

**A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY
JANUARY 20, 2021 AT 12:00 P.M.**

To the extent authorized by the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20 dated March 12, 2020 ("Executive Order") issued in response to the Covid-19 outbreak, the WQA Board Reserved the Right to Suspend Application of Certain Public Meeting Requirements Under the Brown Act during the term of the Executive Order, Including Restrictions and Noticing Requirements Relating to the Conduct of Teleconferenced Board Meetings.

Due to the essential nature of the WQA Board Meetings in conducting Authority business, the WQA Board meeting took place online and teleconference.

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.

ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS

Jorge Marquez, Bob Kuhn (entered late), Mark Paulson, Valerie Munoz, Lynda Noriega, Mike Whitehead, and Ed Chavez (entered late).

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Randy Schoellerman, Executive Director; Stephanie Moreno, Executive Assistant/Outreach Coordinator; Dan Colby, Assistant Executive Director/Senior Project Manager; Mary Saenz, Director of Finance; Michelle Sanchez, Admin/Accounting Assistant; Richard Padilla, Legal Counsel

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

None.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT PARTICIPATED VIA ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE

Gabriel Monares, The Monares Group; Garry Hoffer, Cal American Water Company; Ralph Galvan, Valley County Water District; Lenet Pacheco, Valley County Water District; Brian Bowcock, Three Valleys MWD; Javier Vargas, Valley County Water District; Katrina Garcia, Upper District; Jennifer Santana, Upper District; Jose Martinez, Valley County Water District; Jack Gulaco, The Gualco Group; Mark Kadesh, Kadesh and Associates; Chris Kierig, Kadesh and Associates

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

None.

Mr. Kuhn enters the meeting.

Mr. Chavez enters the meeting.

LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP

*The Monares Group
The Gualco Group*

Mr. Schoellerman indicated that this legislative workshop would provide an opportunity for the board members to hear

directly from WQA's legislative consultants and to receive updates and analysis on what can be expected for 2021.

Mr. Gualco provided a 2020 Legislative and Regulatory overview. He also provided a 2021 forecast and indicated that there was a possible Gubernatorial recall. He noted that the Senate gained two democratic seats and the Assembly gained one republican seat. He indicated that his staff would continue to monitor the legislative activities and provide updates to the WQA as they come.

Mr. Keurig gave an update on the activities in Washington, D.C. He reported that they are working to meet with the new delegates to discuss the fiscal year 2021 and WQA's funding requests with the Bureau of Reclamation.

Mr. Kadesh reported that the WQA has a strong delegation in D.C. and he is cautiously optimistic for 2021.

Mr. Monares reported that many of the legislative seats that have been discussed may change again in two years which may provide good opportunities at the federal level.

Mr. Kuhn asked Mr. Gualco about the proposed water bond and was there a chance that another bond would pass in California.

Mr. Gualco commented that if another bond would be passed it would come out of the General Fund and would be up to the voters.

Mr. Kuhn asked if the WQA could get some support from the local legislators, would that help their efforts in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Keurig commented that any support would be helpful.

Mr. Schoellerman recognized Mr. Gualco and the efforts of his staff in helping with WQA's Proposition 68 award. He also noted that there could be legislation to reorganize the Department of Toxic Substances Control and that WQA may want to provide input in that process.

The Chairman thanked all for their updates and their continued work for the WQA.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman

Mr. Marquez asked if there were any nominations for Chairman.

Mr. Chavez nominated Ms. Munoz for Chairwoman.

No other nominations were made.

Mr. Chavez moved to elect Ms. Munoz for Chairwoman. Mr. Whitehead seconded the motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: MARQUEZ, KUHN, PAULSON, MUNOZ,
NORIEGA, WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ

NO: NONE

Vice-Chairman

Mr. Marquez asked if there were any nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Kuhn nominated Mr. Paulson for Vice- Chairman.

No other nominations were made.

Mr. Kuhn moved to elect Mr. Paulson for Vice-Chairman. Mr. Chavez seconded the motion and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: MARQUEZ, KUHN, PAULSON, MUNOZ,
NORIEGA, WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ

NO: NONE

Treasurer

Mr. Marquez asked if there were any nominations for Treasurer.

Ms. Munoz nominated Mr. Marquez as Treasurer.

No other nominations were made.

Ms. Munoz moved to elect Mr. Marquez as Treasurer. Mr. Whitehead seconded the motion and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: MARQUEZ, KUHN, PAULSON, MUNOZ,
NORIEGA, WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ

NO: NONE

Secretary

Mr. Marquez asked if there were any nominations for Secretary.

