

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER
729 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA
HELD WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 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, October 4, 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; Ana Rodriguez, Accountant II and Lauren Augino, Water Analyst II.

Others present included: Dennis Ahlen, Anthony Alberti, Andy Bullington, Dan Colby, Mikayla Coleman, Tom Coleman, John Corona, Paul Cranmer, Paul DiMaggio, Cris Fealy, Casey Feilen, Roy Frausto, Erik Hitchman, Garry Hofer, Steve Kiggins, Chris Lancaster, Matt Litchfield, Tom Love, Jared Macias, Victor Magana, Jose Martinez, Stephanie Moreno, Chisom Obegolu, Jeffrey Pellissier, Carlos Solis, Jessica Taylor, Mike Touhey 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. 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. David DeJesus, seconded by Vice David Michalko, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Watermaster held August 6, 2023;
- b) Lists of Demands: Items 20236 through 20265, and four electronic debits, in the amount of \$382,797.24 on the Administrative Fund and Items 1023-S and 1023-U in the amount of \$2,118,955.98 on the Replacement Water Fund;
- c) Financial Statements, September 2023.

RECEIVE AND FILE THREE-YEAR PURCHASED WATER PLAN FOR FY 2023 -24 TO 2025-26

Executive Officer, Mr. Anthony Zampello 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 Programs (Replenishment Development Assessment I and II), the In-Lieu Programs, the Operating Safe Yield and pumping restrictions.

On motion made by Treasurer Anteneh Tesfaye, seconded by Vice Chair David Michalko, and unanimously carried, the Three-year Purchased Water Plan for Fiscal Years 2023-24 to 2025-26 was received and filed.

REPORT FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Tesfaye reported that the Finance Committee met on September 25, 2023 and discussed two items requiring Watermaster action. Mr. Tesfaye provided an overview on the following items:

- a) Receive and File Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2022-23 – as presented by CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA). Mr. Tesfaye 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.

Additionally, Mr. Tesfaye commended Ms. Lupe Artis, Controller, and Watermaster staff for a job well done in coordinating and preparing the Audit Report.

On motion made by Dr. Fellow, seconded by Mr. Steven Placido, and unanimously carried, the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2022-23 as presented by CLA be received and filed.

- b) Reaffirm Cash Investment Policy – Mr. Tesfaye 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. Benjamin Lewis, Jr., seconded by Chair Noriega, and unanimously carried, Watermaster reaffirmed its Cash Investment Policy.

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 was held on 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 continue.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Johnson, Consulting Engineer, reported that the Baldwin Park Key Well level was 227.0 feet on September 22, 2023, no change from the prior week, a decrease 0.7 feet from the prior month, and about 49.0 feet higher than one year ago. He also reported that it includes about 107,000 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 September 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 September 26, 2023, was 10,690 acre-feet, about 13 percent of capacity. He also stated that as of September 26, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 97 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 94 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow was 91 cfs, release was 20 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 Zampello, reported that a written copy of his report on Outside Activities is included in the Board packet.

He highlighted that the San Gabriel Valley Water Association (SGVWA) Annual Membership Luncheon is scheduled for November 8, 2023, stating that the SGVWA will honor Grace F. Napolitano, United States House of Representative, 31st District of California, as a devoted advocate for securing clean, reliable and sustainable water supplies in the San Gabriel Valley and Southern California.

REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Dr. Fellow reported on behalf of Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD), stating that USGVMWD was honored by the United States Environmental Protection Agency with its second WaterSense Sustained Excellence Award at the WaterSmart Innovations Conference in Las Vegas on October 5, 2023.

Ms. Jennifer Santana also reported on behalf of USGVMWD, referenced a report provided by USGVMWD to Watermaster. She reported that on September 13, 2023, the USGVMWD Board of Directors approved for USGVMWD's General Manager to vote for the nominating committee's recommended slate, Dr. Fellow as Chair for the Associate of California Water Agencies Region 8 for the 2024-25 term.

Additionally, Ms. Santana reported that the USGVMWD Board of Directors received a presentation by Mr. John Bednarski, Chief Engineer and Group Manager of Engineering Services for Metropolitan Water District on Pure Water Southern California.

Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, also reported on behalf of USGVMWD, providing an update on water deliveries. He also reported a USGVMWD Water Resources and Facility Management Committee Meeting and Special USGVMWD Board of Directors is scheduled for this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. and will include an update on groundwater replenishment initiatives and a discussion on the Integrated Resource Planning. Mr. Love added that a Producer Meeting will not be held this month.

Mr. Matt Litchfield, General Manager, reported on behalf of Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD), stating that the TVMWD Board of Directors met this morning and the discussion included a presentation by Mr. Bednarski on Pure Water Southern California.

Mr. Placido, reported on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), stated that on September 11, 2023 the SGVMWD Board of Directors Meeting approved the 2022-23 Annual Report and discussed participating in an analysis of State Water Project (SWP) challenges concerning the East Branch of the SWP.

Mr. Steve Kiggins, Assistant General Manager, also reported on behalf of SGVMWD, stating that on September 11, 2023, the SGVMWD Board of Directors approved a cost share for State Water Contractor Class 8 Water Management Analysis.

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 50.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Vulcan Materials Company to Moon Valley Nursery of California, Inc. for FY 2023-24
- b) Temporary assignment or lease of 550.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Vulcan Materials Company to San Gabriel Valley Water Company for FY 2023-24
- c) Change of Designee for Covina Irrigating Company to David Michalko
- d) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Monthly Report for August 2023
- e) San Gabriel Valley Water Company No. 8 Notification of Detections of Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid

COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS

Dr. Fellow reported that United States Senator Dianne Feinstein passed away on September 29, 2023. He recognized her accomplishments and requested for today's meeting be adjourned in her memory.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Consideration of Extension Agreement for Valencia Heights Water Company for Producer Cyclic Storage
- b) Renewal of Three Valleys Municipal Water District Cyclic Agreement

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 in honor and memory of United States Senator, Dianne Feinstein, to the next regular meeting of Watermaster on Wednesday, November 1, 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