



SAN GORGONIO PASS
WATER AGENCY
A California State Water Project Contractor

**SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223**

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Mickey Valdivia

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Directors
Dr. Blair M Ball
Sarah Wargo
Larry Smith

General Manager
Lance Eckhart,
PG, CHG

Legal Counsel
Holland Stewart

**Water Conservation and Education
Committee Meeting
August 12, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.**

AGENDA

*This meeting is being held virtually and in person.
Link and telephone option provided is available for the
convenience of the public.*

TO JOIN VIA ZOOM: [Zoom Teleconference Link](#)

TO JOIN THE MEETING BY TELEPHONE

CALL: 669-900-6833 | MEETING ID: 920 2075 7570

Members of the public who wish to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the Agency or any item on the agenda may submit comments by emailing mcabral@sgpwa.com or may do so during the meeting. Comments will become part of the meeting record.

***In order to reduce feedback, please mute your audio when you are not speaking.**

Esta reunión se llevará a cabo virtualmente y en persona.

*El enlace y la opción telefónica proporcionada
es para la comodidad del público.*

PARA UNIRSE VÍA ZOOM: [Zoom Teleconference Link](#)
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Los miembros del público que deseen comentar sobre cualquier tema dentro de la jurisdicción de la Agencia o cualquier tema en la agenda pueden enviar comentarios por correo electrónico a mcabral@sgpwa.com o pueden hacerlo durante la reunión. Los comentarios pasarán a formar parte del registro de la reunión de la Junta.

***Para reducir los comentarios, silencia el audio cuando no estés hablando.**

- 1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call**
- 2. Adjustment and Adoption of the Agenda**
- 3. Public Comment:** Members of the public may address the Board at this time concerning items relating to any matter within the Agency's jurisdiction. To comment on specific agenda items, please complete a speaker's request form and hand it to the board secretary. Speakers are requested to keep their comments to no more than five (5) minutes. Under the Brown Act, no action or discussion shall take place on any item not appearing on the agenda, except that the Board or staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed for the purpose of directing statements or questions to staff for follow up.

4. **Approve Minutes of the June 10, 2025, Water Conservation and Education Committee Meeting, [\(pg. 3\)](#)**
5. **Status Report on IERCD Programs, [\(pg. 5\)](#)**
6. **Committee Member Reports**
7. **Announcement: Water Conservation & Education Committee Meeting scheduled for October 14, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.**
8. **Adjournment**

(1) Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Agency's office, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's website, accessible at: www.sgpwa.com (2) Any person with a disability who requires accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should telephone the Agency at least 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation.

**SAN GORGONIO PASS WATER AGENCY
1210 Beaumont Avenue, Beaumont, California 92223**

**Official Minutes
Water Conservation and Education Committee Meeting
June 10, 2025**

THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM.

Committee Members Present:

Sarah Wargo, Chair
Mickey Valdivia, President
Robert Ybarra, Treasurer

Staff Present:

Lance Eckhart, General Manager
Maricela Cabral, Exec. Asst./Clerk of the Board

Others in Attendance:

Gabriela Preciado, Education Programs Lead, IERCD, via teleconference
Shari Tindall, Conservation Educator, IERCD, via teleconference
Jennifer Ares, Water Resources Manager – Yucaipa Valley Water District, SoCal STEAM Challenge Representative

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Water Conservation and Education Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Sarah Wargo at 1:30 p.m., on Tuesday, June 10, 2025. Chair Wargo led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance; and requested a roll call. A quorum was present.

2. Adjustment and Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as published.

3. Public Comment

Jennifer Ares, Water Resources Manager for Yucaipa Valley Water District and SoCal STEAM Challenge representative, thanked the Agency for its continued support of the 2025 SoCal STEAM Challenge. Ms. Ares presented a Solar Mega Sponsor plaque, recognizing SGPWA for 15 years of commitment to local students learning about sustainable innovation and environmental responsibility.

4. Approve Minutes of the April 8, 2025, Water Conservation and Education Committee Meeting

On a motion by Director Valdivia, seconded by Director Wargo, the Committee approved the minutes of the April 8, 2025, Water Conservation and Education Committee Meeting. Motion passed 3-0.

5. Status Report on IERCD Programs

Gabriela Preciado from the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD) provided an update on the Agency's education and outreach efforts, reporting that 105 programs were delivered—well above the initial projection of 66—reaching over 2,000 students across all five service divisions. The increase was driven by strong teacher engagement and repeat requests. IERCD also participated in five community events and hosted four conservation workshops. Program improvements included pre-program materials, branded presentations, and post-program surveys, which reflected high satisfaction and interest in continued participation.