Mr. Kuhn nominated himself for Secretary.

No other nominations were made.

Mr. Kuhn moved to elect himself as Secretary. Mr. Paulson seconded the motion and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: MARQUEZ, KUHN, PAULSON, MUNOZ,
NORIEGA, WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ

NO: NONE

Ms. Munoz took over the meeting as Chairwoman.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Chairwoman requested that the selection of committee members come back to the board at the next meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mr. Marquez moved to approve the consent calendar. Mr. Kuhn seconded the motion, and it was approved by a roll call vote.

AYES: MARQUEZ, KUHN, PAULSON, MUNOZ,
NORIEGA, WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ

NO: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: Mr. Whitehead abstained from Project Demand Nos: E91067. Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand No. E91066

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative/Finance Committee Report

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the minutes for the committee meeting were enclosed for review.

Discussion Regarding Report on Cash and Investments for 4th Quarter 2020

Ms. Saenz reported that the average monthly effective yields for the Pooled Money Investment Account (PMIA) for October, November and December 2020 are 0.620%, 0.576%, and 0.540%, respectively. She indicated that the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) quarterly rate for October through December 2020 been not yet issued. The PMIA Quarter to Date rate is .58%, as shown on the PMIA Daily Rates schedule. She also reported that the WQA holds its cash funds at Bank of the West (BOTW). Funds held at BOTW exceed the FDIC insured limit of \$250,000; all funds in excess of the FDIC limits are collateralized by BOTW in accordance with California Government Code Title 5, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 4, Article 2 – Deposit of Funds. She noted that included with the agenda packet are copies of the initial Contract for Deposit for Public Funds agreement with BOTW effective October 1, 2013, as well as an amendment to the agreement effective August 4, 2020. She indicated that Section 8 of the agreements describes the eligible securities that serve as collateral for the WQA deposits, in accordance with Government Code Section 53632.5 which refers to Section 53651. She also noted that included with the agenda is the text of the relevant California Government Code – page 3 (Section

53632.5) and pages 11 to 15 (Section 53651) describe the securities eligible to be used as collateral for the BOTW deposits.

*Discussion/Action Regarding
License Agreement with L.A.
County Department of Parks and
Recreation for MW5-19*

Mr. Schoellerman reported the BPOU monitoring well MW5-19 was constructed on the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation's East County Community Services Agency and Regional Facility Agency Yard located at 265 Cloverleaf Drive, Baldwin Park, CA 91706. He indicated that the license agreement allows WQA access to the site for the purposes of sampling and maintaining the well. He indicated that this is effectively the same agreement we received last year for a one-year term. However, this year staff was able to secure a 10-year agreement after L.A. County staff received approval from the Board of Supervisors in November. He noted that the application fee was \$500 with no annual fee required and the cost is reimbursable under the BPOU Project Agreement. He lastly noted that the Admin/Finance Committee had reviewed this item and was recommending its approval.

After brief discussion, Mr. Paulson moved to approve the license agreement with L.A. County Department of Parks and Recreation for MW5-19. Mr. Marquez seconded the motion and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: MARQUEZ, KUHN, PAULSON, MUNOZ,
NORIEGA, WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ

NO: NONE

Ms. Noriega left the meeting.

*Discussion/Action Regarding
License Agreement with Alderson
F, LLC for MW5-01*

Mr. Schoellerman reported that BPOU monitoring well MW5-01 was constructed on property located at 14910 Los Angeles Street in the city of Irwindale. The site was previous occupied by an AMVETS facility and was acquired by Alderson F, LLC, a developer that owns several adjacent properties. He noted that the developer had initially refused to honor WQA's access agreement with the AMVETS. However, staff and legal counsel worked with the city of Irwindale to require the developer to provide WQA access to the well. He indicated the agreement provides for a one-time payment of \$5,000 to the developer to cover design and construction of an access road to the well. He noted that the license renews annually and provides for a fee of \$2,400/yr. with a 3% escalator and the cost is reimbursable under the BPOU Project Agreement. He lastly noted that the Admin/Finance Committee reviewed this item and is recommending its approval.

After some discussion, Mr. Kuhn moved to approve the license agreement with Alderson F, LLC. For MW5-01. Ms. Munoz seconded the motion and it was approved by the following roll

call vote:

AYES: MARQUEZ, KUHN, PAULSON, MUNOZ,
WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ

NO: NONE

ABSENT: NORIEGA

***Legislative/Public Information
Committee Report***

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the minutes for the committee meeting were enclosed for review. He reported that staff was working on holding another webinar for city officials in March.

