

**A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY  
FEBRUARY 21, 2024 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, Robert Gonzales, Bob Kuhn, Ed Chavez, and Robert DiPrimio
<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; Richard Padilla, Legal Counsel
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT</b>	Michelle Sanchez
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT PARTICIPATED VIA ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE</b>	Dana Diaz, Valley County Water District; Steve Kiggins, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	None.
<b>ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED</b>	None.
<b>PRESENTATION</b>	
<b><i>Presentation on Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023</i></b>	Ms. Canieda presented the annual audit for fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. She reviewed the financial statement audit of basic financial statements and the single audit report. She reported that they are reporting an unmodified clean opinion. She noted that the financial statements present fairly in all material respects, and no material weaknesses, significant deficiencies, and material noncompliance were noted.
<b>CONSENT CALENDAR</b>	Ms. Noriega enters the meeting. Mr. Gonzales moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Ms. Noriega seconded the motion, and it was

approved with the following abstentions:

Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand No. E92144 and E92154.

Mr. DiPrimio abstained from Project Demand No. E92149 and E92155.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### *Legislative/Public Information Committee Report*

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

### *Administrative/Finance Committee Report*

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

### *Discussion/Action Regarding Task Order to Avocet Environmental Inc. to Provide Design and Construction Management for the Whitmore Street Groundwater Remediation Facility (WSGRF) Expansion Implementation Project.*

Mr. Colby reported that the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Financial Assistance awarded WQA a Proposition 1 Implementation Grant for the WSGRF Implementation Project in the amount of \$4,153,452 which includes a 0% local match. He noted that the total proposed project budget for Avocet is \$682,000 and is detailed in their proposal. He added that Avocet has unique experience that is important to the success of this project. They designed and constructed the existing WSGRF project and have been operating it for the past 15 years. In addition, Avocet was WQA's contractor for the Proposition 1 Planning Grant work that was used as the basis for obtaining this Proposition 1 Implementation Grant. He also added that this work is considered a continuation of the previous grant. He reported that given these factors, staff believes this task order qualifies as a Class VII Sole Source and recommends approval of this classification along with the approval of the task order. He noted that the Admin/Finance Committee reviewed this item on February 13, 2024 and was recommending Board approval.

After brief discussion, Ms. Noriega moved to approve the task order for Avocet Environmental. Ms. Munoz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

## OTHER ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS

### *Draft San Gabriel Basin Groundwater Quality Management and Remediation Plan "§406 Plan" for 2024*

### *Presentation on Comments Received*

Mr. Colby reported that on January 17, 2024, the Board authorized staff to post the Draft §406 Plan for 2024 for a 30-day public comment period ending February 16, 2024. He noted that staff posted notices of the public comment period in

La Opinion and the San Gabriel Valley Tribune on January 22, 2024, as well as the WQA's website. He indicated that no comments have been received at this time. Therefore, staff was recommending adoption of the §406 Plan for 2024.

*Adopt Plan for 2024*

Mr. Kuhn moved to adopt the San Gabriel Basin Groundwater Quality Management and Remediation Plan “§406 Plan” for 2024. Ms. Munoz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

***Discussion/Action Regarding the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership Annual Membership Renewal***

Ms. Moreno reported that the WQA has a Leader Level Membership with San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership and the annual renewal amount of \$20,000 is discounted from the regular price of \$25,000. She indicated that WQA's membership has been beneficial in putting the WQA's issues out in front of the community by allowing the WQA to participate in local events with local and state legislators. She noted that it also gives the WQA a seat on the Board of Directors.

*Approve Renewal for 2024  
Approve Demand No. E92156*

Ms. Munoz moved to approve the annual renewal for 2024 and to approve Demand No. E92156. Mr. Gonzales seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

***Discussion/Action Regarding Draft Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023***

Ms. Munoz moved to approve the audited financial statements for fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. Ms. Noriega seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**PROJECT REPORTS**

Mr. Colby reported that a SEMOU technical meeting was held last month for the first time in a long time. He reported that staff met the new EPA regional project manager for Area 3, Kelly Liang. He lastly reported that the twelfth and final site has been completed for WQA's Prop 1 site investigation project.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

None

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Mr. Monares reported that it looks like the state budget deficit will be much larger than what the Governor originally projected.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Schoellerman made note of the SEMOU ratified demands that were approved today. He noted that the \$35M in SEMOU settlement funding from PRPs has been expended on the SEMOU remedy projects and staff is working with the EPA and the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to secure continued funding. He indicated that EPA had provided an additional \$1.9M from the Superfund program to continue the projects until DTSC takes over the SEMOU later this year. He reported that staff was starting the budget process for the coming fiscal year and should have a draft budget to review in

March. He reported that Watermaster has sent out a press release regarding the hiring of a new Executive Officer. He indicated that Mr. Zampiello would be retiring and that Watermaster was in negotiations with Russ Brighton to be his successor. He also congratulated Ms. Saenz on the clean audit and thanked her for her tremendous effort on it.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The next Legislative/Public Information Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

The next Administrative/Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 10 a.m.

The next WQA Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

A closed session was not held.

**BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS/ REPORTS**

Ms. Munoz thanked staff for their hard work.

Ms. Noriega reported that Watermaster has begun discussions for a succession plan for the Executive Officer and that a formal announcement would be coming soon.

Mr. Gonzales thanked Mr. Schoellerman for his help in updating all of the cities that he represents.

Mr. Paulson reported that the state water project allocation was increased to 15% today.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Chairman asked if there were any other items of business to come before the Board, there being none, the meeting was adjourned until the next meeting on March 20, 2024.

  
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Mark Paulson  
Chairman

  
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Valerie Munoz  
Secretary