

SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223
Minutes of the
Board of Directors Meeting
February 21, 2017

Directors Present: David Fenn, President
Ron Duncan, Vice President
Lenny Stephenson, Treasurer
Blair Ball, Director
David Castaldo, Director
Stephen Lehtonen, Director
Michael Thompson, Director

Staff Present: Jeff Davis, General Manager
Thomas Todd, Finance Manager
Cheryle Rasmussen, Executive Assistant
Jeff Ferre, General Counsel

1. **Call to Order, Flag Salute, Moment of Silence and Roll Call:** The meeting of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors was called to order by Board President David Fenn at 7:00 p.m., February 21, 2017 in the Agency Boardroom at 1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California. Director Lehtonen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. President Fenn requested a moment of silence. A quorum was present.
2. **Adoption and Adjustment of Agenda:** *President Fenn asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda.* There being none the agenda was adopted as published.
3. **Public Comment:** *President Fenn asked if there were any members of the public that wished to make a public comment on items that are within the jurisdiction of the Agency.* There were no other members of the public that wished to comment at this time.
4. **Consent Calendar:**
 - A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, February 6, 2017
 - B. Approval of the Minutes of the Engineering Workshop, February 13, 2017

Director Stephenson made a motion, seconded by Director Duncan, to adopt the consent calendar as presented. Motion passed 7-0.

5. Reports:

A. General Manager's Report:

(1) Operations Report: (a) SWP Water Deliveries: The Agency delivered a total of 157 acre-feet to the Noble Creek connection, so far this month. **(b) Deliveries of 10 cfs** are being made to the Noble Creek connection while Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District does maintenance on their facility.

(2) Report on Oroville Spillway: General Manager Davis provided an in-depth report on the damage that has taken place on the Lake Oroville concrete spillway and the usage of the emergency spillway and its erosion. He provided a slide presentation that showed the damage that has occurred to the concrete spillway. He informed the

Board that the dam is under the jurisdiction of FERC and that DWR owns and operates it. The flood control operations are overseen by the Army Corps of Engineers. The dam has multiple functions, water conservation, recreation, and flood control. State Water Contractors are responsible for water conservation and recreation costs. The spillway is not part of the dam. Spillways are to prevent dams from overtopping in an uncontrolled manner. General Manager Davis provided a timeline of the recent events that took place just prior to the emergency evacuation, during the evacuation and post-evacuation. Oroville Dam has passed all annual and independent inspections regarding the adequacy, stability, and structural integrity of the facilities. Currently, the cause of the damage to the concrete spillway is unknown. DWR has begun repairs to the erosion areas below the emergency spillway. The media has erroneously reported that SWC have stated that it would be too expensive to armor this and we don't want to do this. Key Points:

- The gated spillway, once damaged, has continued to operate without any significant further damage, despite high flows.
- The earth above the emergency spillway did erode; however that does not mean that the spillway would fail if it's continued to be used.
- This should not have any impact on our water supply for the year – we are currently getting our water out of the San Luis Reservoir, not Lake Oroville.

(3) General Agency Updates: (1) General Manager Davis stated that this looks like this will likely be the wettest year on record in California. Northern California got hit with three storms this past weekend. (2) Terry Erlewine is retiring from State Water Contractors Inc. He will be replaced with Jennifer Pierre, a fish biologist. (3) Riverside County Water Task Force Speaker Series will be held this Friday morning at 7:30 a.m. General Manager Davis encouraged the board members to attend.

B. General Counsel Report: (a) General Counsel Jeff Ferré deferred from reporting

C. Directors Reports: (1) **Director Duncan** reported that he attended the Banning Chamber Sunrise Breakfast (changed to once every other month) and the City of Banning Council meeting. Director Duncan spoke at the Banning Rotary on water with forty people in attendance. (2) **Director Fenn** reported on the City of Beaumont Council meeting that he attended.

6. New Business:

A. Public Hearing on Draft Urban Water Management Plan: A staff report and a copy of the Draft Urban Water Management Plan were included in the agenda packet. General Counsel Ferre stated that the Agency's consultant Mary Lou Cotton is unable to attend tonight's meeting due to storms up north; Ms. Cotton lives in Reno Nevada. The Draft UWMP is her work product and she has a responsibility to present and answer any questions from the board and the public. To ensure that everyone hears the same presentation from the person that developed the UWMP it is recommended that this item be continued to the March 6, 2017 Board meeting. The Agency will continue with tonight's Public Hearing and has met the legal requirements to do so. He recommended opening the Public Hearing, calling the Public Hearing to order, and receiving and oral or written comments. Afterward the Public Hearing it is recommended that a motion be made to continue the Public Hearing to March 6th in order to provide more opportunities for the same, and to different people, to provide public comment. (*President Fenn opened the Public Hearing at 7:47 p.m.*) President

