

**SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY**  
**1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223**  
**Minutes of the**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 17, 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  
Cheryle Rasmussen, Executive Assistant  
Jeff Ferre, General Counsel

1. **Call to Order, Flag Salute, Invocation 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., April 17, 2017 in the Agency Boardroom at 1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California. Director Ball led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. President Fenn provided the invocation. 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 noted that there are several requests to speak on items that are on the agenda. He will call upon those individuals that wish to speak during the time that the agenda item is addressed. He 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 additional members of the public that wished to comment at this time.*
4. **Consent Calendar:**
  - A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, April 3, 2017
  - B. Approval of the Minutes of the Engineering Workshop, April 10, 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:** Deliveries continue at 24 cfs 24/7. The Agency delivered a total of 747 acre-feet to the Noble Creek connection so far this month. (b) **SWP Allocation:** DWR announced that the SWP Table A water allocation has been increased to 85%. (c) The 2016/2017 water year is officially the wettest year on record for the northern Sierras. San Joaquin Basin is close to being the wettest year on record. (d) **Snowpack:** The California snow water content for North, Central, & South are all above average. Current Statewide snowpack percent as of April 1<sup>st</sup> is 168%. (e) **Oroville Spillway:** Oroville spillway is being operated intermittently. (f) **Oroville Spillway Oversight and Investigation Report:** General

Manager Davis briefly reviewed with the Board the information from DWR that was provided in the agenda packet.

**(2) General Agency Updates:** **(1) SGMA:** General Manager Davis reported on the implementation of SGMA. There will be at least two more public hearings; tentative date for both hearings is May 15<sup>th</sup>. **(2) Flume:** The City of Banning received a letter from USFS accepting the permit application for a Special Use Permit. The permit is contingent on the City signing a cost sharing agreement committing them to \$736,000. Studies may also dictate leaving a significant amount of water in the forest through controlled releases. **(3) Riverside County Speakers Series:** A breakfast meeting for the RCSP will take place on April 28<sup>th</sup> at Western Municipal Water District. Southern California Water Committee is holding its quarterly luncheon on April 28<sup>th</sup> in the City of Industry.

**B. General Counsel Report:** General Counsel Jeff Ferré deferred from reporting.

**C. Directors Reports:** **(1) Director Stephenson** reported on the YVWD workshop meeting that he attended. **(2) Director Ball** reported on the BCVWD meeting, stating that the vacancy for the Board was filled by Cathy Diaz. **(3) Director Castaldo** reported on the Beaumont City Council meeting. **(4) Director Lehtonen** reported that he attended the Banning City Council meeting. **(5) President Fenn** also reported on the Beaumont City Council meeting and the Banning City Council meeting.

**D. Committee Report – General Manager Performance Evaluation Committee:** Director Castaldo, Chair of the General Manager Performance Evaluation Committee, reported that the committee agreed to contract with a facilitator, Robert DeLoach, to help with the evaluation this year. Two potential facilitators were interviewed. The direction of the committee was for General Manager Davis to contract with Mr. DeLoach for a cost not to exceed \$8700, which includes facilitating the evaluation and comparing his performance to industry standards of other similar agencies.

**6. New Business:**

**A. Consideration of Resolution No. 2017-07: Amending and Adopting Local Guidelines for Implementing CEQA:** A staff report and Resolution No. 2017-07 were included in the agenda packet. General Counsel Ferre stated that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is part of the Public Resources Code, and that there are rules and regulations to implement CEQA. The rules and regulations state that public agencies need to have guidelines in place. The local guidelines define the process in which a local agency decides what level of CEQA compliance needs to be complied with. The law requires that the Agency has local CEQA guidelines in place and that the Agency adopt a resolution to update CEQA guidelines as necessary. The latest revisions are not substantive; most deal with fees and clarification in the statute regarding the CEQA process. Staff recommends that the Board adopts this Resolution to have the most updated local CEQA guidelines. Director Duncan made a motion, seconded by Director Castaldo, to adopt Resolution No. 2017-07 amending and adopting local guidelines for implementing the California Environmental Quality Act. Motion passed 7-0.

