

SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223
Minutes of the
Adjourned Board Meeting and Engineering Workshop
January 11, 2021

IN AN EFFORT TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS), AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20, THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM.

Board Present: Ron Duncan, President
Board members Blair Ball, Director
Attended by video Steve Lehtonen, Director
conferencing/ Chander Letulle, Director
teleconferencing Larry Smith, Director
Mickey Valdivia, Director

Staff Present: Lance Eckhart, General Manager
Staff members Jeff Ferre, General Counsel
attended by video Thomas Todd, Finance Manger
conferencing/ Cheryle Stiff, Executive Assistant
teleconferencing

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 Duncan at 1:30 p.m., January 11, 2021 by video/teleconference. President Duncan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Director Lehtonen gave the invocation. President Duncan requested a roll call.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Present	Absent
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Valdivia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

A quorum was present.

2. **Adoption and Adjustment of Agenda:** President Duncan asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda. General Manager Eckhart responded, stating that there are no adjustments to the agenda.
3. **Public Comment:** President Duncan asked for public comments. There were no members of the public that spoke at this time.
4. **New Business:**
 - A. Adoption and Presentation of Resolution No. 2021-01 Honoring Lenny Stephenson
 - B. Adoption and Presentation of Resolution No. 2021-02 Honoring David Castaldo
 - C. Adoption and Presentation of Resolution No. 2021-03 Honoring Michael Thompson
 - D. Adoption and Presentation of Resolution No. 2021-04 Honoring David Fenn

General Manager Eckhart announced that whenever a board member leaves the Agency, we honor them by resolution. Today, we have four resolutions for adoption and presentation. President Duncan requested a motion to adopt Resolutions 2021-01, 2021-02, 2021-03 and 2021-04, recognizing Lenny Stephenson, David Castaldo, Michael Thompson, and David Fenn for their years of service to the Board and which were set forth as items 7(A), 7 (B), 7 (C) and 7 (D). Director Valdivia made a motion, seconded by Director Smith, to adopt Resolutions 2021-01, 2021-02, 2021-03 and 2021-04, with an amendment on all four resolutions to include signature lines for all presiding board members. President Duncan requested a roll call.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Aye	Noes	Absent	Abstain
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Valdivia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion passed 6-0. President Duncan provided highlights of each resolution.

E. Consideration and Possible Action to Approve the Purchase of Parcel #403 080 015 for a total expenditure of \$2,035.00. A staff report and related materials were included in the agenda packet. General Manager Eckhart informed the Board that this is a small piece of property that adjoins a number of parcels that the Agency owns. The property was secured for the amount of \$1,500 with closing costs of \$535, for a total of \$2,035. The Certificate of Acceptance is the final document required for the transfer of the property to the Agency. Director Ball made a motion, seconded by Director Letulle, to purchase parcel #403 080 015 for the amount of \$2,035.00. President Duncan requested public comment. There being none, President Duncan opened this item for Board discussion. After discussion President Duncan requested a roll call vote.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Aye	Noes	Absent	Abstain
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Valdivia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion passed 6-0.

5. Election of Board Officers:

a. Nominations for Board President -

President Duncan opened the nominations for Board President. President Duncan nominated Steve Lehtonen as Board President. Hearing no other nominations, President Duncan requested a vote on the nomination of Steve Lehtonen for Board President.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Aye	Noes	Absent	Abstain
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Valdivia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion passed 6-0

b. Nominations for Board Vice President -

President Lehtonen opened the nominations for Vice President. Director Duncan nominated Director Ball for Board Vice President. Director Valdivia nominated Director Smith for Board Vice President. Hearing no other nominations, President Lehtonen requested a vote on the nominations.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Director Ball	Director Smith
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Letulle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director Valdivia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
President Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Due to a lack of majority vote, Director Duncan made a motion, seconded by Director Smith, to revisit this item once there is a full Board.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Aye	Noes	Absent	Abstain
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Valdivia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion passed 6-0.

c. Nominations for Treasurer -

President Lehtonen called for nominations for Board Treasurer. Director Duncan nominated Mickey Valdivia for Board Treasurer. Hearing no other nominations, President Lehtonen requested a vote on the nomination of Mickey Valdivia for Board Treasurer.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Aye	Noes	Absent	Abstain
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Director Valdivia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion passed 6-0.

d. Nominations for Secretary/Assistant Treasurer -
 Director Valdivia nominated Lance Eckhart for Board Secretary/Assistant Treasurer. Hearing no other nominations, President Eckhart requested a vote on the nomination of Lance Eckhart for Board Secretary.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Aye	Noes	Absent	Abstain
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Valdivia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion passed 6-0. Director Duncan thanked the Board and the previous Board for their support during his tenure as president. Director Ball and President Lehtonen thanked Director Duncan for his leadership as President.