Fenn requested public comment. Michael Thornton (City of Calimesa, Engineer) requested to speak. Mr. Thornton made comment that that the City of Calimesa is faced with a number of challenges and one of the significant challenges is growth. In order to be able to grow the city needs water. The City was pleased during its review of the UWMP that it indicates a plan to meet growth projections from Yucaipa Valley Water District. Mr. Thornton wanted to make it clear that the City is working on the water issues; however the developers are running out of patience. The City has been in a non-progress mode for almost a year with two large developers. He asked that the Board pass onto staff the importance to work out an agreement with YVWD, so that those projects have a path forward. President Fenn called upon Eric Fraser (BCVWD General Manager) for his public comment. Mr. Fraser stated that the District provided written comment dated February 14th, and that he hoped that the Board would consider those issues that had been identified in that letter. One of the primary concerns is some of the estimates that were utilized, not taking into account the actual water that is needed to meet the demands. The Plan as drafted reflected the water that is delivered to the District. During stated period of time there was limited availability of water, therefore it does not really reflect the actual amount of demand that the District has, the District ended up using stored basin water to meet the actual demands. President Fenn requested if there were any other comments from the public. There being none President Fenn asked if there is a motion to continue the Public Hearing to March 6th. Director Duncan made a motion, seconded by Director Castaldo, to continue the Public Hearing on the Draft Urban Water Management Plan to March 6, 2017. Motion passed 7-0. President Fenn gave instruction to staff to call the meeting at 6:00 p.m. on March 6th. President Fenn suspended the Public Hearing at 7:52 p.m.

B. Consideration and Possible Action of USGS Program Letter. A staff report and related material to the Joint Funding Agreement 16WSCA600096710_A1 were included in the agenda packet. General Manager Davis stated that the USGS Program letter was discussed at length at the last Engineering workshop. This is continuation of work that has been done for the Agency over the course of a number of years. This is work that the Agency has committed to do under the region's Maximum Benefit Standards, as well as data that is included in the Agency's Annual Water Conditions Report. At the Engineering meeting the Board did not express any concerns about signing the agreement. Most of the work will be done during the next fiscal year. Director Stephenson made a motion, seconded by Director Duncan to approve the USGS Program Letter. Motion passed 7-0.

C. Further Discussion and Possible Action regarding Invocation Policy (Requested by Director Thompson) President Fenn turned the discussion over to Director Thompson. Director Thompson stated that he contacted 22 local and governmental entities to inquire what their policy was on an invocation. He explained that a moment of silence is typically held for grieving or in remembrance of. He questioned who we were grieving when we are observing the "Moment of Silence". Director Thompson reported that most cities and water districts do an invocation. He also stated that Metropolitan has an invocation as well as an invocation policy. Director Thompson recommended that the Agency move away from the "Moment of Silence" and invoke an Invocation policy. General Counsel Ferre reiterated that his legal concern still stands, however it is up to the board to make this decision as the policymakers. Director Thompson made the point that even Congress, State Assembly, and the White House prays without repercussion. Director Thompson made a motion, seconded by Director Duncan to remove the Moment of Silence and move in the direction of having an

invocation in the form of a prayer, prior to the meetings. Director Stephenson stated that before he votes for something he would want to see a policy in writing. He asked that Director Thompson draft a policy to present to the Board at a future meeting. Director Thompson rescinded his motion, Director Duncan was in agreement. Director Thompson made a motion, seconded by Director Duncan to remove the Moment of Silence and to present the Board with a written policy at the March 6th Board meeting for possible consideration and action. Motion passed 7-0. Director Castaldo made a motion, seconded by Director Duncan, to include an invocation after the Pledge of Allegiance until an invocation policy has been developed. Motion passed 6-1, with Director Stephenson opposed.

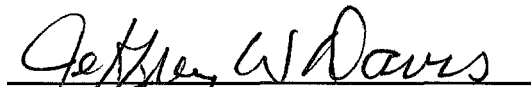
7. Topics for Future Agendas: Review of Capacity Fee Agreement, UWMP, Wheeling Policy, Desalination, and Beaumont Avenue Recharge Facility.

8. Announcements

- A. San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance, February 22, 2017
 - 1. IRWMP at 4:30 p.m. – Banning City Council Chambers
 - 2. Regular Meeting at 5:30 p.m. – Banning City Council Chambers
- B. Finance and Budget Workshop, February 27, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.
- C. Regular Board Meeting, March 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment

Time: 8:13 p.m.



Jeffrey W. Davis, Secretary of the Board