

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

Official Minutes
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
April 20, 2026

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

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

The San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President Robert Ybarra at 6:00 p.m., Monday, April 20, 2026, at the office of the Agency. Director Valdivia provided the invocation and dedicated the meeting to the late Dan Hughes. Director Wargo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prior to roll call, Counsel Stewart conducted the required Brown Act verification for Vice President Smith who appeared remotely from the following location: 123 Palfrey Drive, Ridgeville, SC 29472.

2. Roll Call

President Ybarra requested a roll call.

Board Present:

Robert Ybarra, President
Larry Smith, Vice-President – via teleconference
James Tickemyer, Treasurer
Sarah Wargo, Secretary
Blair M Ball, Director
Chander Letulle, Director
Mickey Valdivia, 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

Consultant Present:

Holland Stewart, Legal Counsel

A quorum was present.

3. Adoption and Adjustment of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as published.

4. Public Comment

No public comment received.

5. Consent Calendar

- A. Approve Minutes of the April 6, 2026, Regular Meeting of the San Geronio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors

On a motion by Director Valdivia, seconded by Director Ball, the board approved the Consent Calendar with an adjustment.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

6. Reports

A. General Manager's Report

General Manager, Lance Eckhart reported on the following:

1. Brookside Avenue Heli-Hydrant work completed during spring break in coordination with Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
2. AVEK executed the Memorandum of Understanding related to potential future water banking opportunities
3. County Line Road construction continues, including rehabilitation of approximately 700 feet of 14-inch pipeline using cured-in-place lining technology and coordination with regional partners for field observation of the process
4. San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District expected to consider bids for the County Line Rd connection portion of the project
5. Outgoing CFO Thomas Todd repaired boardroom chairs, resulting in an estimated agency savings of approximately \$15,000

B. Legal Counsel's Report

Counsel Stewart had no report.

7. Informational Presentations and Updates:

A. Water Conditions Report

General Manager Eckhart presented the monthly water conditions report on behalf of Operations Manager Matt Howard. He reviewed near-average northern Sierra precipitation, early snowmelt caused by hot and dry March conditions, and full storage at Lake Oroville and San Luis Reservoir. He also reported the Agency remains in an approximately 30 percent allocation year, with about 6,400 acre-feet delivered for recharge to date, limited direct deliveries to Yucaipa Valley Water District, and recharge ponds temporarily offline for maintenance before returning to service.

B. State Water Project Fundamentals – Article 55 Water

Director of Water Resources Campbell presented an overview of Article 55 of the State Water Project contract, which allows contractors to convey non-State Water Project water through project facilities when it does not interfere with State Water Project operations. He noted the Agency currently uses Nickel Water and Yuba

Accord Water under this provision, and the Board discussed conveyance, costs, and potential future application to Sites Project supplies.

C. County Line Road Construction Update

Director of Water Resources Campbell presented the monthly construction update for the County Line Road Recharge Basin and Turnout Project, reporting completion of South Mesa Water Company's 8-inch pipe relocation, ongoing 14-inch pipeline rehabilitation, and substantial completion of basin excavation, with crews moving into final grading. He also noted progress on storm drain installation, installation of the Fourth Street meter vault cap, continued excavation monitoring, and the repurposing or removal of approximately 60,000 to 70,000 cubic yards of material during March.

D. Delta Conveyance Project Update

General Manager Eckhart presented an update on Delta Conveyance project progress, including geotechnical work, design advancement, environmental compliance, and permitting efforts. He emphasized the project's importance to California's long-term water reliability, and Board members discussed the need for continued advocacy, public outreach, and education regarding its regional and statewide benefits.

8. Reports - Directors and Committee Report

The following meetings were reported on by the Board members listed beside each item:

- March 26, 2026, Finance and Budget Committee Meeting (Valdivia)
- March 27, 2026, Riverside County Water Task Force Meeting (Valdivia)
- March 30, 2026, Board Workshop: Media Training (Valdivia)
- April 1, 2026, Beaumont Basin Watermaster Meeting (Valdivia)
- April 1, 2026, Water Conservation & Education Committee Meeting (Valdivia)
- April 7, 2026, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Board Meeting (Wargo)
- April 8, 2026, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District Board Meeting (Ball)
- April 8, 2026, Board Handbook Committee Meeting (Ball, Wargo)
- April 8, 2026, Banning City Council Meeting (Wargo, Tickemyer, Ybarra)
- April 13, 2026, Recycled Water Committee Meeting (Ball)
- April 13, 2026, Banning Heights Mutual Water Company Meeting (Tickemyer)
- April 15, 2026, High Valleys Water District Board Meeting (Valdivia, Wargo)

Secretary Wargo reminded the Board of the upcoming SoCal STEAM event on May 2, 2026.

Director Letulle had no report.

The Board expressed condolences on the passing of Dan Hughes, recognizing his many years of service to the community and youth recreation. At the request of Vice President Smith, President Ybarra led a moment of silence in Mr. Hughes' honor.

9. Board Requests for Future Agenda Items

No topics were discussed.

10. Announcements

President Ybarra reviewed the following announcements:

- A. Finance & Budget Committee Meeting, April 23, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
- B. SoCal STEAM Challenge, May 2, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
- C. Regular Board Meeting, May 4, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.
- D. ACWA Spring Conference, May 5-7, 2026.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, President Ybarra adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, May 4, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

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