

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

Official Minutes
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
December 15, 2025

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

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

The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Treasurer Ybarra at 6:00 p.m., Monday, December 15, 2025, at the office of the Agency. Director Smith provided the invocation and Treasurer Ybarra led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prior to roll call, Counsel Stewart conducted the required Brown Act just cause verification for Vice President Letulle, who appeared remotely. Counsel confirmed compliance with Government Code requirements.

2. Roll Call

Treasurer Ybarra requested a roll call.

Board Present:

Mickey Valdivia, President – arrived at 6:11 p.m.
Chander Letulle, Vice-President – via teleconference
Robert Ybarra, Treasurer
Blair M Ball, Director
Larry Smith, Director
James Tickemyer, Director
Sarah Wargo, Director

Staff Present:

Lance Eckhart, General Manager
Thomas Todd, Jr., Chief Financial Officer
Maricela Cabral, Exec. Asst. /Clerk of the Board
Emmett Campbell, Director of Water Resources
Matt Howard, Operations Manager

Consultant Present:

Holland Stewart, Legal Counsel

A quorum was present.

3. Adoption and Adjustment of Agenda

General Manager Eckhart stated an adjustment would be made to remove Item 11.A, Closed Session from the agenda. The item will be rescheduled to the Agency's first meeting in January.

With no additional changes, the agenda was adopted as published.

4. Public Comment

Clerk of the Board Maricela Cabral announced two letters were received as written correspondence and filed:

- NorCal Carpenters Union
- LiUNA, Northern California District Council

Both letters were distributed to the Board and made available to the public.

John Belperio, representing NorCal Carpenters Union, addressed the Board regarding labor considerations associated with contractor selection for the Sites Reservoir project.

5. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve Minutes of the December 1, 2025, Regular Meeting of the San Geronio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors.

On a motion by Director Smith, seconded by Director Wargo, the board approved the Consent Calendar as presented.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Smith, Tickemyer, Wargo, Ybarra, Letulle, Ball

Noes: None

Absent: Valdivia

Motion passed 6-0.

6. Reports

A. General Manager's Report

General Manager Eckhart reported on the following:

1. Update on Chief Financial Officer recruitment
2. CalMatters interview and article

B. Legal Counsel's Report

Counsel Stewart had no report.

7. Informational Presentations and Updates:

A. Water Conditions Report

Operations Manager, Matt Howard presented the monthly Water Conditions Report, providing an overview of current Northern Sierra precipitation and snowpack trends, reservoir storage conditions at Lake Oroville and San Luis Reservoir, and the State Water Project allocation outlook, which currently reflects an initial 10 percent allocation. Mr. Howard also reported on the completion of Agency deliveries and recharge activities for the season and discussed the status of carryover water, including considerations related to potential spill risk.

B. County Line Road Update

Director of Water Resources, Emmett Campbell provided a construction update on the County Line Road Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, reporting on project coordination, completion of CEQA requirements, pipeline installation along Fourth Street, and the successful horizontal bore beneath the flood control channel, which

was completed without incident despite minor subsurface adjustments. He also noted utility relocation and archaeological monitoring activities.

8. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action:

A. Authorize the General Manager to Execute Amendment No. 7 to the Agreement for the Supply and Conveyance of Water by the Department of Water Resources of Southern California (DWR) Under the Dry Year Water Purchase Program between DWR and SGPWA

Director of Water Resources, Emmett Campbell presented Amendment No. 7 to the Dry Year Water Purchase Program agreement, explaining that the amendment extends the agreement term through 2025, replaces prior amendments in their entirety for clarity, updates water pricing based on cumulative CPI adjustments and simplifies storage and allocation provisions. Mr. Campbell explained participation remains voluntary on an annual basis and the program provides a cost-effective supplemental supply during dry and critical years.

On a motion by Director Ball, seconded by Director Smith, the board approved and authorized the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 7 to the Agreement for the Supply and Conveyance of Water by the Department of Water Resources of Southern California (DWR) Under the Dry Year Water Purchase Program between DWR and SGPWA.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Smith, Tickemyer, Wargo, Ybarra, Letulle, Ball, Valdivia

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

B. Adopt Resolution 2025-11, Authorizing Execution of Agreements for the following:

- **Repayment of Debt Service and Removal of Greenspot Pump Station Facilities from the State Water Project**
- **Designation of New Delivery Services**
- **Electrical Interconnection and Wholesale Distribution Service with Southern California Edison Company**

Director of Water Resources, Emmett Campbell presented Resolution 2025-11, authorizing execution of multiple agreements to facilitate the transfer of surplus Green Spot Pump Station facilities from the State Water Project to local control, including agreements with the Department of Water Resources and Southern California Edison. The resolution also addressed repayment of remaining debt service obligations and ensured continuity of electrical service following transfer.