6. Consent Calendar:

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, December 21, 2020. President Lehtonen requested a motion on this item. Director Ball made a motion, seconded by Director Smith to adopt the consent calendar, as presented. President Lehtonen requested a roll call vote.

<u>Roll Call:</u>	Aye	Noes	Absent	Abstain
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Valdivia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion passed 6-0.

7. Reports:

A. General Manager's Report: **1.** General Manager Eckhart provided a brief report on Sites Reservoir project. The project is moving forward towards the Environmental Impact Report process. State Water Contractors are discussing options on how to pay for the project. **2.** General Manager Eckhart reported to the Board that there are seven prospective candidates for the At-Large No. 2 vacancy. Interviews will take place in the Board room with only the Board members and one candidate in the board room at a time. The open session process will be safe, efficient and transparent. **3.** Director Valdivia requested that staff report back to the Board if and when Jeff Davis is made President of Sites Reservoir Project – Sites Reservoir Committee; currently Mr. Davis is Vice President.

B. General Counsel Reports: None.

C. Directors Reports: 1) Director Ball reported on the Financial Feasibility Meeting Committee that was held on December 21, 2021. **2. President Lehtonen** stated that the Water Education and Conservation Committee meeting for January has been cancelled. He requested that if any Board member has a particular committee that they are interested in, to email him and he will take their request into consideration. President Lehtonen requested staff to email the Board the contact/committee list.

D. Committee Reports: None.

8. New Business:

A. Engineering Workshop (Discussion Only) A PowerPoint presentation was included in the agenda packet. General Manager Eckhart explained the bulkhead failure that took place at the Cherry Valley Pump Station. The failure was due to a power surge and a series of events that took place leading up to the failure and after the failure. Repairs include an upgraded bulkhead, pump discharge extensions and elbows, and pump extension riser re-coat. He also reviewed with the Board future mitigations. General Manager Eckhart answered questions from the Board. The cost of the repairs is the eventual responsibility of the Agency. Director Valdivia requested that Legal Counsel Ferre find out how legal is it for DWR expecting this Agency to pay with no input on how the vetting process occurs. General Counsel Ferre stated that it is the nature of the contract. Staff will provide more details on to how the contract works at a future meeting. President Lehtonen requested public comment. There was no public comment on this item.

B. Recharge Flood Protection Update: General Manager Eckhart reviewed with the Board the amount of damage that occurred in the region due to the Apple and El Dorado fires. A major concern is a heavy rain event which would potentially bring debris flows that may cause flooding and property damage. He also reviewed with the Board what the Agency and Beaumont School District are doing to mitigate potential damage to the adjacent Mountain View Middle school. The Agency purchased K-rails and had them placed at the Agency's Recharge Facility to mitigate flooding. General Manager Eckhart concluded his presentation. President Lehtonen asked for public comment. General Manager Jaggars (BCVWD) was agreeable with what General Manager Eckhart and the school district has done to mitigate flooding. President Lehtonen requested Board discussion. The question of liability was brought up by Director Ball. Legal Counsel Ferre stated that he will look into this issue and if there is a concern he will provide it at an appropriate closed or open session. Directors Ball and Duncan also had concerns on how the k-rails are positioned. Director Valdivia suggested that the Riverside County Flood Control provide the Board with a short presentation on they have done regionally to mitigate flooding in the area. He also asked staff about the equestrian trail that starts from Noble Creek Park to Bogart Park, questioning whether or not the trail is maintained.

9. Announcements

- A. Cancelled – Water Conservation and Education Workshop, January 13, 2021
- B. Office closed **Monday**, January 18, 2021 in observance of Martin Luther King Day
- C. Regular Board Meeting, **Tuesday**, January 19, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.
Teleconference/Zoom
- D. Finance and Budget Workshop, January 25, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.
Teleconference/Zoom

10. Adjournment: President Lehtonen adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Pending Agenda Items:

Request	Requester	Date of Request	Tentative Date
Review of financial investments and strategies	Duncan	12/21/2020	
Recharge Facility eroding embankments	Duncan	01/11/2021	
Recharge Facility Naming (Ad - hoc Committee formed by President Lehtonen on 01/11/2021.	Valdivia	01/11/2021	
Recharge Facility Maintenance	Valdivia	01/11/2021	



Lance Eckhart, Secretary of the Board

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