

**SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY
LEGISLATIVE/PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE AND
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
APRIL 13, 2022 AT 11:00 A.M.**

With passage and signing of AB 361 and in light of the ongoing Statewide State of Emergency originally declared by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, WQA Board Meetings will continue to be conducted via remote teleconferencing, subject to the requirements of Government Code Section 54953(e).

Due to the essential nature of the WQA Board Meetings in conducting Authority business, the WQA Legislative/Public Information Committee and Special meeting of the Board 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.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT Valerie Munoz, Bob Kuhn and Robert Gonzales

WATERMASTER LIASON None.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT None.

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT None.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT Randy Schoellerman, Executive Director; Dan Colby, Assistant Executive Director/Senior Project Manager; Stephanie Moreno, Executive Assistant/Public Outreach Coordinator; Mary Saenz, Director of Finance; Michelle Sanchez, Admin/Accounting Assistant

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT Chris Lancaster, Civic Publications; Brian Bowcock, Three Valleys MWD; Irma Cooper, Interested Party; Lenet Pacheco, Valley County Water District; Jody Roberto, Three Valleys MWD

Public Comment None.

Discussion Regarding Next Advertorial Ms. Moreno reported that staff finished the ad that would be in the Earth Day publication.

Mr. Lancaster reported that the publication would be printed in the San Gabriel Valley Newspapers on April 21st and in the Los Angeles Times on April 22nd. He also noted that he teamed up with National Geographic on this publication and 100,000 Facebook ads will be sent out that will have the link to this publication.

Ms. Moreno reported that the next ad would be in the Civic Leadership publication that is scheduled to be published in May. She indicated that the topic for this ad could be on the funding that the WQA has received recently. She noted that it could be an opportunity to thank the legislators that assisted with funding pending any election guidelines with the timing of this publication.

Mr. Kuhn commented that we could highlight some of the projects that will be receiving some of this funding to show how the money is being used.

***Discussion Regarding AB 2163
(Rubio)- San Gabriel Basin Water
Quality Authority Act***

Mr. Schoellerman that AB 2163 is set and waiting to go to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. He indicated that the amended language regarding the assessment limitation adjustment was drafted, and Assemblywoman Rubio was reviewing it for consideration. He noted that the SGV Water Association voted to support the amended language.

Legislative Activities/Reports

State

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the State Legislature was currently on Spring Break. He also reported that the WQA participated in a coalition letter of support for AB 2449 (Rubio), he noted the bill was waiting for a hearing date.

Federal

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the \$10M allocations request for fiscal year 2022 has been confirmed and staff is now working on the request for fiscal year 2023. He reported that himself along with Director Noriega, Chris Kierig and Mr. Monares have scheduled meetings with legislators on May 27th in DC. He noted that these meetings will be to discuss WQA's priorities for this year.

Mr. Kuhn suggested that staff recognize the cities that have supported the WQA by submitting letters of support for the funding requests. He indicated that they could be recognized by name in the next advertorial.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
REPORT**

Mr. Schoellerman reported that he participated in the California Groundwater Coalition lobbying days. He indicated that there were 22 virtual meetings over two days with legislators and their staffs to urge support for a budget request of \$500M in PFAS funding and \$250M for groundwater recharge projects statewide. He reported that the WQA's office lease ends at the end of June. He indicated that staff was reviewing comparable properties to negotiate a new lease. He reported that staff held a budget workshop at the Administrative/Finance Committee meeting yesterday and another workshop was scheduled for April 20th at the

regular Board meeting.

Mr. Kuhn commented that \$500M statewide for PFOS does not seem like much, and noted that PFOS issues were not just limited to fire retardants. He asked if the manufacturers will be held liable for this contamination.

Mr. Schoellerman reported PFOS has been used in wide variety of applications and that some lawsuits have already been filed.


Mr. Kuhn commented that he would prefer to avoid costly litigation, if possible.

ADJOURNMENT

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



Valerie Munoz
Chairwoman



Bob Kuhn
Secretary