

**SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY**  
**1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors**  
**November 6, 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  
Dr. Blair M Ball, Director  
Ron Duncan, Director  
Kevin Walton, Director

**Staff Present:** Lance Eckhart, General Manager  
Emmett Campbell, Sr. Water Resources Planner  
Matt Howard, Operations Manager

**Consultants Present:** Jeff 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. on November 6, 2023. Vice President Valdivia led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Vice President Valdivia gave the invocation. President Smith requested a roll call.

<i><b>Roll Call</b></i>	<i><b>Present</b></i>	<i><b>Absent</b></i>
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"/>
Secretary Ybarra	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Director Walton	<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, October 16, 2023

Mr. Valdivia 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"/>
Secretary Ybarra	<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"/>
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 reported on the following:

1. Final Backbone Facilities Feasibility Report: The report is viewable on the Agency's website.
2. San Geronio Pass Groundwater Sustainability Report: The report is viewable on the DWR's website and has been approved.
3. Updates: A grant application for the Solara Homeowners Association turf rebate is being written at this time. Water Smart Grant applications for Brookside West and County Line Road design are in process. Mr. Eckhart announced that he will be one of the speakers at the Public Policy Institute of California on November 14, 2023 at 12:30 p.m.

### B. Legal Counsel's Report

Mr. Ferre provided an update on AB557 regarding virtual meetings during a state of emergency.

## 6. Informational Presentations

### A. Investment Report (Richard Babbe, PFM Asset Management)

PFM is managing the Agency's Finance Portfolio. Mr. Babbe attended the meeting remotely. Mr. Eckhart introduced Mr. Babbe, stating that the presentation Mr. Babbe will provide is the same one that the Finance and Budget Committee reviewed on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Babbe reviewed the Investment Performance for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2023, and commented on other economic indicators.

### B. Sites Update (Bob Tincher, SBVMWD)

Mr. Eckhart introduced Mr. Tincher who is the Assistant General Manager for SBVMWD. He attended the meeting in person. Mr. Tincher is part of the Sites Governance Committee, and attends most meetings. Mr. Eckhart reviewed a presentation provided by Mr. Tincher. Mr. Tincher spoke on legislation related to the Sites Reservoir Project. Mr. Eckhart also provided information on the Governance approach and the project status. He reviewed the project's next

steps, noting that there will be an upcoming joint board meeting between SBVMWD and SGPWA in 2024.

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

**A. Personnel Policy Manual Update**

Mr. Eckhart reviewed the steps taken to update the Personnel Policy Manual. He noted that the last major revision was completed in 2012. Best, Best and Krieger reviewed the current Manual and updated existing provisions and added new provisions. The ad hoc committee reviewed and recommended benefit changes. Mr. Eckhart reviewed the fiscal impact, noting that approving the updated policy will reduce Agency health expenditures overall. The additional dental and vision benefits will cost the Agency a maximum of \$2,700 annually. After discussion, Mr. Ball moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the current version of the Personnel Policy Manual and recommend additional steps for refinement. President Smith requested a roll call vote.

<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 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"/>
Secretary Ybarra	<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"/>
President Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The motion passed 7-0.

**B. Purchase and Installation of a Security and Monitoring Camera at the Brookside East Recharge Facility**

Mr. Howard explained the purpose of installing a security and monitoring camera from EarthCam at the Brookside East Recharge Facility. The fiscal impact for the purchase, installation, and two years of monitoring of this camera is \$37,574.00. After discussion, Mr. Valdivia moved, seconded by Mr. Ybarra, to authorize purchasing and installing a security and monitoring camera at the Brookside East Recharge Facility from EarthCam for a total cost of \$37,574. President Smith requested a roll call vote.

<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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President Valdivia	<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"/>
Director Walton	<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 5-2.

**7. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action (con’t)**  
**C. Non-Profit 501 (c)(3) Foundation**

Mr. Eckhart noted that the Finance and Budget Committee reviewed this matter and recommended presentation to the Board for consideration. The Committee recommends that the Board authorize the formation of a nonprofit corporation to fund sponsorships and events through non-rate revenue. Mr. Eckhart provided background information on entities seeking sponsorships or contributions and discussed the fiscal impact. There is an attendant cost to forming a nonprofit, as well as costs to make yearly filings and pay ongoing fees to keep the nonprofit in good standing; estimates for the costs/fees for formation were provided. After discussion, Mr. Valdivia moved, seconded by Mr. Ybarra, to authorize the formation of a nonprofit corporation to fund sponsorships and events through the use of non-rate revenue. 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"/>
Secretary Ybarra	<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"/>
President Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The motion passed 7-0.

**D. Consider Authorization for the Purchase of one Ford Pickup Truck and one Ford Explorer**

After Board discussion, this item was tabled.

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

**Director Ball** reported on:

- BCVWD Board Meeting
- General Manager Ad Hoc Committee

**Director Duncan:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Director Letulle:** Nothing to report at this time.

**President Smith:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Vice President Valdivia** reported on:

- Beaumont Chamber – State of the City Event

**Director Walton:** Nothing to report at this time.

**Director Ybarra:** Nothing to report at this time.

**9. Topics for Future Agendas**

None.

**10. Announcements**

President Smith reviewed the following announcements:

- A. Finance and Budget Committee Meeting, November 16, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.
- B. Regular Board Meeting, November 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- C. Office closed November 23-24, 2023 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday
- D. ACWA 2023 Fall Conference November 28-30, 2023
- E. Regular Board Meeting, December 4, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

**11. Adjournment**

President Smith adjourned the meeting at 4:38 p.m.

***Draft – Subject to Board Approval***

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Robert Ybarra, Secretary of the Board

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