

SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223
Minutes of the
Board of Directors Meeting
April 6, 2015

Directors Present: John Jeter, President
Mary Ann Melleby, Treasurer
Blair Ball, Director
Leonard Stephenson, Director

Directors Absent: Bill Dickson, Vice President
Ron Duncan, Director
Ray Morris, Director

Staff Present: Jeff Davis, General Manager
Jeff Ferré, General Counsel
Tom Todd, Finance Manager
Ken Falls, Operations and Maintenance Manager
Cheryle Rasmussen, Executive Assistant

1. **Call to Order, Flag Salute and Roll Call:** The meeting of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors was called to order by Board President John Jeter at 1:30 p.m., April 6, 2015 in the Agency Boardroom at 1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California. Director Melleby led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. A quorum was present.
2. **Adoption and Adjustment of the Agenda:** President Jeter asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. There being none the agenda was adopted as presented.
3. **Public Comment:** President Jeter asked the members of the public for comments. No members of the public requested to speak at this time.
4. **Consent Calendar:**
 - A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, March 16, 2015
 - B. Approval of the Minutes of the Finance and Budget Workshop, March 23, 2015
 - C. Approval of the Finance and Budget Workshop Report, March 23, 2015

Director Ball moved, seconded by Director Melleby, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

5. Reports:

A. General Manager's Report:

(1) **Operations Report:** General Manager Davis reported on the following: **(a) SWP Water Deliveries:** Pumping will commence next Monday. The Agency will deliver water to BCVWD ponds in time for the Beaumont Cherry Valley Parks and Recreation Annual Fishing Derby that will take place on April 25 – 26.

(2) General Agency Updates: (a) Drought Emergency Declaration: General Manager Davis and General Counsel Jeff Ferré provided a summary of Governor Jerry Brown's drought emergency declaration that was announced on April 1, 2015, which mandates a 25% water reduction (baseline year 2013) on urban use. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will be charged with implementing the regulations. The proposed schedule below is for the development of emergency regulations and implementation:

- April 1, 2015 - Governor issues Drought Executive Order
- April 7, 2015 - Notice announcing release of draft regulatory framework and request for public comment
- April 17, 2015 - Notice announcing release of draft regulations for informal public comment
- April 28, 2015 - Emergency rulemaking formal notice
- May 5 or 6, 2015 - Board hearing and adoption

(b) BDCP: General Manager Davis informed the Board that the L.A. Times newspaper issued a news article on April 4, 2015 with the heading "\$25-billion Sacramento-San Joaquin delta tunnel project reexamined". This article is in wake of doubts about whether water exporters can meet stringent federal conditions for operating the system over a 50-year period. SWC and DWR have been in discussions on this topic for some time. The fisheries agencies have made it clear that the SWC requested assurances will not be given. General Manager Davis provided explanation on the different types of permits that the SWC have been contemplating. More information on this topic will be provided at future board meetings.

B. Directors Reports: (1) Director Stephenson gave a report on the ACWA Executive Briefing that he attended on March 25, 2015, in Sacramento. **(2) Director Melleby** gave a report on the Beaumont Basin Watermaster meeting that was held on April 1, 2015, stating that the Watermaster adopted the safe yield for the Beaumont Basin at 6700 acre-feet. She announced that ACWA is having a webinar that will take place on Thursday, April 9, 2015 from 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM. The subject of the webinar is *Four Years and Counting: Impacts and Actions*.

6. New Business: (Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Consideration of Participating in iEfficient Water Conservation and Education Program: A staff report and materials from SBVMWD relating to the iEfficient Public Outreach Campaign were included in the agenda packet. General Manager Davis reminded the Board that a year ago SBVMWD and other water districts initiated this campaign, focusing on most of the Inland Empire community, to develop awareness and a common message. At that time the Agency was invited to be a part of the consortium, however the Board did not have enough information to warrant contributing to the campaign. General Manager Davis reviewed the campaign's success. The consortium, led by Valley District, wishes to continue the program. He informed the board that SBVMWD contacted him to let him know that there are enough

funds through June; this information was given after the meeting agenda had been posted. For planning purposes it would be helpful to the other water agencies (a total of fifteen) if they knew in advance who will be a FY 2015-2016 participant and for what amount, so that they can plan their budgets accordingly. After discussion, it was requested that staff check into the availability of funding for water conservation measures from SAWPA, specifically turf replacement monies. President Jeter requested that this item be calendared to the April 20th Board meeting, thereby allowing absent board members to weigh in on the decision.

B. Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee on Development of a Board Handbook: General Manager Davis described what might be included in a board handbook such as core values, code of ethics, conduct, etc. Director Stephenson nominated Director's Dickson and Duncan. President Jeter stated that this item is specifically to discuss if there will be a committee. He requested that this item be calendared to the April 20th Board meeting, thereby allowing absent board members to weigh in on the decision.


C. Update on Whitewater Flume: General Manager Davis stated that the participating entities had a meeting on March 17th. The City of Banning has decided that the best way for them to proceed is to apply for a Special Use Permit from the U.S. Forest Service. The reasoning behind this decision is that they were told by FERC that the cost of a FERC license would far exceed a USFS Special Use Permit. However, the Forest Service is on record as having said that it will not issue a Special Use Permit for a water only facility. The City is currently talking to a consultant who is knowledgeable about the special use permit process. A FERC meeting will take place on April 17th, at which time additional information and data will be provided to the Forest Service and to FERC. It is hoped that this information will convince them that not all studies that the Forest Service has requested, pertaining to upstream and downstream diversions, are warranted. Also in discussion is should it be decided to pursue the Special Use Permit what entity, possibly a Joint Powers Authority, would apply. General Manager Davis will report back at the April 20th Board Meeting on the April 17th FERC meeting. General Counsel Ferré reported on his inquiry to Banning's City Attorney, Wes Miliband regarding the reasoning for not wanting to participate in the cost sharing for an Environmental Impact Report. Mr. Miliband stated that the City does not want to cost share as they do not believe that it is the correct timing for an EIR. However, at the point where a project comes into focus where a land use agency or state agency is doing a project and a CEQA is required, then the City at that time would be willing to step in to be the lead agency and will cost share on that EIR. The City has agreed to cost share on the tunneling study, but is unwilling to cost share on the alternative water supply study and the environmental justice study. At this point, there are no other agreements and the City is only focusing on the dispute resolution process. Mr. Miliband stated that he and the City greatly appreciate the Agency's involvement and invited board members (less than a quorum) to help the process along.

- 7. Topics for Future Agendas:** Director Ball requested an update on dialog with retail agencies on the state of the regional water supply. There were no topics for future agendas given at this time.

8. Announcements: *President Jeter reviewed the following announcements:*

- A. Engineering Workshop, April 13, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.
- B. Board of Directors Meeting, April 20, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.
- C. Finance and Budget Workshop, April 27, 2015 at 1:30 p.m.

9. Adjournment: *President Jeter adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.*



Jeffrey W. Davis, Secretary of the Board
cmr