

**SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY**  
**1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223**  
**Minutes of the**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**December 13, 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:** Steve Lehtonen, President  
Board members Larry Smith, Vice President  
Attended by video Mickey Valdivia, Treasurer  
conferencing/ Blair Ball, Director  
teleconferencing Ron Duncan, Director  
Robert Ybarra, Director

**Board Absent:** Chander Letulle, Director

**Staff Present:** Lance Eckhart, General Manager  
Staff members Tom Todd, Jr., Chief Financial Officer  
attended by video Cheryle Stiff, Executive Assistant  
conferencing/ Jeff Ferre, Legal Counsel  
teleconferencing

- 1. Call to Order, Flag Salute, Invocation, and Roll Call:** The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Board President Steve Lehtonen at 1:32 p.m., December 13, 2021, by video/teleconference. President Lehtonen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Director Valdivia gave the invocation. President Lehtonen requested a roll call.

<u><b>Roll Call:</b></u>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	
Director Ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Arrived at 1:38 p.m.
Director Duncan	<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"/>	
Director Ybarra	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
President Lehtonen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

A quorum was present.

- 2. Adoption and Adjustment of Agenda:** The agenda was adopted as published.
- 3. Public Comment:** President Lehtonen asked for public comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Agency. There was no public comment.

**4. Consent Calendar:**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, November 8, 2021
- B. Approval for the Minutes of the Finance & Engineering Workshop, November 15, 2021
- C. Adopt Resolution No. 2021-21 of the Board of Directors of the San Geronio Pass Water Agency Re-authorizing Remote Teleconference/Virtual Meetings of Pass Water Agency Legislative Bodies of the Period of December 8, 2021 to January 7, 2021 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions

Director Duncan made a motion, seconded by Director Ybarra, to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

<b><i>Roll Call</i></b>	<b><i>Ayes</i></b>	<b><i>Noes</i></b>	<b><i>Abstain</i></b>	<b><i>Absent</i></b>
Director Ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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"/>
Director Ybarra	<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"/>

The motion passed, 6 – 0, with Director Ball absent.

**5. Reports:**

- A. **General Manager’s Report:** 1) General Manager Eckhart reported on weather conditions and the potential of intense periods of rainfall within the local area. There are concerns in the burn scar areas. 2) On December 1, 2021, DWR submitted its initial SWC Table A SWP Water allocation for the 2022 water year. DWR announcement stated: Due to persistent dry conditions over the last several years, coupled with the elevated risk of continuing drought conditions, DWR will be allocating the initial 2022 SWP available supplies on a basis that ensures the SWP long-term water supply contractors can meet their outstanding minimum human health and safety demands for water. Accordingly, DWR’s initial 2022 SWP allocation is based on the SWP Contractors’ needs for imported SEP water supplies necessary to meet the unmet 55 gpcd in their service areas.
- B. **Legal Counsel’s Report:** Mr. Ferre asked President Lehtonen if he wished to make an announcement at this time. President Lehtonen stated that he had notified the Board that he would be resigning effective January 24, 2022. Mr. Ferre said that Board has an option to fill the seat by appointment; they have 60 days after the date of the vacancy, which will be Friday, March 25, 2022. He provided more information should the Board wish not to fill the seat by appointment. Anyone that fills the seat will have to run for the seat in November 2022. Director Valdivia requested Staff to provide the cost of an election to fill the seat.

