

SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223
Minutes of the
Board of Directors Engineering Workshop
January 13, 2020

Directors Present: Ron Duncan, President
Leonard Stephenson, Vice President
Blair Ball, Director
David Castaldo, Director
David Fenn, Director
Steve Lehtonen, Director
Mike Thompson, Director

Staff Present: Jeff Davis, General Manager
Jeff Ferre, General Counsel
Cheryle Stiff, Executive Assistant
Casmir Joy Olaivar, Intern

1. Call to Order, Flag Salute and Roll Call: The Engineering workshop of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors was called to order by Vice President Stephenson at 1:30 p.m., January 13, 2020 in the Agency Board room at 1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California. Vice President Stephenson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. A quorum was present.

2. Public Comment: No members of the public wished to address the Board at this time.

3. Review of Draft 2018 Water Conditions Report. A copy of the draft report was included in the agenda package. General Manager Davis reviewed key elements of the draft report with the Board, noting that total extractions in 2018 were 6% higher than 2017, and that the Agency, as of December 2018, had imported over 111,000 acre-feet of water to the region.

4. Discussion of Signage and Naming of Fiesta Recharge Facility. General Manager Davis noted that staff is proceeding with the purchase of "No Trespassing" signs for the facility in accordance with recommendations from ACWA JPIA. He indicated that, since the construction sign will soon be removed, the Agency should install a large sign at the site informing the public who owns it and what it is for. He suggested that the Board come up with a name for the facility so it could be put on the sign. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to purchase an informational sign to install at the site, but that it would not decide on a formal name until some time in the future.

5. Discussion of Maintenance of Agency Facilities. General Manager Davis mentioned that this agenda item is in response to a question asked by Director Castaldo at last week's Board meeting. He spoke regarding his plan for maintenance of the recently completed recharge facility, indicating that he had doubled the field maintenance budget this year to \$8,000, and that it will take the Agency some time to determine how best to maintain the facility. The Board expressed their concern that sufficient funds are budgeted to take care of it each year.


6. Discussion on Use of Agency Properties for Energy Production. General Manager Davis mentioned that this item is in response to a request from Director Ball at last week's Board meeting to speak with a vendor of floating solar panels. He mentioned that he is already looking at a comprehensive plan to utilize Agency properties to generate revenues if feasible, primarily through the generation of power. He noted that floating solar panels had been researched for Citrus Reservoir and deemed unfeasible due to anchorage problems with reservoirs that cycle regularly. He indicated that he is not ready to recommend solar panels on any Agency property at this time due to uncertainty in the energy industry, with a possible glut of solar energy coming in the near future. He mentioned that he is looking at the potential of wind power using new technology that is not yet proven. Director Ball indicated that the Agency should be looking at all ways to defray the costs of pumping water, and General Manager Davis assured him that staff is already doing this.

7. Report on Citrus Reservoir Rhomboids. General Manager Davis reported that last week he may have overstated the issue of sinking rhomboids and the impact to pumps at last week's Board meeting. He noted that the failure rate of rhomboids delivered to the site is about 0.2% (between 1000 and 2000 failures out of 3.5 million delivered). He recounted the sequence of events stemming from the EIR for EBX 2 that led to the purchase of the rhomboids and reinforced that purchasing them was more cost effective than a floating cover (\$1.7 million vs. \$9 million). The key issue is that, since the reservoir and pump station were designed for rapid cleanout of quagga mussels, there is no intake structure to capture the failed rhomboids. He reported that staff from Valley District is now working with DWR to install a boom with a screen that would run the entire depth of the reservoir, along with wire cages around each pump, to prevent further impacts. The fabrication cost of the cages is approximately \$66,000. He showed the Board examples of rhomboids that had holes in them, and indicated that staff will be working with the manufacturer to try to reduce the number of holes from either production or loading and unloading to further reduce future risks.

8. Announcements:

- A. Office closed January 20, 2020 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- B. Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 1:30 pm.
- C. Finance and Budget Workshop, January 27, 2020 at 1:30 pm
- D. Regular Board Meeting, February 3, 2020 at 1:30 pm.

7. Adjournment: Vice President Stephenson adjourned the meeting at 3:11 p.m.



Jeff Davis, Secretary to the Board
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