

**MINUTES OF A PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING OF
THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER
729 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA
HELD WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2022 AT 2:30 O'CLOCK P.M.**

A public hearing and regular meeting of the Main San Gabriel Basin 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, and via Zoom Meeting (web-based video conferencing) on Wednesday, August 3, 2022, at the hour of 2:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Lynda Noriega, Chair, officially 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, Anteneh Tesfaye, Charles Treviño and Martin Zvirbulis.

ABSENT: Steven Placido

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT

Staff present at the meeting included: Anthony Zampiello, Executive Officer; Fred Fudacz, Attorney; Kelly Gardner, Assistant Executive Officer; Steve Johnson, Consulting Engineer; Jenny Savron, Consulting Engineer; Ana Mata, Executive Assistant; Ana Rodriguez, Accountant II and Lauren Augino, Water Resources Analyst.

Others present included: Melissa Barbosa, Brian Bowcock, Robert Bowcock, Dan Colby, Ray Cordero, John Corona, Patricia Cortez, Paul Cranmer, Dana Diaz, Cris Fealy, Casey Feilen, Roy Frausto, Greg Galindo, Juliana Gomez, Richard Gonzales, Erik Hitchman, Sylvie Lee, Benjamin Lewis, Jr., Tom Love, Charles Luas, Jared Macias, Victor Magana, Myra Malner, Jose Martinez, Steve McGee, Stephanie Moreno, David Muse, Don Nguyen, Chisom Obegolu, Lenet Pacheco, Jeffrey Pellissier, Jim Prior, Cesar Rangel, Ken Reich, Evelyn Reyes, Randy Schoellerman, Sherry Shaw, Carlos Solis, Jessica Taylor, Mike Thai, Joseph Velasco, Ernesto Venegas, Yuen Yap and George Zakhari.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair asked if there were any changes to be made to the agenda. On motion made by Dr. Fellow, seconded by Mr. Treviño, and unanimously carried, the agenda was adopted as presented.

PUBLIC HEARING ON PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS

The Chair stated that this was the time and place fixed and noticed for a public hearing to be conducted by the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster in accordance with Section 116470 of the California Health and Safety Code to discuss Public Health Goals established for drinking water by California Environmental Protective Agency. Mr. Steve Johnson, Consulting Engineer, introduced Mr. Yuen Yap, Senior Engineer for Stetson Engineers, to conduct the hearing.

Mr. Yap stated that Watermaster had authorized Stetson Engineers to prepare Public Health Goal reviews for twelve water systems within the Main San Gabriel Basin (Main Basin), and the purpose of today's meeting was to address public concerns on behalf of those systems: City of Alhambra; City of Arcadia; City of Azusa Light and Water; California-American Water Co. – San Marino; City of Glendora; Golden State Water Company – San Dimas System; City of Monterey Park; San Gabriel Valley Water Company – El Monte/Whittier System; Suburban Water Systems – San Jose Hills System; Suburban Water Systems – Whittier System; Valley County Water District and City of Whittier.

Additionally, Mr. Yap noted that Public Health Goal requirements are the result of SB 1307, which, enacted in 1996 and effective since 1997, governs any water system with at least 10,000 service connections. He stressed that Public Health Goals are not actual regulatory standards and that all twelve of the water systems subject to today's hearing have met all state and federal requirements. He further explained that the review identifies contaminants of concern which may have registered levels above the Public Health Goals, notes human health risks associated with the contaminants, describes best available treatment technologies, estimates costs to bring contaminant levels down to Public Health Goal levels and identifies any other action which may enhance water quality.

Lastly, Mr. Yap noted that public notices for today's hearing had been published in the San Gabriel Valley Tribune newspaper group on July 20 and July 27, 2022. Additionally, Watermaster had posted the public notice of the hearing and provided copies to the twelve affected water systems. Mr. Yap further noted that representatives of the twelve water systems were present at the hearing to answer questions.

The Chair invited those present to submit comments on the Public Health Goals reviewed. There being no comments offered, the Chair closed the comment period and the public hearing.

TIME RESERVED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were offered.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion made by Mr. Treviño, seconded by Mr. Michalko, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Watermaster held July 6, 2022;

- b) Lists of Demands: Items 19821 through 19852, and four electronic debits, in the amount of \$267,872.50 on the Administrative Fund and Items 0822-A, 0822-S, 0822-T and 0822-U in the amount of \$1,036,608.33 on the Replacement Water Fund;
- c) Financial Statements, July 2022;
- d) Authorization to attend Association of California Water Agencies Fall Conference, November 29 – December 2, 2022, in Indian Wells.

