

**SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY**  
**1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors**  
**May 23, 2022**

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:** Larry Smith, President  
 All participants Chander Letulle, Treasurer  
 attended by video Blair M Ball, Director  
 conferencing/ Ron Duncan, Director  
 teleconferencing Kevin Walton, Director  
 Robert Ybarra, Director

**Board Absent:** Mickey Valdivia, Vice President

**Staff Present:** Lance Eckhart, General Manager  
 Tom Todd, Jr., Chief Financial Officer  
 Cheryle Stiff, Executive Assistant

**Consultants Present:** Jeffry Ferre, Legal Counsel

**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 President Larry Smith at 1:30 p.m., May 23, 2022, by video/teleconference. Treasurer Letulle led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Treasurer Letulle gave the invocation. Treasurer Letulle requested a roll call.

<b><i>Roll Call</i></b>	<b><i>Present</i></b>	<b><i>Absent</i></b>
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (arrived at 1:37 pm)
Director Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (arrived at 1:37 pm)
Treasurer Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President Valdivia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Ybarra	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Smith	<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 Smith asked for public comment on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Agency. Public comment was received by Joyce McIntire (YVWD Board Member).

**4. Consent Calendar**

- A.** Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, May 9, 2022
- B.** Approval of the Minutes of the Finance and Engineering Workshop, May 16, 2022
- C.** Adopt Resolution No. 2022-12 of the Board of Directors of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Re-Authorizing Remote Teleconference/Virtual Meetings of Pass Water Agency Legislative Bodies for the Period of May 23, 2022 to June 21, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions

Treasurer Letulle made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Director Ybarra seconded the motion. Treasurer Letulle 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President Valdivia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<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 Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The motion passed 5 – 0, with Directors Valdivia absent, and Director Duncan unavailable due to technical difficulties.

**5. Reports**

- A. General Manager's Report:** General Manager Eckhart deferred his report to the next Board meeting.
- B. Legal Counsel's Report:** Legal Counsel Ferre deferred his report to the next Board meeting.

**6. New Business**

**A. Conjunctive Use Project Plan (CUPP) with San Bernardino Municipal Water District and Yucaipa Valley Water District**

Mr. Eckhart reminded the Board that this item was discussed during the May 16<sup>th</sup> Finance and Engineering Workshop. He provided a brief overview of the background and analysis information provided in the agenda packet. Mr. Eckhart noted that with the CUPP, there is a potential to establish up to a 10,000 acre-foot storage account for the Agency. Groundwater modeling is necessary to help stakeholder groups to analyze the project. The cost of the proposal from Geoscience, Inc. is \$178,396, and will be managed by SBVMWD. The Agency's cost-share would be \$59,645. The Board asked clarifying questions. There was no public comment. After discussion, President Smith requested a motion. Director Duncan made a motion to authorize the General Manager to participate in the CUPP with SBVMWD and YVWD. Director Letulle seconded the motion. President Smith 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"/>
Treasurer Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President Valdivia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<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 Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

**B. Design Work for a Multi-Benefit Recharge Facility in the Calimesa Basin**

A Staff report was included in the agenda packet, and is the same as previously discussed by the Board. Today’s recommendation is for the Board to authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with LEC Land Engineering to perform the engineering work for the Calimesa Basin. The Yucaipa Groundwater Sustainability Plan identified the need for recharge in the Calimesa Groundwater Basin. The Agency purchased a 7-acre parcel near the center of Calimesa to be used as a future recharge facility. Additional design and entitlement efforts will be necessary to move the Project into the implementation phase. The Project is expected to be competitive for anticipated grant funding. The proposal is estimated not to exceed \$190,000. The Board asked clarifying questions. There was no public comment. After discussion, President Smith requested a motion. Director Ybarra made a motion to authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with LEC to perform engineering/survey work for a multi-benefit recharge facility in the Calimesa Basin for an amount not to exceed \$190,000. Director Duncan seconded the motion. President Smith 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"/>
Treasurer Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President Valdivia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<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 Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

**C. Proposed General Fund Budget FY 2022-23**

Mr. Eckhart noted that this is a continuance of the Board discussion on the General Fund Budget for FY 2022-23. Once the Board is satisfied with the proposed Budget, it will be moved to the next Board meeting for adoption. Mr. Eckhart reviewed highlights of the Budget. Director Letulle inquired about a Budget policy. Mr. Todd responded that the Agency does not have a formal Budget policy. Mr. Eckhart suggested that this could be included in the 2022 strategic planning process. Mr. Todd noted that during the May 23<sup>rd</sup> Finance and Engineering meeting, the Board gave direction to Staff to make changes to the proposed Budget. He reviewed the revisions. The Board asked clarifying

questions. Director Ball requested that more detailed information be included on the proposed new staff position at the next Board meeting. There was no public comment. After discussion, President Smith requested that Staff make changes to the Budget based on the Board's suggestions and present them at the next Board meeting.

**D. Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) FY 2022-23**

Mr. Todd stated that the Board recommended a 10% cost of living adjustment for FY 2022-23 during the previous Finance and Engineering Workshop. He reviewed the information as discussed at the Workshop. The Board asked clarifying questions. There was no public comment. After discussion, President Smith requested a motion. Director Duncan made a motion to authorize a 10% cost-of-living adjustment, effective July 1, 2022. Director Letulle made a substitute motion that the Board approve a 10% cost-of-living adjustment, effective July 1, 2022, and in addition, Staff review this item in January 2023 to determine if there is a need for an additional change in the cost-of-living for Staff at that time. Director Ybarra seconded the motion. President Smith requested a roll call vote.

<b>Roll Call</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Noes</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Director Ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Duncan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President Valdivia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<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 Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The motion passed 4 – 2, with Directors Ball and Duncan opposed, and Director Valdivia absent.

**E. Approval of the Third Amendment to General Manager Employment Agreement**

Mr. Ferre noted that the Board had entered into an employment agreement on July 13, 2020. There have been two amendments since that time. Recently an ad-hoc committee and the full Board engaged in a work performance evaluation of the general manager. As a result of those meetings, the Third Amendment has been proposed for adoption. Mr. Ferre reviewed the Third Amendment. President Smith stated that this item needs more discussion by the ad-hoc committee. The Board asked clarifying questions. There was no public comment. After discussion, President Smith made a motion to table this agenda item. Director Ball seconded the motion. President Smith 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President Valdivia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
President Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The motion passed 5 – 0, with Director Valdivia absent, and Director Duncan unavailable due to technical difficulties.

## 7. Reports

### A. Directors and Committee Reports

**Director Ball** reported on:

- BCVWD Board Meeting (May 11, 2022)

**Director Duncan** reported on:

- Inland Empire Solar Boat Challenge (May 20-21, 2022)

**Director Walton** reported on:

- Bay-Delta Tour (May 18 – 20, 2022)

**Director Ybarra** reported on:

- Bay-Delta Tour (May 18 – 20, 2022)

**President Smith** reported on:

- Bay-Delta Tour (May 18 – 20, 2022)

## 8. Topics for Future Agendas

President Smith requested a discussion on the cost-of-living increase related to the Board of Directors.

## 9. Announcements

President Smith reviewed the announcements:

- Office closed on May 30, 2022 in observance of Memorial Day
- Regular Board Meeting, May 23, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.  
– Teleconference/Zoom
- Water Conservation & Education Workshop, June 14, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

## 10. Adjournment

President Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:11 p.m.



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Lance Eckhart, Secretary of the Board

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