

**A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY
MAY 19, 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 Chairwoman 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

Valerie Munoz, Mark Paulson, Jorge Marquez, Bob Kuhn, Lynda Noriega, Michael Whitehead, Ed Chavez

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, California American Water Company; Javier Vargas, Valley County Water District; Charles Trevino, Upper District

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Chavez enters the meeting.

Draft Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

The Chairwoman opened the public hearing to receive comments on the draft budget for fiscal year 2021/2022. There being no comments the Chairwoman closed the public hearing.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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

NO: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: Mr. Whitehead abstained from Project Demand No: E91172. Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand No. E91171.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative/Finance Committee Report

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

Discussion/Action Regarding Proposition 68 Subrecipient Grant Agreement Template

Mr. Schoellerman reported that WQA's Proposition 68 Operations and Maintenance Grants-San Gabriel Basin Regional Groundwater Remediation Program will require individual agreements with grant subrecipients. The Subrecipient Grant Agreement will outline the process in which subrecipients are reimbursed for eligible costs under the WQA's Proposition 68 grants. He indicated to facilitate and streamline the required subrecipient grants between WQA and subrecipient, staff and WQA legal counsel have developed a Proposition 68 Subrecipient Grant Agreement template for use with each of the nine subrecipients. He noted that staff is recommending approval of the agreement template and authorization for the Executive Director to execute the required agreements with each subrecipient subject to final legal counsel review. He lastly noted that the Admin/Finance reviewed this item on May 11th and recommended it for approval.

After some discussion, Mr. Paulson moved to approve the Proposition 68 subrecipient grant agreement template and to authorize the Executive Director to execute the required agreements. Mr. Marquez seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

NO: NONE

Legislative/Public Information Committee Report

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

Discussion/Action Regarding Eco Voices Institute Educational Programs

- *Approve Proposal for Eco
Voices Institute Educational
Program*
- *Approve Demand No.
E91173*

Mr. Schoellerman reported the past five years WQA has participated in a Summer Youth Outreach Program with EcoVoices to target a segment of the community that are the difficult to reach youth of our communities. He reported that the 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 pollution and restorative biodiversity. It is delivered in a dynamic and theatrical way that helps students remember and retain what they hear. He also reported that the program has

expanded to include at least 15 K-8 schools within the area of the WQA and reaches an estimated 1,000 youth within the region. He noted that the Legislative/Public Information Committee recommends continuing our partnership with EcoVoices for the summer program for the budgeted \$15,000.

After some discussion, Mr. Marquez moved to approve Eco Voices Institute Educational Program proposal and approve Demand No. E91173. Mr. Whitehead seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

NO: NONE

OTHER ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS

Discussion/Action Regarding Draft Budget for FY 2021/2022

Mr. Marquez moved to adopt the budget for Fiscal year 2021/2022. Mr. Kuhn seconded the motion, and it was adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

NO: NONE

Discussion Regarding Assessment for Fiscal Year 2021/2022

- ***Adopt Resolution No. 21-002***
- ***Adopt Resolution No. 21-003***

Ms. Noriega moved to adopt Resolution No. 21-002, a resolution setting the hearing date, time and location of the proposed prescriptive pumping right assessment of the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority; and to adopt Resolution No. 21-003, a resolution of the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority setting a schedule for collection.

Mr. Kuhn asked legal counsel if there was an issue with Ms. Noriega participating in this vote since she is a prescriptive pumping right holder.

Mr. Padilla commented that there was no reason why she could not participate in the vote.

Mr. Paulson seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

NO: NONE

PROJECT REPORTS

Mr. Colby reported on WQA Prop 1 SEMOU site investigation project noting that he would be participating in six site visits

the following week with Avocet Environmental so they can finalize the first six workplans. He reported that the new monitoring wells were sampled at the Whitmore Street facility and should have the results by the next Board meeting. He reported that an EMOU technical meeting was held at the end of April. He indicated that a lot of the remedy enhancement work was put on hold due to COVID-19 but now seems to be moving forward. He also noted that EPA has increased their efforts in the EMOU.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Padilla reported that there would be a closed session later in the meeting.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Monares reported that earmarks are back in both the House and the Senate and that he and staff would continue to work with the federal lobbyists to monitor the WQA's requests. He also noted that state budget revise will be out later this week.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Schoellerman reported that an appropriation request has been submitted to Senator Padilla's office. He reported that he met last week with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to discuss any available funding in their current budget. He indicated that attorneys for the USBR have determined that they cannot transfer any funds into the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund without direct language from Congress. He noted that there is disagreement in this area and noted that staff would work with the WQA's federal lobbyist to follow up on the opinion. He also reported that he had set up a meeting with two Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board members and the Executive Officer for May 20th to discuss our collaboration to investigate sites in the South El Monte Operable Unit and to provide a presentation about WQA. The meeting was also expected to include a State Water Board member.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Admin/Finance Committee Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 10:00 am.

A Legislative/Public Information Committee was scheduled for Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 11:00 am.

The next WQA Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 12 pm.

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1) – Public Employment

The Board convened to closed session.

Title: Executive Director

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

Mr. Padilla reported that the Board met in closed session. He indicated that the Board would like to schedule a special meeting of the Board to continue the closed session discussion. He directed staff to schedule a special meeting of the Board for the first week in June.

**BOARD MEMBERS'
COMMENTS/
REPORTS**


None.

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 June 19, 2021.



Valerie Munoz
Chairwoman



Bob Kuhn
Secretary