

**A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY
NOVEMBER 15, 2023 AT 12:00 P.M.**

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.
REMOTE PARTICIPATION DECLARATION – AB 2449	None.
ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS	Mark Paulson, Lynda Noriega, Valerie Munoz, Robert Gonzales, Bob Kuhn, Ed Chavez, and Robert DiPrimio
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; Jackie Montgomery, Admin/Accounting Assistant; Michelle Sanchez, Admin/Accounting Assistant (online); Richard Padilla, Legal Counsel
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT	Greg Galindo, Suburban Water Systems; Chris Lancaster, Civic Publications; Gabriel Monares, The Monares Group
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT PARTICIPATED VIA ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE	Jessica Taylor, California American Water; Jody Roberto, Three Valleys MWD; Garry Hofer, California American Water; Lenet Pacheco, Valley County Water District; Mike Phillips,
PUBLIC COMMENT	None.
ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED	None.
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. DiPrimio abstained from Project Demand No. E92043. Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand No. E922042.
COMMITTEE REPORTS	Mr. Kuhn enters the meeting.
<i>Legislative/Public Information Committee Report</i>	Mr. Schoellerman reported that the minutes for the committee meeting were enclosed for review.

***Administrative/Finance
Committee Report***

*Discussion Regarding/Action
Regarding Administrative
Procedure No. 40: PERSONNEL –
Merit Salary Increases and Annual
Cost of Living Allowance
("COLA") Policy*

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

Mr. Schoellerman reported staff brought Procedure No. 40 to the Administrative/Finance Committee on October 10, 2023, and November 7, 2023 for review and discussion at the request of the Board during the June 2023 Board meeting. He indicated that at the June Board meeting several members of the Board noted that the Board has often deviated from the COLA procedure and recommended having the Administrative/Finance committee review the COLA policy to see if any modifications need to be made. After discussion by the Committee in October and November, the Committee recommended that the following updates be incorporated into the Procedure.

- Include provisions for Board flexibility in approving and applying the COLA.
- Include the specific COLA index in the Procedure, which is the April CPI-U index for selected local areas "Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA".
- Define Eligibility.
- Define Employees.

Mr. Kuhn commented that concerns he previously brought up were to make sure the Board has the discretion to make the final decision.

Mr. Chavez asked why the month of April was used for the CPI.

Ms. Saenz reported that April does not have much significance other than it was a month that was later than the first of the year.

Mr. Kuhn noted that the COLA is not a factual number because it does not include the cost of food and gasoline. He indicated that as long as the Board has discretion when approving the final number he would be in favor of the amendments to the policy.

After brief discussion, Mr. Kuhn moved to approve the policy as presented. Mr. DiPrimio seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**OTHER
ACTION/INFORMATION
ITEMS**

None.

PROJECT REPORTS

Mr. Colby reported that staff has received the twelfth and final access agreement for the site investigation. He also reported that the city of Monterey Park began operation of their

centralized treatment facility on November 6th. He noted that this facility treats water from wells 5, 12 and 15 utilizing advanced oxidation and liquid granular activated carbon.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Padilla reported that a closed session will be held.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Monares reported that the federal government passed a continuing resolution to keep the government operating until January 19, 2024. He noted that the energy and water bill that has the \$5M for the WQA in it will go through the second markup process.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Schoellerman reported that he gave a presentation to the city of Covina along with Board Member Gonzales on November 7th. He noted that the next presentation would be at the City of Arcadia's city council on November 22nd. He reported that he would be part of a group providing presentations to the L.A. Regional Water Quality Control Board about projects that have been funded with Prop 1 grants on November 16th. He reminded everyone that ACWA Conference was at the end of the month in Indian Wells. He reported that staff will be bringing the mid-year assessment reserve and projections to the Administrative/Finance Committee in December. He indicated that staff attended the San Gabriel Valley Water Association's luncheon to honor Congresswoman Napolitano. He reported that staff is working on finishing up the annual report. He lastly reported that the Southern California Water Utilities Association Christmas luncheon was scheduled for December 7, 2023. He noted it would be Ms. Moreno's last meeting as its President.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The next Legislative/Public Information Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

The next Administrative/Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 10 a.m.

The next WQA Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

*Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
– Conference with Legal Counsel
re: Existing Litigation - San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority v. 3M Company et al, USDC Case No. 2:23-av-55555-CIV*

Mr. Padilla reported that a closed session was held. He indicated that a report was given and there was no reportable action taken.


**BOARD MEMBERS'
COMMENTS/
REPORTS**

Many members of the Board wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

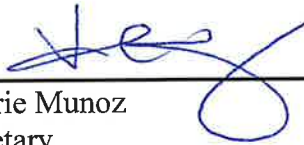
Mr. Chavez commended staff on their hard work.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman asked if there were any other items of business to come before the Board, there being none, the meeting was adjourned to the next meeting on December 20, 2023.



Mark Paulson
Chairman



Valerie Munoz
Secretary