

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

Official Minutes
Board of Directors Regular Meeting
June 1, 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 1:30 p.m., Monday, June 1, 2026, at the office of the Agency. Director Valdivia provided the invocation and Director Wargo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prior to roll call, General Counsel Stewart provided guidance regarding Director Letulle's participation by teleconference under the "just cause" provisions of the Brown Act, as amended by SB 707.

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
Chander Letulle, Director (via teleconference)
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
Matthew Howard, Operations Manager

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

The following individuals commented on the Potter Valley Project:

- Richard Maas

- Patrick Burns
- Kenneth Foster

5. Consent Calendar

- Approve Minutes of the May 18, 2026, Regular Meeting of the San Geronio Pass Water Agency Board of Directors
- Approve Finance & Budget Committee Meeting Report for May 2026

Director Ball requested Item 5.B be pulled for discussion.

On a motion by Vice President Smith, seconded by Director Valdivia, the board approved item 5.A. on the consent calendar.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

Item removed from Consent Calendar

- 5B. Approve Finance & Budget Committee Meeting Report for May 2026

Director Ball requested clarification regarding the 2026 Annual WELL Conference invoice and attendee sponsorship. General Manager Eckhart provided information and Director Valdivia noted that the matter had been disclosed during committee discussion.

On a motion by Vice President Smith, seconded by Director Valdivia, the board approved Item 5.B, Finance & Budget Committee Meeting Report for May 2026.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: Ball

Absent: None

Motion passed 6-1.

6. Reports

A. General Manager's Report

General Manager, Lance Eckhart reported on the following:

- Procurement Update on Change Order Nos. 10, 11, & 12 with Weka, Inc., for the County Line Road Project
- Update on Board AV Equipment
- Draft Urban Water Management Plan complete. Public hearing and consideration of adoption would occur at the next Board meeting.
- Introduced Intern Jagger Mattox
- Update on Heli-Hydrant Program
 - South Mesa Water Company is scheduled to be next
 - Lemon fire

B. Legal Counsel's Report

Counsel Stewart announced that SB 707 training materials are being prepared and will be presented at the next meeting.

7. New Business – Discussion and Possible Action:

A. Approve and Authorize the General Manager to Execute a Change Order No. 13 with WEKA, Inc., for the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000

Director of Water Resources Emmett Campbell provided background on Change Order No. 13 with WEKA, Inc.

On a motion by Director Valdivia, seconded by Treasurer Tickemyer, the board approved and authorized the General Manager to execute Change Order No. 13 with WEKA, Inc., for the County Line Road Recharge Basin Project, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

B. Award a Construction Contract to Glenn Chavez Construction, in the amount of \$330,980, for the Brookside East Heli-Hydrant Facility, and adopt Resolution No. 2026-02

Director of Water Resources Emmett Campbell provided background on the construction contract with Glenn Chavez Construction for the Brookside East Heli-Hydrant Facility.

On a motion by President Ybarra, seconded by Director Ball, the board adopted Resolution No. 2026-02, and awarded a Construction Contract to Glenn Chavez Construction, in the amount of \$330,980, for the Brookside East Heli-Hydrant Facility.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

C. Approve proposed updates to the Procurement Policy

Chief Financial Officer Jennifer Ustation provided background on the revisions to the Agency's Procurement Policy.

On a motion by Director Valdivia, seconded by Treasurer Tickemyer, the board approved the proposed updates to the Procurement Policy.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

D. Consideration and Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2026-27 General Fund Budget

Chief Financial Officer Jennifer Ustation presented the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 General Fund Budget.

The Board discussed related budget items, and the Finance & Budget Committee reported that it reviewed the budget in detail and recommended approval.

On a motion by President Ybarra, seconded by Vice President Smith, the Board adopted the Fiscal Year 2026-27 General Fund Budget and authorized staff to make non-substantive changes to the final publication.

Approved by the following roll call vote:

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Motion passed 7-0.

9. Reports - Directors and Committee Report

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

- May 19, 2026, Cabazon Water District Board Meeting (Wargo)
- May 20, 2026, High Valleys Water District Board Meeting (Valdivia)
- May 21, 2026, Capital Improvement Committee Meeting (Valdivia)
- May 21, 2026, Cabazon Community Plan Meeting (Wargo)
- May 26, 2026, Banning City Council Meeting (Valdivia, Wargo)
- May 30, 2026, Cherry Festival, IERCD Booth (Wargo)

Treasurer Tickemyer thanked staff for their work in preparing the budget and presentation.

Vice President Smith requested clarification regarding SB 707 and applicable Brown Act requirements. General Counsel Stewart explained he will be providing an update at the next board meeting.

Vice President Smith reported that Colorado River conditions have recently received national media attention and noted the potential long-term impacts on future water management.

Director Wargo commented she was unable to attend the High Valleys Board meeting due to the Lemon fire.

President Ybarra, Directors Ball and Letulle had no meeting reports.

10. Topics for Future Agendas

Director Wargo requested information regarding Data Centers and their operations.

11. Closed Session Agenda

A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

(Gov. Code § 54956.8)

Property: Sites Reservoir

Agency negotiator: Lance Eckhart, General Manager

Negotiating parties: Sites Project Authority Participants

Under negotiation: Terms, Water Rights

12. Reconvene

A. Report out of Closed Session

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

13. Announcements

President Ybarra reviewed the following announcements:

A. Water Conservation & Education Committee Meeting, June 9, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

B. Banning Heights Mutual Water Company Ribbon Cutting Event, June 11, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

C. Regular Board Meeting, June 15, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

D. Finance & Budget Committee Meeting, June 16, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, President Ybarra adjourned the meeting at 3:52 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, June 15, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

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