**6. New Business:**

**A. Adopt Resolution No. 2021-23 Recommending Adoption of the Verbenia GSA – San Gorgonio Pass Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan:** A staff report and Resolution No. 2021-23 were included in the agenda packet. Mr. Eckhart noted that Resolutions 2021-23 and 2021-24 both relate to the Agency accepting the Groundwater Sustainability plan. He spoke on both resolutions pertaining to the concepts and the executive summary review. He noted that San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency has been the lead agency on the Plan, as most of the plan area falls within the Pass administrative boundary. He introduced Terry Erlewine (Provost & Pritchard) to speak on what the GSP means for the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency. The presentation topics included Sustainability Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), the need for a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), what is included in the San Gorgonio Pass Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan, and next steps. Implementation of the GSP will be over twenty years. The goal is to achieve sustainability by 2042. He noted that the GSP is due on January 31, 2022. The first Annual Report is due April 1, 2022. After discussion, President Lehtonen requested public comment. There being none, President Lehtonen requested Board discussion. After Board discussion, Director Duncan made a motion, seconded by Director Ybarra, to adopt Resolution No. 2021-23 and Resolution 2021-24, recommending approval of the Final GSP for the SGA Subbasin, and authorize General Manager Lance Eckhart as the representative to vote formally on the approval of the Final SGPS – GSP at the upcoming meetings of the SGP GSA (01/12/2022) and Verbenia GSA (01/11/2022). President Lehtonen requested a roll call vote.

<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Noes</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
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"/>
Director Ybarra	<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"/>

The motion passed, 7 – 0.

**B. Adopt Resolution 2021-24 Recommending Adoption of the Verbenia GSA – San Gorgonio Pass Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan:** A staff report and Resolution No. 2021-24 were included in the agenda packet. President Lehtonen requested public comment. John Covington (Morongo Band of Mission Indians) spoke on the Tribe’s participation in the process. He noted that the Tribe submitted public comments on the Plan, and that they are looking forward to the response of the comments and the final Groundwater Sustainability plan. After discussion, Director Duncan made a motion, seconded by Director Ybarra, to adopt Resolution 2021-24,

naming General Manager Lance Eckhart as that representative. President Lehtonen requested a roll call vote.

<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Noes</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
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"/>
Director Ybarra	<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"/>

The motion passed, 7-0.

**7. A. Reports - Directors:** Director Ball reported on BCVWD Board Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup>. Director Duncan reported on the Beaumont Watermaster meeting held on December 1<sup>st</sup>. On December 7<sup>th</sup>, he attended the YVWD Board meeting, December 8<sup>th</sup>, YVWD’s Special Board meeting, and on December 10<sup>th</sup>, he attended the Good Morning Beaumont meeting. Director Smith reported on his attendance at ACWA’s Fall Conference. He noted that this was a relationship opportunity and encouraged others to attend future conferences. Director Valdivia reported on the Riverside County Flood Control meeting that he attended. He attended the ACWA Fall Conference. He asked General Manager Eckhart if Region 9 would be redistricted further east or more inland. He also attended the City Manager’s Symposium held at the Yucaipa Performing Arts Center. The Pass EDA suggested that a water discussion occur tentatively on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Director Ybarra reported on the ACWA/JPIA meeting that was held one day prior to ACWA’s Fall Conference, which he also attended. Director Letulle reported on ACWA’s Fall Conference. General Manager Eckhart stated that the discussion included moving SGPWA and BCVWD from Region 9 to Region 10. He noted that one of the chairs offered to speak to the Board at a future meeting. This will be a topic for a future meeting.

**B. Committee Reports:** None.

**8. Topics for Future Agendas.** Director Valdivia requested information on ACWA Region 9 redistricting. Director Valdivia requested the cost of holding an election in lieu of an appointment to the Board.

**9. Announcements**

- A. Water Conservation and Education Committee Workshop, December 14, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. - Teleconference/Zoom
- B. Special Board Meeting - Finance and Engineering Workshop, December 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. - Teleconference/Zoom
- C. Office closed December 24<sup>th</sup> and December 27<sup>th</sup>, in observance of the Christmas Holiday
- D. Canceled: Regular Board Meeting, December 27, 2021

E. Office closed December 30<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> in observance of the New Year's Holiday

**10. Adjournment:** President Lehtonen adjourned the meeting at 3:23 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lance Eckhart", written over a horizontal line.

Lance Eckhart, Secretary of the Board

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