

SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223
Minutes of the Board of Directors
August 7, 2023

THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON,
WITH PUBLIC AVAILABILITY PROVIDED VIA ZOOM.

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

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: Jeffrey 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 pm, August 7, 2023. Mr. Walton led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mr. Walton gave the invocation. President Smith requested a roll call.

<i>Roll Call</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Director Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> (arrived 1:45 pm)
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. Adjustment and Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as published.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Consent Calendar

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, July 17, 2023

Mr. Walton moved, seconded by Mr. Ybarra, to approve the consent calendar. President Smith requested a voice vote. The motion passed 6-0, with Mr. Ball absent.

5. Reports

- A. **General Manager's Report:** Mr. Eckhart reported on the following:

1. Sites Reservoir Project: A meeting took place at SBVMWD on July 25, 2023 with Sites Reservoir Project staff which provided general project updates.
2. A meeting took place on July 27, 2023 with staff from the City of Beaumont, BCVWD, the Agency, and a consultant, to discuss recycled water. Mr. Eckhart will be reporting to the Board at future meetings to keep them informed.
3. Mr. Eckhart reported on the existing Flume video. He informed the Board that the San Geronio Pass Historical Society is collaborating with the Agency to add to the video, to craft more of a historical video rather than one just relating to the damage to the Flume.

- B. **Legal Counsel's Report:** Mr. Ferre reported on SB 1439 and the FPPC's new gifting guideline.

6. Informational Presentations and Updates

- A. **Inland Solar Challenge (Devin Arciniega and Mary Jo Hartley)**

Mr. Eckhart introduced Ms. Arciniega and Ms. Hartley from the Inland Solar Challenge who provided an update on the event that took place May 19 – 21, 2023 at the Yucaipa Regional Park. Ms. Arciniega noted that she will meet with the Water Conservation and Education Committee to discuss Agency sponsorship of the 2024 Inland STEM Challenge. The Board provided comments.

- B. **Overview of Algae Abatement Project with EarthTec**

Mr. Howard provided a presentation on the recently completed EarthTec injection system and collaborative efforts with BCVWD. Mr. Bean (Staff, BCVWD) provided public comment.

- C. **New Ad Hoc Committee – Public Information and Outreach**

President Smith stated that some board members have shown an interest in forming a Public Information and Outreach (PIO) ad hoc committee. He asked for Board input. After discussing this with Staff, he will report on the appointments.

- D. **Personnel Policy Manual Update**

Mr. Eckhart began the presentation for this topic. After discussion, the Board suggested forming an ad hoc committee to review the Personnel Policy Manual. President Smith will announce appointments at an upcoming Board meeting.

- E. **Backbone Pipeline Update**

Mr. Campbell presented an update on the Backbone Pipeline Feasibility Study. Dan Jagers (General Manager, BCVWD) provided public comment.

7. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action

A. Procurement Policy Required Notification and Request for Approval

Mr. Eckhart reviewed the request for approval of a contract amendment for additional work beyond the original approved scope completed by Webb & Associates (Webb) for the Backbone Feasibility Study. After discussion, President Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Duncan, to pay fifty percent of \$24,810, the amount due. President Smith requested a roll call vote.

Roll Call	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Absent
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 6-1, with Director Ybarra opposed.

8. Reports - Directors and Committee Reports

Director Letulle reported on:

- Cabazon Water District Board of Directors Meeting
- ACWA President/Vice President Town Hall
- AAPI Perspective Leadership
- Water Education for Latino Leaders
- BCVWD Board Meeting
- Southern California Water Coalition

President Smith reported on:

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

9. Topics for Future Agendas

Mr. Walton requested an update on the Agency's Strategic Plan.


10. Announcements

President Smith reviewed the following announcements:

- A. Canceled: Water Conservation & Education Committee Meeting, August 8, 2023 at 1:30 pm.
- B. Regular Board Meeting, August 21, 2023 at 1:30 pm.
- C. Office closed September 4, 2023 in observance of Labor Day
- D. Regular Board Meeting, September 11, 2023 at 1:30 pm.
- E. Regular Board Meeting, September 18, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

11. Adjournment

President Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:58 pm.



Robert Ybarra, Secretary of the Board
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