

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

**Official Minutes**  
**Board of Directors Regular Meeting**  
**May 4, 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 9:30 a.m., Monday, May 4, 2026, at the office of the Agency. Vice President Smith provided the invocation and Director Letulle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call**

President Ybarra requested a roll call.

**Board Present:**

Robert Ybarra, President  
Larry Smith, Vice-President  
James Tickemyer, Treasurer  
Sarah Wargo, Secretary  
Blair M Ball, Director – arrived at 9:46 a.m.  
Chander Letulle, Director  
Mickey Valdivia, Director

**Staff Present:**

Lance Eckhart, General Manager  
Jennifer Ustation, Chief Financial Officer  
Maricela Cabral, Exec. Asst./Clerk of the Board  
Emmett Campbell, Director of Water Resources  
Matt Howard, Operations Manager  
Jose Romero, Water Systems Operator II

**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. Closed Session Agenda**

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
(Gov. Code § 54956.9)

## Significant Exposure to Litigation: One Potential Case

### 6. **Reconvene**

#### A. Report out of Closed Session Action

President Ybarra reconvened the meeting into open session. Counsel Stewart reported the Board met in closed session and there was no reportable action.

### 7. **Public Comment**

No public comment received.

### 8. **Special Recognition**

A. Proclamation in Recognition of Thomas W. Todd, Jr., Chief Financial Officer  
General Manager Eckhart presented a proclamation recognizing Thomas W. Todd, Jr. for his service as Chief Financial Officer from March 12, 2007, through April 30, 2026. Mr. Eckhart recognized Mr. Todd for his leadership, professionalism, fiscal discipline, and lasting contributions to the Agency's financial strength and long-term stability.

Members of the Board, staff, and public offered remarks thanking Mr. Todd for his service, financial stewardship, institutional knowledge, professionalism, mentorship, and contributions to the Agency and the community. Mr. Todd expressed appreciation to the Board, staff, and attendees, and stated that serving the Agency had been an enjoyable and meaningful part of his career.

### 9. **Consent Calendar**

- A. Approve Minutes of the April 20, 2026, Special Meeting of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors
- B. Approve Minutes of the April 20, 2026, Regular Meeting of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors
- C. Approve Finance and Budget Committee Meeting report for April 23, 2026

Director Valdivia reported that the Finance and Budget Committee met on April 23, 2026, and reviewed regular financial items, new vendors, the PFM Investment Report, water rate update, Cash Reconciliation Report, and Reserve Allocation Report.

On a motion by Director Valdivia, seconded by Director Letulle, the board approved the Consent Calendar as presented.

Approved by the following vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

**Motion passed 7-0.**

### 10. **Reports**

#### A. **General Manager's Report**

General Manager, Lance Eckhart reported on the following:

- 1. Introduced Jose Romero, new Water Systems Operator II

2. Congratulated and recognized Maricela Cabral and Jennifer Ustation for earning their master's degrees from their respective universities
3. Working with Department of Water Resources, San Gabriel Valley and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District on a Golden Mussel pilot program
4. Delta Stewardship Council accepted staff's recommendation on DWR's certification of consistency for the Delta Conveyance Project
5. Procurement update on the following Weka Construction change orders for the County Line Road Project:
  - o Change Order No. 7 – Approximately \$1,900.19 for additional grading and street improvement plan work
  - o Change Order No. 8 - \$8,900 for furnishing and installing tracer wire along County Line Road pipeline
  - o Change Order No. 9 – Under \$2,000 for modification of concrete sump box

**B. Legal Counsel's Report**  
Counsel Stewart had no report.

**11. Informational Presentations and Updates:**

**A. Water Rate Update Discussion**

Sanjay Gaur and Charles Diamond with Water Resources Economics presented an update on the Agency's water rate study, including the study process, retail agency input, and Finance and Budget Committee review. Mr. Gaur discussed historical wholesale water rates, DWR variable cost volatility, and potential rate structure components, noting retail agencies expressed a preference for rate stability and predictability.

**B. Investment Report Presentation**

Chief Financial Officer Jennifer Ustation introduced Robert Montoya of PFM Asset Management who provided the Investment Report for the quarter ending March 31, 2026.

**C. State Water Project Fundamentals – Water Supply Contract Recap**

Item was tabled to a future meeting.

**D. California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) Status Update**

Former Chief Financial Officer Thomas Todd, Jr. provided an update on the Agency's CalPERS status, noting the Agency's retirement plan was approximately 101 percent funded as of April 15, 2026, and commended the Board and prior Boards for proactively addressing pension obligations.

**12. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action:**

**A. Approve Updated Procurement Policy**

Item was tabled to a future meeting.

**B. Approve Updated Capitalization Policy**

Item was tabled to a future meeting.

**13. Reports - Directors and Committee Report**

Director and Committee reports were deferred to a future meeting.

**14. Topics for Future Agendas**

President Ybarra requested follow-up on the Board room television screens.

**15. Announcements**

President Ybarra reviewed the following announcements:

- A. ACWA Spring Conference, May 5-7, 2026
- B. Regular Board Meeting, May 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
- C. Office closed May 25, 2026, in observance of Memorial Day
- D. Finance and Budget Committee Meeting, May 28, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

**16. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, President Ybarra adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, May 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

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