

**A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2021 AT 12:00 P.M.**

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*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.*

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

**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; Ralph Galvan, Valley County Water District; Elisha Garcia, Kaiser; Javier Vargas, Valley County Water District; Roger Martinez, Vasquez & Co LLP; Christy Canieda, Vasquez & Co LLP; Rhoda Dollaga, Vasquez & Co LLP; David Muse, Valley County Water District

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED**

None.

**PRESENTATION**

***"Presentation on Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020"***

Roger Martinez presented a detailed summary of audit results and reported an unmodified opinion. He noted that they found no material weaknesses, deficiencies or non-compliance material to the financial statements.

Mr. Kuhn noted the change in value of the assessment from 1994 in comparison to now. He also commented on the 2030

sunset date for the WQA and BPOU Agreement negotiations in 2027 and asked if the WQA should start discussing an extension bill before we enter into negotiations for a new BPOU Agreement. He lastly inquired about the employee pension plan limit as noted in the audit report.

Mr. Schoellerman replied to Mr. Kuhn noting that WQA's sunset date was moved to 2030 for the previous BPOU negotiations and other long term funding items. He indicated that it would be appropriate to consider an extension once again and that he would agendaize the item for discussion at a future meeting.

Ms. Saenz reported that the employee pension plan limit Mr. Kuhn referenced is set by the IRS.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

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

NO: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTENTIONS: Mr. Whitehead abstained from Project Demand No: E91288. Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand Nos. E91293.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

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

### **OTHER ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS**

### ***Discussion/Action Regarding Draft of Audited Financial Statements for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020***

Mr. Kuhn moved to approve the audited financial statements for fiscal year ending June 30, 2020. 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

ABSENT: NONE

### ***Discussion/Action Regarding ACWA Region 8 Election***

Mr. Schoellerman reported it is time to elect the 2022-2023 ACWA Region 8 officers and board members who will

represent and serve the members of the Region. He reviewed the Nominating Committee's recommended slate as well as individual candidates running for the Region 8 Board. He indicated that the Administrative/Finance Committee reviewed the recommended slate and ballot at their August 10, 2021, meeting. The Committee recommended waiting until September to allow more time to receive requests for support. He noted that staff has not received any such requests from the candidates.

Mr. Marquez moved to approve the recommended slate of officers for Region 8. 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

ABSENT: NONE

## **PROJECT REPORTS**

Mr. Colby reported that staff took photos and drone footage of the Proposition 68 projects. He also reported that the Proposition 68 Grant agreements have been distributed to all subrecipients and staff has received two fully executed agreements back and is expecting to receive the remaining soon. He reported that construction continues at Monterey Park's Delta Plant on their PFAS treatment project. He lastly reported that staff continues to meet weekly with the South El Monte Site Investigation Proposition 1 stakeholders to discuss work plans. He noted that staff submitted two Proposition 1 round 3 Implementation Concept Proposals for WQA's existing Proposition 1 Planning Grants.

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

None.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Mr. Monares reported that the Governor has until October 10<sup>th</sup> to sign all the bills on his desk. He also reported that there was some money for PFAS in the Infrastructure Package that Congress is considering.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the \$10M Restoration Fund request is still active and that Congress would be considering a continuing resolution. He reported that on August 24<sup>th</sup> staff met with Congresswoman Napolitano to update her on WQA activities. He reported that staff has scheduled a webinar for October 5<sup>th</sup> to update city officials. He noted that the call for nomination notices have been sent out to the cities with pumping rights and that nominations can be received between September 16<sup>th</sup> thru October 15<sup>th</sup>. He reported that staff has been reviewing the South El Monte Operable Unit Cooperative Agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency and discussion options for renewal. Mr. Schoellerman commended

Ms. Saenz on her work to complete the audit. He lastly reported that former local Assemblywoman Sally Tanner had passed away. He noted that she was an early advocate for the basin cleanup and recommended adjourning the meeting in her honor.

Ms. Munoz asked if the WQA should start working on a bill to extend WQA's current sunset date.

Mr. Monares commented that if the board is interested in working on an extension bill staff should start looking for an author now.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The next Administrative/Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 10:00am.

The next Legislative/Public Information Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 11:00am.

The next WQA Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 12:00pm.

Mr. Schoellerman noted that the meetings would continue to be virtual for the month of October.

**BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS/ REPORTS**

Mr. Kuhn commented that Sally Tanner was very involved in creating the WQA.

Ms. Noriega thanked Ms. Saenz for her work on the audit. She noted that the WQA continues to do great things.

Mr. Whitehead commended staff on the audit.

Mr. Chavez commented on the time he spent working with Sally Tanner and noted that she was a great role model.

Ms. Munoz commended staff on a great job with the audit.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Chairwoman asked if there were any other items of business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting was adjourned in memory of Sally Tanner to October 20, 2021.

  
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Valerie Munoz  
Chairwoman

  
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Bob Kuhn  
Secretary