On a motion by Director Tickemyer, seconded by Director Wargo, the board adopted Resolution 2025-11.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Smith, Tickemyer, Wargo, Ybarra, Letulle, Ball, Valdivia

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

C. Consideration of Professional Services and Cost-Share Agreements for Preparation of Technical Memorandum on Recycled Water Recharge Basin Siting and Liability

General Manager Eckhart presented a proposed 50/50 cost-share agreement with the City of Beaumont to prepare a technical memorandum evaluating recycled water recharge basin siting and liability considerations.

The Board discussed the importance of advancing recycled water use, addressing regulatory constraints, and clarifying liability concerns to support long-term regional water resilience.

On a motion by Director Smith, seconded by Director Ball, the board approved the Professional Services and Cost-Share Agreements for Preparation of a Technical Memorandum on Recycled Water Recharge Basin Siting and Liability.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Smith, Tickemyer, Wargo, Ybarra, Letulle, Ball, Valdivia

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

D. Consideration to Nominate Board Member for LAFCO

Clerk of the Board, Maricela Cabral provided background on the Riverside County LAFCO Western Region Special District seat and process to nominate one of its Board Members for consideration.

On a motion by President Valdivia, seconded by Treasurer Ybarra, the board nominated Director Smith and authorized execution of the required nomination documents.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Smith, Tickemyer, Wargo, Ybarra, Letulle, Ball, Valdivia

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

E. Approve 2026 SGPWA Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

Clerk of the Board, Maricela Cabral reviewed the proposed 2026 meeting schedule.

On a motion by Director Smith, seconded by President Valdivia, the board approved the 2026 SGPWA Board of Directors Meeting Schedule with a modification moving the July 6, 2026, meeting to July 13, 2026, with all other dates unchanged.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Smith, Tickemyer, Wargo, Ybarra, Letulle, Ball, Valdivia

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

F. Reorganization of the SGPWA 2026 Board of Directors

The Board held a discussion regarding upcoming officer reorganization. No action was taken. Formal action will occur at the January 5, 2026, meeting in accordance with the Agency Act.

G. Consideration of Committee Reassignments for 2026

After Board discussion, the item was tabled to the January 5, 2026, Board meeting.

9. Reports - Directors and Committee Report

The following meetings were reported on:

- December 2-4, 2025, Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Fall Conference (Smith, Tickemyer, Wargo, Ybarra, Valdivia)
- December 5, 2025, City of Banning Christmas Parade & Celebration (Wargo, Ybarra)
- December 8, 2025, 3x2x2 Recycled Water Meeting (Smith, Ball, Valdivia)
- December 8, 2025, Banning Heights Mutual Water Company Board Meeting (Wargo)
- December 9, 2025, Water Conservation & Education Committee Meeting (Wargo, Valdivia)
- December 9, 2025, Banning City Council Meeting (Tickemyer)
- December 9, 2025, Cabazon Community Plan (Wargo)
- December 11, 2025, State of the County (Wargo)
- December 12, 2025, Riverside County Water Task Force: Annual Year-End Forum (Smith)
- December 13, 2025, City of Cabazon Christmas Celebration
- December 15, 2025, High Valleys Heli-Hydrant Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (Smith, Wargo, Ybarra)

Vice President Letulle had no report.

President Valdivia commented on exploring the addition of an alternate member to each Board committee for the 2026 assignments.

10. Board Requests for Future Agenda Items

President Valdivia requested that a future agenda item be brought forward regarding the funding of a sponsorship to support a small systems agency's attendance at a conference.

11. Closed Session Agenda - *Item Removed from Agenda*

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9

One potential case

12. Reconvene – *Item Removed from Agenda*
A. Report out of Closed Session

13. Announcements

President Valdivia reviewed the following announcements:

- A. Finance and Budget Committee Meeting, December 18, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.
- B. Office closed in observance of Christmas and New Year's Holidays, December 24-January 1, 2026
- C. Regular Board Meeting, January 5, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.
- D. Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 19, 2026

14. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Treasurer Ybarra adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, January 5, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.



Maricela W. Cabral, CMC, CPMC
Deputy Secretary of the Board