

**SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY**  
**1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors**  
**June 12, 2023**

THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON,  
WITH PUBLIC AVAILABILITY PROVIDED VIA ZOOM.  
Videoconference Location: 240 Starvation Flats Road, Big Bear, CA

**Board Present:** Larry Smith, President  
In person Mickey Valdivia, Vice President  
Chander Letulle, Treasurer  
Robert Ybarra, Secretary  
Blair M Ball, Director  
Kevin Walton, Director

**Board Present:** Ron Duncan, Director  
By Videoconference

**Staff Present:** Lance Eckhart, General Manager  
In person Tom Todd, Jr., Chief Financial Officer  
Cheryle Stiff, Executive Assistant  
Emmett Campbell, Sr. Water Resources Planner  
Matt Howard, Operations Manager

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

**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., June 12, 2023. Mr. Ybarra led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mr. Walton gave the invocation. President Smith 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"/>
Director Duncan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer Letulle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President Valdivia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary 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**

Mr. Ferre noted that Mr. Duncan was attending the meeting off-site. Mr. Duncan posted a notice at the meeting site. No one was present at his location that wished to make a public comment.

**3. Public Comment**

None.

**4. Consent Calendar**

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, May 22, 2023

Mr. Duncan moved, seconded by Mr. Walton, to approve the consent calendar. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary 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 7-0.

**5. Reports**

**A. General Manager’s Report:** Mr. Eckhart provided an overview of the Sites Reservoir Project. Then, he discussed Agency Ordinances and Policies. Agency Staff will be working to update the policies and will present them for discussion during the year. Currently, Staff is updating the Employee Manual, which will be presented to the Board in July. Mr. Valdivia suggested using a Board committee for policy review. President Smith stated that a committee or workshop is acceptable. Mr. Eckhart briefly reviewed the meeting and tour with United Water Conservation that he and President Smith took on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

**B. Legal Counsel’s Report:** Mr. Ferre reported on Sites Reservoir Project Water Rights Permit. The State Board deemed the application complete on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, which starts a 60-day notification period for public comment. After the 60-day notice, the State Board will determine whether to grant the permit, which can take up to one year.

**6. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action**

**A. Strategic Plan Update (CV Strategies, Tara Bravo)**

Mr. Eckhart introduced Ms. Bravo, who is assisting with updating the Agency’s Strategic Plan. Ms. Bravo reviewed the development of the Strategic Plan update, which included Mission (What do we do?), Vision (What do we aspire to be?), Values (Why do we do what we do?), TOWS Analysis, and Key Topics. The Board discussed these items during the Special meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup>. She noted that today’s presentation will update the status of the Plan. There is no action today and she requested feedback and direction be given to Staff, which will be incorporated in the Plan. The Board will be involved with the strategic

objectives, which will be presented next month. Ms. Bravo answered questions. Collen Wallace (Council Member, City of Banning) provided public comment.

**B. Public Information Update (CV Strategies, Nisha Ajmani)**

Ms. Ajmani provided a progress report on media outreach, social media, and collateral, events and partnerships. Ms. Ajmani answered questions.

President Smith requested a short recess at 2:48 p.m.  
The Board reconvened to open session at 2:52 p.m.

**7. New Business**

**A. Proposed General Fund Budget for FY 2023-24**

Mr. Todd presented on the changes that were made to the proposed General Fund Budget for FY 2023-24, as recommended by the Board. After discussion, Mr. Ybarra moved, seconded by Mr. Valdivia, to approve the proposed budget for the General Fund and Consigned SWP Fund for FY 2023-24. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary 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 7-0.

**B. San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Meeting Dates and Times Discussion**

Mr. Eckhart provided a short presentation on this topic. Staff recommends holding two board meetings a month. The first meeting would be held on the first Monday of the month, and the second meeting would be held on the third Monday of the month, both at 1:30 p.m. An ordinance would need to be approved at the next Board meeting to authorize this change. Director Duncan made a motion to accept Staff's recommendation. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to follow Staff's suggestion, with the exception of holding the second Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Duncan amended his motion, seconded by Mr. Valdivia, to bring back an Ordinance setting Board meetings on the first Monday of the month at 1:30 p.m. and the third Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**7. New Business – 7. B (cont.)**

Director Walton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary 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 7-0.

**C. Supporting Candidates for the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Board President and Vice President**

Ms. Stiff explained that ACWA is seeking candidates for President and Vice President for the 2024-25 term. The Agency received two requests for support, one from Cathey Green and one from Lona Williams. Cathy Green is the current Vice President of ACWA and is running for ACWA President. Lona Williams is running for ACWA Vice President and is on the BCVWD Board. Should the Board wish to support Ms. Green, Resolution 2023-10 would need to be approved. Should the Board wish to support Ms. Williams, Resolution 2023-11 would need to be approved. Mr. Nyles O’harra (YVWD Board Member) provided public comment. Mr. Valdivia made a motion, seconded by Mr. Letulle, to adopt Resolutions 2023-10 and 2023-11. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secretary 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 7-0.

**8. Reports - Directors and Committee Reports**

**Director Ball** reported on:

- Watermaster Meeting

**Director Duncan** reported on:

- YVWD Board Meeting
- Watermaster Meeting
- Beaumont Chamber Breakfast Meeting
- Cherry Festival 2023

**Director Valdivia** reported on:

- Collaborative Agency meeting
- Finance Committee meeting
- Mr. Valdivia noted that he would be speaking at the Calimesa Chamber Breakfast at Café Royale - 7:30 a.m.

**Director Walton** reported on:

- Santa Ana River Enhanced Recharge Phase 1-B Celebration
- Cherry Festival 2023
- SBVMWD Board meeting
- Watermaster meeting
- Beaumont Chamber Breakfast
- YVWD Board meeting
- City of Beaumont Council Meeting

**President Smith** reported on:

- Noted that he attended the same meetings that the other Directors had attended.

**9. Topics for Future Agendas**

None.

**10. Announcements**

President Smith reviewed the following announcements:

- A. Water Conservation & Education Committee Meeting, June 13, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.
- B. Finance and Engineering Workshop, June 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- C. Regular Board Meeting, June 26, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.
- D. Office closed July 4, 2023 in observance of Independence Day

**11. Adjournment**

President Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

***Draft - Subject to Board Approval***

Robert Ybarra, Secretary of the Board

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