

**A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY  
DECEMBER 18, 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>	Mr. DiPrimio reported that he provided notice of his need to attend this board meeting remotely for just cause. He indicated that no one else was in the room with him during the meeting.
<b>ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS</b>	Mark Paulson, Lynda Noriega, Valerie Munoz, Robert Gozales, Bob Kuhn, Ed Chavez and Robert DiPrimio (remote).
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	None.
<b>STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	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
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT</b>	Russ Bryden, Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster; Gabriel Monares, The Monares Group
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT PARTICIPATED VIA ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE</b>	Steve Kiggins, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; Jennifer Santana, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; Bruce Knowles, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; Chris Lancaster, Civic Publications; David Muse, Valley County Water District; Jody Roberto, Three Valleys Municipal Water District; Mike Phillips, California American Water; Lenet Pacheco, Valley County Water District
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	None.
<b>ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED</b>	None.
<b>REPORT ON APPOINTMENTS TO WQA BOARD</b>	Ms. Moreno reported that appointments to the WQA Board were received and will commence on January 1, 2025. The San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District appointed Mark Paulson as board member and Steven Placido as alternate board member. The Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District appointed Ed Chavez as board member and Katarina Garcia as alternate board member. The San Gabriel

Valley Water Association which represents Water Producers in the Basin appointed Robert Di Primio as board member, Craig Gott as his alternate; Lynda Noriega as board member and Garry Hofer as her alternate.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand No. E92460.  
Mr. DiPrimio abstained from Project Demand No. E92461.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the minutes for the committee meeting were enclosed for review. He noted that an update was provided regarding the annual report review and distribution statistics.

### ***Discussion/Action Regarding Kadesh & Associates, LLC.***

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the Kadesh & Associates, LLC agreement is set to expire at the end of the month. He stated that Kadesh & Associates, represented by Chris Kierig, has maintained a longstanding relationship with the WQA. Staff recommended a two-year extension of the contract without changes to the terms, noting the value of Kadesh's connections in Washington, D.C., and their ability to support the WQA's initiatives. He reported that the agreement was presented to the Legislative/Public Information Committee and the members expressed support for renewing the contract, acknowledging the importance of Kadesh's role in facilitating communication with legislators and other officials.

Ms. Munoz moved to approve the agreement. Ms. Noriega seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

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

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the minutes for the committee meeting were enclosed for review. He reported that there was no action but updated the board members that Ms. Saenz presented a mid-year budget and assessment reserve review as required by WQA's reserve policy No.41. He stated that the next review would be conducted during the upcoming budget process.

## **OTHER ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS**

None.

## **PROJECT REPORTS**

Mr. Colby reported that staff opened Round XI of the FFPA on November 25<sup>th</sup>. He stated that the Notice of Application Period No. XI was sent to all stakeholders and prescriptive pumping right holders. He reported that an informative webinar was held on December 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the solicitation

process and to answer any questions. He also reported that the solicitation for Round XI ends on January 30, 2025.

Mr. Colby reported on WQA's Prop 1 Round 3 Whitmore Expansion Project, that staff will be planning a Technical Advisory Committee meeting in mid-January to discuss and approve an updated project schedule along with the Quality Assurance Protection Plan, Monitoring and Reporting Plan, and Project Assessment and Evaluation Plan.

Mr. Colby reported that the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) released a revised draft public health goal for NDMA from 0.003 ppb (3 ppt) to 0.0005 ppb (0.5 ppt) or 500 parts per quadrillion. He stated that OEHHA will be hosting a workshop on January 20, 2025.

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

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

He gave an update from Ken Sansone, special counsel for the PFAS matters, stating that some scoring data that will be available fairly soon which would eventually translate into a dollar figure for parties. He also stated that there was a recent settlement approved for Tyco and BASF for another \$1 billion in PFAS related settlement funds.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Mr. Monares reported that he spoke with newly elected State Senator Rene Perez, and is scheduling a project tour and briefing on the groundwater cleanup efforts.

He stated that the San Gabriel Valley Caucus was holding a retreat in January and that the WQA had been invited to give a presentation.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Schoellerman reported that Congress was discussing a Continuing Resolution (CR), extending current budget discussion through March 14th. Mr. Schoellerman noted that the proposed budget still include \$7M for the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund.

Mr. Schoellerman reported on the ongoing discussion about the South El Monte Operable Unit (SEMOU) and the transfer of the projects from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). He stated that the efforts are ongoing to establish an acceptable funding agreement with DTSC to cover the costs of purveyors operating the remediation systems consistent with the SEMOU Interim Record of Decision. He noted that in early December, DTSC staff, including a supervisor, participated in a tour of the three treatment facilities. He

reported that the tour provided DTSC valuable insights and a better understanding of the operational complexities involved. Director DiPrimio also attended the Plant 8 facility tour.

Mr. Schoellerman reported on Proposition 68 funding, stating that an additional \$2.5 million in Prop 68 funds was approved by the Division of Financial Assistance earlier that morning, which follows a previous approval and disbursement of \$4.9 million.

Mr. Schoellerman reminded the board that the office will be closed for the holiday break from December 23rd and returning on January 6th.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The next Legislative/Public Information Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

The next Administrative/Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 10 a.m.

The next WQA Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**


A closed session was not held.

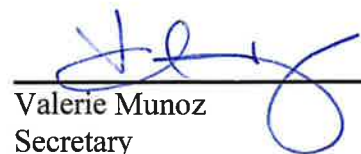
**BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS/ REPORTS**

Board Members wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**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 January 22, 2025.

  
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Mark Paulson  
Chairman

  
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Valerie Munoz  
Secretary