, Anteneh Tesfaye and Martin Zvirbulis.

ABSENT: None

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT

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

Others present included: Dennis Ahlen, Anthony Alberti, Melissa Barbosa, Carlos Cardona, Ed Chavez, Dan Colby, Mikayla Coleman, John Corona, Patricia Cortez, Casey Feilen, Roy Frausto, Steve Kiggins, Tom Love, Victor Magana, Dusty Moisio, Stephanie Moreno, Tara Mulally, Jeffrey Pellissier, Tara Robinson, 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 Mr. David DeJesus, 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 Mr. Steven Placido, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Watermaster held August 2, 2023;
- b) Lists of Demands: Items 20212 through 20235, and four electronic debits, in the amount of \$331,183.08 on the Administrative Fund and Items 0923-I, 0923-S, 0923-T and 0923-U in the amount of \$2,154,475.59 on the Replacement Water Fund;
- c) Financial Statements, August 2023.

REPORT FROM BASIN WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Vice Chair David Michalko reported that the Basin Water Management Committee (BWMC) met on August 16, 2023 and referenced the Committee report included in the Board packet. He announced that the BWMC meeting for the month of September 2023 will be dark and will resume on October 11, 2023. He added that the appropriate notices will be sent.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

The Attorney, Mr. Fred Fudacz, reminded everyone that a Status Conference before Presiding Judge, the Honorable Maureen Duffy-Lewis regarding Main Basin conditions is scheduled for September 20, 2023.

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 will continue on September 18, 2023.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Steve Johnson, Consulting Engineer, reported that the Baldwin Park Key Well level was 227.7 feet on August 25, 2023, a decrease 0.2 feet from the prior week; about 1.5 feet lower from the prior month, and about 48.0 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 13.0 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.

Mr. Johnson then reported briefly on hydrologic conditions as of August 31, 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 August 29, 2023, was 19,336 acre-feet, about 23 percent of capacity. He also stated that as of August 29, 2023, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 177 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 182 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow was 177 cfs, release was 460 cfs. 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 Zampiello, reported that a written copy of his report on Outside Activities is included in the Board packet. He stated that the Watermaster Board of Directors Meeting on October 4, 2023 will include the three-year purchased water plan. Mr. Zampiello also stated that Watermaster staff are currently working on the Annual Report and Five-Year Water Quality and Supply Plan for Fiscal Years 2023-24 to 2027-28.

He reported that production for FY 2022-23 was 167,628.88 acre-feet, noting a targeted budget of 180,000 acre-feet.

Lastly, Mr. Zampiello provided a brief update on the coordination of a meeting regarding unified messaging related to drought and conservation measures.

REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Dr. Fellow reported on behalf of Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD), stating that the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Board of Directors Meeting on September 12, 2023 will include a discussion on department head performance evaluations (General Manager, General Counsel and Ethics Officer) in closed session. Additionally, he reported on the following key events:

- September 14, 2023 – MWD Leadership Luncheon – September 14, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott in the City of Baldwin Park
- Women in Water – September 14, 2023 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott in the City of Monrovia

Ms. Jennifer Santana also reported on behalf of USGVMWD, stating that USGVMWD hosted a roundtable discussion on August 30, 2023 with Congresswoman Grace Napolitano and National Aeronautics and Space Administration Jet Propulsion

Laboratory regarding groundwater data collection. Additionally, Ms. Santana that the USGVMWD Board of Directors Meeting was dark for the month of August 2023.

Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, also reported on behalf of USGVMWD, provided an update on water deliveries. He also provided the following key dates:

- USGVMWD Water Resources and Facility Management Committee – September 6, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.
- Producer Meeting – September 13, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.
- USGVMWD Board of Directors Meeting – September 27, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Placido, reported on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), stated that the SGVMWD Board of Directors Meeting on August 28, 2023 included an update on the pipeline and the General Manager's Employment Contract.

Mr. Steve Kiggins, Assistant General Manager, also reported on behalf of SGVMWD, stating that the SGVMWD Board of Directors meeting included the selection and approval of a contractor for their pipeline project.

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 38.07 acre-feet of Production Right from Vulcan Materials Company to City of Azusa for FY 2023-24
- b) Change of Designee for the City of Monterey Park to Inez Alvarez
- c) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District monthly report for July 2023

COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS

No comments were offered.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Three-year Purchased Water Plan

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, October 4, 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