

**A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY
SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 AT 12:00 P.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, this 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, Bob Kuhn, Lynda Noriega, Michael Whitehead, Ed Chavez, and Robert Gonzales
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	Denise Dolor, Orchard Dale Water District; Chris Lancaster, Civic Publications; Gabriel Monares, The Monares Group; Jenifer Santana, Upper District; Steve Kiggins, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
PUBLIC COMMENT	None.
ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED	None.
CONSENT CALENDAR	Ms. Noriega moved to approve the consent as presented. Ms. Munoz seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following roll call vote: AYES: MUNOZ, PAULSON, KUHN, NORIEGA, WHITEHEAD, CHAVEZ, GONZALES NO: NONE ABSENT: NONE

ABSTENTIONS:

Mr. Whitehead abstained from Project Demand Nos. E91630.

Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand No. E91629.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

**OTHER
ACTION/INFORMATION
ITEMS**

*Discussion/Action Regarding WQA
Meeting Format*

Ms. Munoz reported that she requested that this item be put on the agenda for discussion. She noted that the Three Valleys MWD bill AB 2449 just passed to enhance public access through teleconferencing. She indicated that this new bill has some requirements that will need to be followed and wanted to bring it to the Board's attention.

Mr. Kuhn recommended that Mr. Padilla contact Three Valley's legal counsel to get more information on the bill to be able to report back to the WQA Board. He also noted that AB 2449 is only a 3-year bill.

Ms. Noriega recommended that the Executive Director come back to the Administrative/Finance Committee to review meeting format options so that the committee can make a recommendation to the Board. The Board concurred with the Ms. Noriega's recommendation.

*Discussion Regarding WQA
Special Election*

Ms. Moreno reported that letters were mailed calling for nominations to fill the vacancy for alternate member for cities with pumping rights on August 18th. She indicated that she has not received any nominations yet. She reported that the ballots will be mailed out with the list of nominees on October 24th and the deadline to submit votes is 12pm on December 20th.

Mr. Gonzales reported that he has spoken to a few council members who might be interested in the seat. He noted that the city of Covina had it on their city council agenda to nominate one of their city council members.

PROJECT REPORTS

Mr. Colby reported that in the 12 site investigations, staff has received 8 fully executed access agreements. He reported that WQA's Proposition 1 Round III grant application to the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) for the Whitmore Street Groundwater Remediation Facility Expansion is still in the review process. He noted that DFA staff anticipates releasing Notice of Award letters in November with Grant Agreement negotiations commencing in January of 2023.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Monares reported that he is confident that the \$10M

request will be in the final appropriation bill.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Schoellerman reported that AB 2163 was signed into law. He thanked Assemblymember Rubio and her staff for their work to get this bill through. He reported that staff has received the final agreement from the Bureau of Reclamation for the \$10M and staff is preparing to open up Round X of the Federal Funding Program Administration (FFPA) application period. He indicated that the application period would be open for 45 days and anticipated having the recommended awards approved by the Board at the December Board meeting.

Mr. Whitehead asked if staff would have a meeting to go over the FFPA process.

Mr. Schoellerman commented that staff could set up a meeting workshop for the interested parties.

Ms. Noriega suggested that Mr. Schoellerman announce the application period at the next Water Association meeting.

Lastly, Mr. Schoellerman reported that the upgrades on the WQA office were almost complete.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Whitehead commented that the WQA should consider looking into the emergence of PFAS and PFOA levels and consider joining in lawsuit.

Mr. Kuhn asked if a special litigator would be needed for something like this.

Mr. Whitehead didn't think a special litigator would be necessary.

Mrs. Munoz requested that a workshop to discuss WQA's potential involvement in PFAS litigation be set up prior to the next Board meeting.

FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The next Administrative/Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 10 a.m.

The next Legislative/Public Information Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

The next WQA Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS/ REPORTS

Ms. Noriega thanked the staff for the work on getting AB 2163 passed and noted that Assemblywoman Rubio mentioned an additional piece of legislation that would be coming out to address the assessment cap. She encouraged Mr. Schoellerman to get ahead of that to prepare for it. She also commended the good work on the FFPA funding that is now coming through.

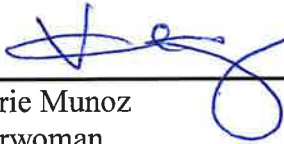
Mr. Whitehead commented that AB 2163 took a lot of work to get done and congratulated all of those that made it happen.

Mr. Gonzales commented that he has been speaking to a few councilmembers trying to get nominations to fill the vacancy for the alternate member.

Ms. Munoz concurred with the comments made by Ms. Noriega and Mr. Whitehead.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairwoman asked if there were any other items of business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned to October 19, 2022.



Valerie Munoz
Chairwoman



Bob Kuhn
Secretary