

**SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY
LEGISLATIVE/PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE AND
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
APRIL 10, 2019 AT 11:00 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER	The Chairman called the regular meeting of the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority to order and reviewed the actions anticipated on the agenda for the meeting.
COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	Jorge Marquez, Bob Kuhn and Valerie Munoz
WATERMASTER LIASON	Absent.
COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT	None.
OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT	None.
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Ken Manning, Executive Director; Stephanie Moreno, Executive Assistant/Public Outreach Coordinator; Michelle Sanchez, Accounting Assistant; Dan Colby, Project Resource Manager; Mary Saenz, Director of Finance; Randy Schoellerman, Assistant Executive Director/Sr. Engineer
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT	Lenet Pacheco, Valley County Water District; Gabriel Monares, The Monares Group
PUBLIC COMMENT	None.
<i>Discussion Regarding Next Advertorial</i>	The committee reviewed and provided comments on the draft ad that would be published in the Earth Day section later this month. The ad highlighted Assemblymember Blanca Rubio and Senator Susan Rubio.
<i>Discussion Regarding Agreement with the Eco Voices Institute</i>	<p>Mr. Manning introduced Mr. Shope. He reminded the committee that last year the WQA participated in a Summer Youth Outreach Program with EcoVoices to target a segment of the community that we are currently not reaching, the youth of our communities.</p> <p>Mr. Shope reviewed the program with the committee. He indicated that EcoVoices is a STEM's rich hands-on program that provides young people lessons on the San Gabriel River watershed that includes: groundwater quality, drought preparedness, mitigation measures for the prevention of</p>

pollution and restorative biodiversity. It is delivered in a dynamic and theatrical way that helps students remember and retain what they hear. This year the program would be expanding to include at least 15 K-8 schools within the area of the WQA.

After some discussion, the committee recommended that a \$15,000 grant to support Eco Voices Institute educational programs go to the full Board for approval.

Discussion Regarding San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act (S.3704)

Mr. Manning provided a brief explanation regarding this act. He indicated that it would be expanding the boundaries of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument that was declared during the Obama administration in 2014. He suggested that the WQA wait to take any action until the San Gabriel Valley Water Association takes action, if any.

After brief discussion, the committee recommended tabling this item until further notice.

Legislative Activities/Reports

State

Mr. Manning reported that SB 413 has made it through two Senate committees and was set to go to Appropriations. He commended Mr. Schoellerman for his work and testimony at the hearings while he was out on vacation.

Federal

Mr. Manning reported that a \$10M appropriations request was submitted for the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund. In addition, a \$10M request for groundwater cleanup projects was submitted for the Bureau of Reclamation budget. He noted that if this were approved it would also be available to others parties.

Mr. Manning reported that Democrats have indicated they are not going to consider earmarks until after the 2020 election. This has a direct impact on WQA's ability to get an appropriation from the SGB Restoration Funds.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

He noted that he had a great trip to South East Asia.

He reported that there was still discussion about a state bill for funding water projects with a water tax or trust fund. However, a final legislation could be delayed pending the outcome of a State Water Board needs assessment report due out next year.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman asked if there were any other items of business to come before the Board. There being none, the Board meeting was adjourned.


Chairman


Secretary