**OTHER
ACTION/INFORMATION
ITEMS**

***Discussion/Action Regarding
Authorization to Contract Services
with the Bank of the West***

Ms. Saenz reported that the WQA currently has its banking relationship with Bank of the West ("Bank"). She indicated that the Bank requires that WQA adopt a resolution each time Board Officers are elected, authorizing the Board Officers to contract for service and establish accounts with the Bank, including checking signing authorization. She noted that last year at the January 15, 2020 board meeting Resolution 20-001 was passed and adopted, authorizing the newly elected Board Officers to contract for service with the Bank. She reported that the election of new Board Officers typically takes place at the January regular board meeting. She indicated that since new officers have been elected for 2021, the WQA will need to rescind Resolution 20-001 and pass and adopt Resolution 21-001 authorizing the newly elected Board Officers to contract for service with the Bank.

Adopt Resolution No. 21-001

Mr. Marquez moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-001, A Resolution of the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority Authorizing Board Officers To Contract For Service And Establish Accounts With Bank Of The West. Mr. Kuhn seconded the motion and it was adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES: MARQUEZ, KUHN, PAULSON, MUNOZ,
WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ

NO: NONE

ABSENT: NORIEGA

***Draft San Gabriel Basin
Groundwater Quality
Management and Remediation
Plan "§406 Plan" for 2021***

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the Section 406 of WQA's enabling act requires the WQA to develop and adopt a basinwide groundwater quality management and remediation plan. He indicated that the plan includes a characterization of the contamination, a comprehensive cleanup plan, a summary

of financing available, a description of public outreach efforts and a discussion about the authorities of other agencies the WQA interacts with to facilitate the basin cleanup effort. He noted that each year staff updates the §406 Plan and releases it for public comment prior to the Board adopting it. He noted that staff was recommending the opening of a 25-day public comment period for the draft plan for 2021.

Open of 25-day Public Comment Period

After brief discussion, Mr. Kuhn moved to open the 25-day public comment period for the draft 406 Plan for 2021. Mr. Marquez seconded the motion and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: MARQUEZ, KUHN, PAULSON, MUNOZ, WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ

NO: NONE

ABSENT: NORIEGA

PROJECT REPORTS

Mr. Colby reported that a South El Monte Operable Unit tech meeting was held the previous day. He indicated that the focus was on remedy enhancements and containment. He noted that the city of Monterey Park was moving forward with a PFAS treatment system.

He also reported that staff has received owner site access approval from 9 out of the 12 locations so far as part of WQA's Proposition 1 site investigation project. He indicated that the Regional Water Board would send letters to the remaining three property owners. He also provided an update on Hydropunch work ongoing at the Arbor Courtyard property adjacent to WQA's Whitmore Street treatment facility as part of WQA's other Proposition 1 grant.

Mr. Chavez left the meeting.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

None.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Schoellerman reported staff continues to work with the Division of Financial Assistance to wrap up the Prop. 68 agreements. He noted once that is done staff would begin to work with the water purveyors on their agreements for the funds. He reported that Aerojet has been purchased by Lockheed Martin and that the BPOU Project Agreement does contain an assignment clause. He lastly reported that he was working with Mr. Monares to send out the WQA's earmark resolution and letter requesting support to the local and federal legislators.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

**FUTURE BOARD AND
COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The Admin/Finance Committee Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 10:00 am.

The Engineering Committee Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2020 at 11am.

A Legislative/Public Information Committee was scheduled for Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 11:00 am.

The next WQA Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 12 pm.

**BOARD MEMBERS'
COMMENTS/
REPORTS**

Mr. Kuhn congratulated Ms. Munoz on her election as the WQA Chairwoman. He also gave his condolences to Ms. Saenz on the passing of her husband, Henry Saenz.

Ms. Munoz thanked everyone for electing her as Chairwoman and gave her condolences to Ms. Saenz.


Mr. Marquez congratulated Ms. Munoz and Mr. Paulson on their election of Chairwoman and Vice-Chairman. He also addressed some rumors that were going around targeting his character and noted that the rumors were false. He asked that if anyone has any questions, they can contact him directly and hopefully this can be put to rest.

Mr. Paulson thanked Mr. Marquez for his service as WQA Chairman.


Mr. Whitehead congratulated the new Chairwoman and vice-Chairman. He noted that in regard to Mr. Marquez's comments, that he would hope that everyone can focus on their job protecting our water resources.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairwoman asked if there were any other items of business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting was adjourned to February 17, 2021 in memory of Henry Saenz.



Valerie Munoz
Chairwoman



Bob Kuhn
Secretary