

**A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY  
APRIL 19, 2023 AT 12:00 P.M.**

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<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	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.
<b>REMOTE PARTICIPATION DECLARATION – Ab 2449</b>	None.
<b>ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS</b>	Mark Paulson, Lynda Noriega, Valerie Munoz, Michael Whitehead, Bob Kuhn, Ed Chavez, and Robert Gonzales
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	None
<b>STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Randy Schoellerman, Executive Director; Stephanie Moreno, Executive Assistant/Outreach Coordinator; Dan Colby, Assistant Executive Director/Senior Project Manager; Mary Saenz, Director of Finance; Jackie Montgomery, Admin/Accounting Assistant; Michelle Sanchez, Admin/Accounting Assistant; Richard Padilla, Legal Counsel
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT</b>	Robert DiPrimio, San Gabriel Valley Water Company
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT PARTICIPATED VIA ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE</b>	Lenet Pacheco, Valley County Water District; Garry Hofer, California American Water Company; Marty Zivirbulis, San Gabriel Valley Water Company; Jody Roberto, Three Valleys MWD; Steve Kiggins, San Gabriel Valley MWD; Jose Martinez, Valley County Water District
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	None.
<b>ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED</b>	None.
<b>PUBLIC HEARING</b>	
<b><i>“Draft Budget for Fiscal Year 2023/2024”</i></b>	The Chairman opened the public hearing to receive comments on the draft budget for fiscal year 2023/2024. There being no comments the public hearing was closed.
<b>WORKSHOP</b>	
<b><i>“Budget Workshop for Fiscal Year 2023/2024”</i></b>	Ms. Saenz reviewed the draft budget for fiscal year 2023/2024 with the Board. She reported that there is a total of 197,610

acre feet of prescriptive pumping rights in the Basin and the WQA assessment is budgeted at \$12 per acre foot, for total assessment funding of \$2,371,320.

Mr. Schoellerman noted that this will be the fifth year that the assessment will be at \$12 per acre foot.

Ms. Saenz reviewed the assessment reserves and WQA's Reserve Fund policy and the effect that the FY 23/24 budget would have on the annual assessment level necessary to fund the WQA's operations.

Mr. Kuhn asked if staff was factoring in inflation and how does it affect the budget.

Ms. Saenz commented that inflation is factored in for the next four years for operating expenses.

Mr. Chavez asked if the \$20M that the WQA was awarded helped keep the assessment at \$12.

Ms. Saenz commented that it does for now. She noted that the federal money that WQA receives is used through the FFPA process for project costs. She indicated that the \$20M cannot be used to cover WQA's regular operating costs.

Ms. Noriega commented that in regards to increasing the assessment over time, the producers appreciate gradual increases over large ones.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Ms. Munoz moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Mr. Gonzales seconded the motion, and it was approved with the following abstentions:

Mr. Whitehead abstained from Project Demand Nos. E91840.  
Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand No. E91839.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the minutes for the committee meeting were enclosed for review. He also reported that the committee has changed their regular meeting date and time to the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00am.

### ***Administrative/Finance Committee***

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

### ***Discussion/Action Regarding Amendment to Policy No. 23***

Mr. Schoellerman reported that at the March 2023 Board meeting, the Board approved that WQA no longer classify committee meetings as "Joint Special Meetings". The Board further approved that non-committee members may continue to receive compensation if they attend a committee meeting. He indicated that in order to allow compensation to non-committee members WQA's existing Procedure No. 23 – Board Member

Reimbursement, Compensation and Ethics Training must be amended. He noted that the Board directed staff to bring the amended Procedure No. 23 to the April Administrative Finance Committee for discussion. He reported that the committee reviewed the suggested changes and recommended it for approval.

Ms. Noriega asked about the comments regarding compensation for non-ad hoc committee members and if those comments were incorporated in the changes made to the policy.

Mr. Schoellerman commented that the Administrative/Finance committee recommended that non-ad hoc committee members not be compensated for attending such meetings. Therefore, Procedure No. 23 language was modified accordingly.

