

**A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY
OCTOBER 16, 2024 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**

Ms. Munoz reported that she provided notice of her need to attend this board meeting remotely for just cause. She indicated that no one else was in the room with her during the meeting.

Mr. Chavez reported that he provided notice of his need to attend this board meeting remotely for just cause. He indicated that his wife was in the room with him during the meeting.

**ROLL CALL OF BOARD
MEMBERS**

Mark Paulson, Lynda Noriega, Bob Kuhn and Robert DiPrimio, Valerie Munoz (remote), and Ed Chavez (remote)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Robert Gonzales

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Randy, Schoellerman, Executive Director; Stephanie Moreno, Director of Communications; Dan Colby, Assistant Executive Director/Senior Project Manager; Mary Saenz, Director of Finance; Jackie Montgomery, Accounting Specialist; Michelle Sanchez, Senior Administrative Assistant

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
PRESENT**

Roy Fausto, La Puente Valley County Water District; William Rojas, La Puente Valley County Water District; Bruce Knoles, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; Gabriel Monares, The Monares Group

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
THAT PARTICIPATED VIA
ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE**

Steve Kiggins, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; Jody Roberto, Three Valleys Municipal Water District; David Muse, Valley County Water District

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

**ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE
AGENDIZED**

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Ms. Moreno reported that there was a typo on the September 18, 2024, board minutes and that the revised minutes were passed out for their review.

Ms. Noriega moved to approve the consent with the presented amendment. Ms. Munoz seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously with the following abstentions:

Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand No: E92388.
Mr. DiPrimio abstained from Project Demand No. E92389.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Legislative/Public Information
Committee Report* None.

*Administrative/Finance Committee
Report* None.

OTHER ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS

Report on Cash and Investments – 3rd Quarter 2024

Ms. Saenz reported that the 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 July, August and September is 4.516%, 4.579%, and 4.575%, respectively. The LAIF quarterly rate for July to September was published on October 15, 2024 and is 4.71%. She reported that WQA holds its cash funds at BMO Bank. Funds held at BMO exceed the FDIC insured limit of \$250,000. All funds in excess of the FDIC limits are collateralized by BMO in accordance with California Government Code Title 5, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 4, Article 2 – Deposit of Funds. She reported that BMO has agreed to pay interest of 4.5%, effective April 1, 2024, on the funds held in the Project/Admin Fund Money Market Account if WQA agreed to hold a minimum balance of \$10M in that account. Interest earned for the 3 months of July, August and September totals \$167,539.36.

She also reported that the WQA will be receiving a \$5.2M check for prop 68 in the mail within the week.

Adopt Resolution No. 24-009, A Resolution of the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority in Recognition of the 100-Year Anniversary of the La Puente Valley County Water District

Ms. Noriega moved to approve Resolution No. 24-009, A Resolution of the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority in Recognition of the 100-Year Anniversary of the La Puente Valley County Water District. Mr. Kuhn seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: PAULSON, NORIEGA, MUNOZ, KUHN,
CHAVEZ, DIPRIMIO

NO: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: GONZALES

PROJECT REPORTS

Mr. Colby provided an update on the status of the Prop 1 Round III grant, which requires four access agreements. Of these, three have already been signed and executed, leaving one outstanding agreement for the Logos Evangelical School property. He indicated that this agreement will permit access solely for pipeline installation and will not include any extraction or monitoring wells. Logos Evangelical School has given a preliminary green light for the agreement, contingent on two conditions. First, they have requested a letter from a certified professional engineer, affirming that the project will adhere to best management practices and sound engineering principles. He noted that this letter is currently being drafted. The second condition involves the removal of a dead tree located on their property, which WQA has agreed to address. He indicated that language confirming the tree removal will be incorporated into the revised access agreement, which will then be sent to Logos Evangelical School once the engineer's letter is finalized.

He also reported on the upcoming technical meetings. He reported that a meeting was scheduled for next Tuesday, October 22nd, for the South El Monte Operable Unit with participation from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He noted that this meeting may include an update on the progress of the transfer agreement between DTSC and the EPA. He reported that a technical meeting concerning the Puente Valley Operable Unit is set for the following Tuesday. He noted that both meetings are scheduled to be held at the WQA office.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Padilla reported that there will not be a closed session.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Monares updated the board that he had met with Chris Kierig from Kadash & Associates. He also reported that Mr. Kierig and his colleague would be in California in December or January and would like to schedule a briefing.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Schoellerman reported on the ongoing discussions with the DTSC and the South El Monte Operable Unit (SEMOU) concerning the transfer of Interim Remedy operations from DTSC to EPA. These discussions have focused primarily on DTSC's funding obligations to reimburse purveyors that operate the remedy. DTSC recently provided their first written proposal and staff held meetings with representatives from the San Gabriel Valley Water Company, the City of Monterey Park, and the Golden State Water Company to gather

feedback. He indicated that there are serious concerns about DTSC's proposed funding model, which includes a flat rate of payment based on dollars per gallon per minute for water pumped through the projects. He noted that this structure, while intended to simplify billing, would only cover volatile organic compounds as listed in the SEMOU Record of Decision (ROD) and not the non-ROD emerging contaminants, such as 1,4 dioxane and PFAS, that have increased the purveyor's costs.

He reported that staff plans to update the guidelines for federal funding under the Federal Funding Program Administration (FFPA) and bring it to the board in November for approval prior to its release. He indicated that this round of funding would begin with \$5.5 million and could increase if Congress approves additional funding shortly.

He noted that WQA would be receiving first reimbursement of \$5.2M from the non-DAC Proposition 68 grant that have been allocated to local water purveyors who have awaited these funds.

He congratulated the La Puente Valley County Water District on its 100th anniversary. He also acknowledged the substantial role the La Puente Valley County Water District plays in the PVOU by operating the remedy project.

Ms. Moreno reported on the upcoming events including the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership awards gala and the La Puente Valley County Water district's 100th anniversary event.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

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

CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session Pursuant to 54956.9(d)(4) – Conference with Legal Counsel re: Initiation of Litigation (Settlement Opportunities with potential defendants) – Two (2) Matters

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

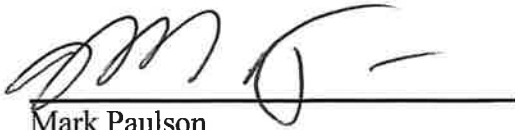
None.

**BOARD MEMBERS'
COMMENTS/
REPORTS**

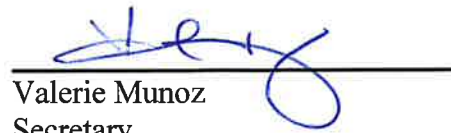
None

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 November 20, 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M Paulson', written over a horizontal line.

Mark Paulson
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Valerie Munoz', written over a horizontal line.

Valerie Munoz
Secretary