**B. Consideration of Sponsorship of Inland Solar Challenge:** A report from the Water Conservation and Education Committee and material related to the Inland Solar Challenge were included in the agenda packet. Director Thompson, Chair of the Water Conservation and Education Committee, reported that this item was discussed at the committee meeting. A number of people are here today to answer questions from the Board pertaining to the Inland Solar Challenge. Director Thompson introduced Cecilia Griego, Chair of the Inland Solar Challenge event. Ms. Griego thanked the Board for their continued support. She spoke to the Board on the importance of educating high school students in conservation and on the process that each school implements to compete in the event. Two Banning high school students that are currently in the program reported to the Board what this program meant to them and what they were learning from it. Mr. Larry Ellis (retired teacher from Banning High School) has been involved with the Solar Challenge since 2005. He explained what the students do in order to present at the event and on the judging that takes place. He also stated that students have an advantage when filling out college applications as reviewers are looking for activities that are different. Each member of the Board asked questions and commented on the event. The Board requested that a report be given by the students after the event. After discussion, Director Ball made a motion to sponsor the event in the amount of \$1000. Motion died for lack of a second. Director Thompson made a motion, seconded by Director Duncan, to approve sponsoring the Inland Solar Challenge in the amount of \$4000. Motion passed 6-1, with Dr. Ball opposing.

**C. Consideration of Letter of Support for AB 968:** A co-written email from Fiona Sanchez (Director of Water Resources – Irvine Ranch Water District) and John Woodling (Executive Director Regional Water Authority), along with related material were included in the agenda packet. General Manager Davis stated that the Governor and the State Board are trying to adopt permanent conservation regulations without going through the regular committee legislative process. This would be a burden on the water industry. The industry is trying to introduce bills that would go through the legislative process and AB 968 is one of those bills. This bill relates to water conservation targets that would be set under the permanent regulations. General Manager Davis explained the benefits for AB 968. Director Thompson made a motion to approve, seconded by Director Duncan, supporting the letter of support for AB 968. Motion passed 7-0.

**7. Topics for Future Agendas:** Cost update on Flume; update on High Valley rates; Beaumont Avenue Recharge Facility. No other topics were suggested by Board members.

**8. Announcements:**

- A. Finance and Budget Workshop, April 24, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.
- B. San Geronio Pass Regional Water Alliance, April 26, 2017
  1. IRWMP at 4:30 p.m. – Banning City Council Chambers
  2. Regular Meeting at 5:30 p.m. – Banning City Council Chambers
- C. Regular Board Meeting, May 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

**9. Closed Session (2 Items)**

**Time: 8:10 pm**

- A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS  
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8  
Property: Nickel Farms, LLC, Bakersfield, CA – Water Rights  
Agency Negotiator: Jeff Davis, General Manager  
Negotiating Party: Dwayne Chisam, General Manager – AVEK  
Under negotiation: price and terms of payment
  
- B. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS  
Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.8  
Property: Potential water rights/supplies offers from the South  
Mesa Water Company  
Agency negotiator: Jeff Davis, General Manager  
Negotiating parties: David Armstrong, General Manager, South  
Mesa Water Company  
Under negotiation: price and terms of payment

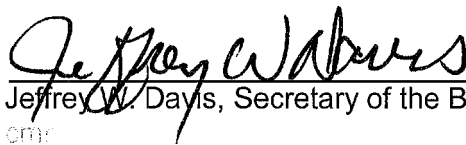
The **meeting reconvened** to open session at:

**Time: 9:14 pm**

Legal Counsel Jeff Ferre reported that the Board considered the matters listed on the agenda. No action was taken that is reportable under the Brown act.

**10. Adjournment**

**Time: 9:14 pm**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey W. Davis, Secretary of the Board  
cmr