REPORT FROM BASIN WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Vice Chair Michalko reported that the Basin Water Management Committee met on July 13, 2022 and referenced the Committee report included in the Board packet. He stated that the discussion included an update on water supply, Colorado River water deliveries and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. He pointed out that a presentation by the Environmental Protection Agency on the San Gabriel Valley Production Well Conduit Assessment was also provided.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

The Attorney, Mr. Fred Fudacz, reported that a status conference regarding the Main Basin conditions before Presiding Judge, the Honorable Maureen Duffy-Lewis is scheduled for September 15, 2022 at the Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles. He added that notice of status conference will be sent to all Parties to the Judgment next week.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The Consulting Engineer, Mr. Steve Johnson, reported that the Baldwin Park Key Well level was 182.6 feet on July 22, 2022, noting a decrease of 1.2 feet from the prior week; about 2.6 feet lower from the prior month, and about 7.0 feet lower than one year ago. He also reported that it includes about 128,000 acre-feet of untreated imported water in cyclic storage accounts, which represents about 16 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, 2022, stating that total rainfall at Puddingstone Dam is 11.42 inches, which is about 63 percent of average; and at the Los Angeles Civic Center, rainfall is 12.40 inches, which is 82 percent of average, for this time of year.

Additionally, Mr. Johnson stated that total combined canyon storage, as of July 26, 2022, was 16,754 acre-feet, about 20 percent of capacity. He also stated that as of July 26, 2022, the San Gabriel Reservoir inflow was 10 cubic feet per second (cfs), release was 10 cfs and the Morris Reservoir inflow was 3 cfs, release was 25 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. Zampiello reported that a written copy of his report on Outside Activities is included in the Board packet.

He provided a brief discussion on the proposed Quagga Mussel Mitigation Plan (Plan) with the goal of delivering supplemental water from the Colorado River into the Main Basin, stating that on-going discussions continue with Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD), Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW) representatives. He stated that the target delivery date has changed to the Spring 2023 due to several factors that include finalizing the Plan for submittal to regulatory agencies.

Mr. Zampiello reported that the San Gabriel Valley Water Association will be holding an in-person Quarterly Breakfast Meeting on August 18, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. at the Pomona Valley Mining Company featuring keynote speaker, Mr. David Pedersen, General Manager, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District.

REPORT FROM RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

Dr. Anthony Fellow, reporting on behalf of USGVMWD, stated the Association of California Water Agencies Annual Conference July 12 – 14, 2022 in Washington, D.C., featured keynote speaker United States Senator Alex Padilla, who spoke on the importance of implementing new and innovative strategies for water conservation and drought resilience. Additionally, he reported that a meeting was held with Congresswoman Grace Napolitano stating that it was very beneficial, and that she expressed interest in USGVMWD's water conservation messaging.

Dr. Fellow also stated that at the next USGVMWD Board of Directors Meeting on August 10, 2022 will include an update on Pure Water Southern California.

Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, USGVMWD, also reporting on behalf of USGVMWD reported that the USGVMWD Board of Directors meetings for the month of July 2022 were dark.

Mr. Love also provided an additional update on Colorado River water supplies.

Additionally, he provided the following key dates:

- USGVMWD Water Resources and Facility Management Committee – August 3, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.

- USGVMWD Board of Directors Meeting – August 10, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.
- Producer Meeting – August 10, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

Ms. Sylvie Lee, Chief Water Resources Officer, reporting on behalf of Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD), provided an operational update stating that State Water Project dependent, TVMWD member agencies, have responded and have been conserving. She added that they are 30% below target for State Water Project deliveries, as a direct result of operational shifts and conservation efforts.

Ms. Lee stated that with the MWD upper feeder shut down from September 6 – 20, 2022, affected customers' water source from the Weymouth Plant will change from the Colorado River to the State Water Project water supplies and an outdoor irrigation restriction will be in place during the 15-day day timeframe. She noted that MWD will be providing a press release on the matter next week.

Ms. Evelyn Reyes, External Affairs Manager, reporting on behalf of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (SGVMWD), provided an operational update stating that its pipeline continues undergoing a modification with the hope of resuming deliveries in September 2022. She also reported that the SGVMWD Board of Directors meeting scheduled for August 8, 2022 has been rescheduled to August 15, 2022.

REPORT FROM OUTSIDE COMMITTEE LIAISONS

Chair Noriega reported that any 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 60.00 acre-feet of Production Right from Del Rio Mutual Water Company to California Domestic Water Company for FY 2021-22
- b) Temporary assignment or lease of 36.89 acre-feet of Production Right from Vulcan Materials Company to City of Azusa for FY 2022-23
- c) Transmittal of San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District monthly report for June 2022
- d) Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority Wellness Grant Approval Letter

COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS

Mr. Treviño stated that he was pleased that MWD is looking to enhance their distribution system to better diversify opportunities.

Dr. Fellow stated that Senator Joseph Montoya passed away on June 21, 2022 and the memorial services are scheduled for August 12, 2022 and requested to adjourn today's meeting in his memory.

Secretary Zvirbulis thanked Mr. Zampielo, Mrs. Kelly Gardner, Assistant Executive Officer and Mr. Love for their continued efforts on the Quagga Mussel Mitigation Plan.

Vice Chair Michalko echoed Secretary Zvirbulis' comments.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a) Public Hearing on September 7, 2022 Regarding 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 in honor and memory of The Honorable Joseph Montoya, to the next regular meeting of Watermaster on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. to be held via Zoom Meeting.

SECRETARY'S SIGNATURE



MARTIN ZVIRBULIS

ATTEST:



LYNDA NORIEGA
CHAIR