Ms. Preciado also discussed upcoming outreach efforts, including a June 17 workshop in Beaumont in partnership with the UC Master Gardeners. Plans are underway to introduce hybrid workshop formats to improve accessibility and participation. Additionally, IERCD is coordinating with school districts to ensure timely submission of insurance documentation for the upcoming academic year.

General Manager Eckhart and committee members expressed support for a multi-year professional services agreement with IERCD. A proposed three-year agreement with two optional extensions would solidify the Agency's long-term investment in water education and community engagement. The Committee affirmed its continued support for IERCD's work and anticipates bringing the contract forward for future Board consideration.

6. Committee Meeting Reports

Director Wargo commended the effectiveness of IERCD's program delivery and expressed gratitude for their outreach and classroom engagement. Director Valdivia echoed the appreciation and underscored the importance of continued investment in education and conservation.

7. Announcement: Water Conservation & Education Committee Meeting scheduled for August 12, 2025

The next Water Conservation and Education Committee Meeting is scheduled for August 12, 2025.

8. Adjournment.

There being no further business to discuss, Committee Chair Wargo adjourned the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

Maricela V. Cabral, CMC, CPMC
Exec. Asst./Clerk of the Board



SGPWA/ IERCD 2025- 26
Water Conservation
Programming Partnership





2025-26 Projections

Classroom Presentations



Anticipated
Students Impacted



Community Events



Anticipated Community
Members Impacted



Workshops



Anticipated Community
Members Impacted



2025-26 Workshop Planning

Six Community Workshops



Priority Locations:

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Rec & Park District
Banning Senior Center

Anticipated Impact:
300 Community Members



Maximizing Impact in 2025-26:

- Outreach strategy focused on comprehensive virtual and in-person advertisement to ensure minimum attendance
- Higher impact incentives; minimum of two workshops in collaboration with UCANR's highly successful Trees for Tomorrow Program
- Post-workshop follow-up with attendees, maximizing impact of workshops and advancing SGPWA branding/messaging
- Focus on increasing post-workshop water conservation actions



IERCD-Developed Strategic Messaging: Cherry Festival

Elevator Pitch (30 seconds)

"We're the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency, and our job is to make sure there's enough water here today and for the future. Most of our local supply comes from underground, but that groundwater doesn't refill fast enough on its own. So we bring in water from Northern California to help recharge our local basins. It's a huge job involving tunnels, pumps, and smart storage like the Sites Reservoir. Want to know how it all works?"

Deeper Engagement (1-2 minutes)

"We rely on groundwater for most of our water here in the Pass Area. Every time you wash your hands or fill a glass, that's likely groundwater. The challenge is that it doesn't naturally refill fast enough to keep up with demand. That's where we come in. SGPWA imports water from Northern California through the State Water Project to replenish our local supply (a process called recharge). Without this imported water, some of our wells could literally run dry.

We're investing in the future through projects like the Sites Reservoir to store water from big storms, and the Delta Conveyance project to modernize the infrastructure that brings water south. We're planning for drought, climate change, and earthquakes so you don't have to worry every time you turn on the tap."

Really Into It

Sites Reservoir: CA's Rainy Day Fund

What it is:

Sites Reservoir is a proposed off-stream reservoir in Northern California that would capture and store excess water during big storms (not snowmelt, but actual storm runoff) so it can be saved for dry years.



Five Community Events

Priorities:

Stagecoach Days
Cherry Festival

Anticipated Impact: 1,000 Community Members

2025-26 Events

- Full branding by IERCD in attire, booth appearance, and talking points
- Development of pre-event comprehensive talking points for all IERCD staffers, informing strategic messaging connected to visitor interest
- Call to action messaging: advertising workshops, other SGPWA events, QR code to SGPWA conservation content on website
- Tracking metrics and adaptive management for events short to hitting targets





Education Programs Lead
Gaby Preciado (8 years
with IERCD)



Education Specialist Lus
Gomez (4 years with
IERCD)



Community Engagement
Specialist Crystal
Valenzuela (6 years with
IERCD)



New Education Programs
Manager (Beginning Mid-
September)

2025-26 Employee Transition

- Long-time Conservation Educator Shari Tindall retiring August 2025
- IERCD ensuring continuity of contract excellence through:
 - Retaining Gaby Preciado in contract lead role
 - Adding support role from incoming Education Programs Manager
 - Adding highly experienced education/outreach employee Lus Gomez to support in workshops and classroom programs
 - Continued outreach and branding support from Community Engagement Specialist Crystal Valenzuela (and CV Strategies!)
- Team brings significant experience in bilingual youth and adult conservation education and virtual/in-person outreach



Thank you for your support!



Key Staff for SGPWA Contract:
Education Programs Lead, Gabriela Preciado