After brief discussion, Ms. Munoz moved to approve the amendments to Policy No. 23. Mr. Kuhn seconded the motion and it was approved.

*Report on Cash and Investments –  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2023*

Ms. Saenz reported that WQA holds its investment funds at the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF). The average monthly effective yield for the Pooled Money Investment Account (PMIA)/LAIF for January, February, and March was 2.425%, 2.624%, and 2.831%, respectively. She noted that the LAIF quarterly rate for January through March 2023 has not yet been issued.

**OTHER  
ACTION/INFORMATION  
ITEMS**

***Resolution No. 23-005,  
Commending Michael L.  
Whitehead***

Mr. Kuhn read Resolution No. 23-005 commending Michael L. Whitehead for his years of service. He indicated that he will truly be missed. The WQA Board also presented the WQA Water Drop Award to recognize Mr. Whitehead for his service on the WQA Board.

Ms. Noriega moved to adopt Resolution No. 23-005, Commending Michael L. Whitehead for his years of service to the WQA Board of Directors. Ms. Munoz seconded the motion, and it was adopted by the following roll call vote:

**AYES: PAULSON, NORIEGA, MUNOZ, KUHN, CHAVEZ,  
GONZALES**

**NO: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: WHITEHEAD**

**PROJECT REPORTS**

Mr. Colby reported that the Department of Toxic Substances Control has initiated weekly meetings with WQA and EPA to coordinate the takeover of the SEMOU remedy as the lead

agency. He reported that EPA has a new project Manager named Holly Arrigoni. He also reported that 10 of the 12 sites for the Prop 1 site investigations have been completed. He lastly noted that in the agenda packet the first FPPA award has been paid to La Puente Valley County Water District.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. Padilla reported that there was no need for a closed session. He also reported that staff is working on a fact sheet to accompany the complaint filed for the PFAS lawsuit.

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

None

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Schoellerman reported that staff continues to work on the Federal Funding request for fiscal year 2024. He reported that WQA's bill AB 279 has no opposition and is waiting to be assigned to Senate committee. He also reported that Congresswoman Napolitano is holding a meeting to get an update from the water districts in the Valley on May 3, 2023 at the Upper District office. He noted that he would be on vacation that day and that Mr. Colby would provide an update on behalf of the WQA. He reminded everyone that the ACWA Conference is going to be in Monterey, CA and will begin on May 8, 2023. He lastly reported that he gave presentations to the Alhambra Rotary Club and the Monrovia City Council on April 18, 2023. He congratulated Mr. Whitehead on his retirement and thanked him for the time he was able to work with him as Executive Director.

Ms. Noriega commented about EPA PFAS standard comments deadline and encouraged everyone to draft letters for submittal.

Mr. Schoellerman commented that he was signed up to attend EPA's hearing on May 4<sup>th</sup> and would be providing verbal comments.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The next Legislative/Public Information Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

The next Administrative/Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 10 a.m.

The next WQA Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 14, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS/ REPORTS**

Mr. Chavez commented that he was first introduced to Mr. Whitehead back when he worked for Assemblymember Sally Tanner and learned that he was a great educator for water issues to the elected officials. He noted that the San Gabriel

Valley was indebted to him for his work as he is.

Mr. Kuhn commended Mr. Whitehead and expressed that his contributions to the Valley will be here for a long time and thanked him for all he has done during his time on the Board.

Ms. Munoz commented that Mr. Whitehead had so much knowledge and experience and that she was grateful that she was able to serve with him.

Mr. Gonzales commented that he appreciated the brief time he was able to serve with Mr. Whitehead and congratulated him on his retirement.

Ms. Noriega commented that when she was moving up in the water industry everyone told her to listen to Mr. Whitehead. She thanked him for all that he has done.

Mr. Paulson thanked Mr. Whitehead for his dedication and knowledge that he has brought to this Board.

Mr. Whitehead commented that he was humbled by all of the comments. He noted that nothing could have been achieved without unity and he is very impressed on how smoothly this agency runs.

## ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman asked if there were any other items of business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned to May 24, 2023.

  
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Mark Paulson  
Chairman

  
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Valerie Munoz  
Secretary