

**A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2025, AT 12:00 P.M.**

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<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	The Chairwoman 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>	Lynda Noriega, Robert Gonzales, Bob Kuhn, Valerie Munoz, Mark Paulson, Ed Chavez and Robert DiPrimio.
<b>BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	None.
<b>STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Randy Schoellerman, Executive Director; Dan Colby, Assistant Executive Director/Senior Project Manager; Stephanie Moreno, Director of Communications; Mary Saenz, Director of Finance; Pearl Escobar, Project Resource Specialist; Jackie Montgomery, Accounting Specialist; Michelle Sanchez, Senior Administrative Assistant/Office Coordinator
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT</b>	Lenet Pacehco, Valley County Water District; Chris Lancaster, Civic Publications
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT PARTICIPATED VIA ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE</b>	Bruce Knoles, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; Jody Roberto, Three Valleys Municipal Water District; Steve Kiggins, San Gabriel Municipal Water District
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	None.
<b>ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED</b>	None.
<b>CONSENT CALENDAR</b>	<p>Mr. Gonzales moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Mr. Kuhn seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously with the following abstentions:</p> <p>Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand No. E92733; and Mr. DiPrimio abstained from Project Demand Nos. E92734.</p>
<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	
<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***

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

***Discussion/Action Regarding ACWA Board Officers' Election for President and Vice President for the 2026-2027 Term***

Ms. Moreno reported that the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) will be holding its biennial election for ACWA President and Vice-President for the 2026-2027 term. She indicated that the ACWA Election Committee has presented an open ballot with all qualified candidates. She noted that members of ACWA will elect the President and Vice President by voting electronically. She added that the voting deadline is September 19th at 5 p.m. and the results of the election will be formally announced on Sept. 22. She briefly reviewed the candidates and noted that there was only one candidate for President and one candidate for Vice-President.

Ms. Moreno reported that at the Administrative/Finance Committee meeting, staff was asked to find out if Mr. Avila supported the Delta Conveyance Project. She stated that staff discovered Mr. Avila is taking a neutral stance, as is ACWA.

Mr. Paulson thanked Ms. Moreno for providing the information. He noted that since the legislation did not pass, the point is mute.

Mr. Paulson moved to approve the candidates for the 2026-2027 term.: President – Ernesto "Ernie" Avila and Vice-President – Carol Lee Gonzales-Brady. Mr. DiPrimio seconded the motion, and was approved unanimously.

***Discussion/Action Regarding ACWA Region 8 Election for the 2026-2027 Term***

Ms. Moreno reported that it was time to elect the 2026-2027 ACWA Region 8 officers and board members who will represent and serve the members of the Region. She indicated that included in the agenda packet was the official ballot which includes the Region 8 Nominating Committee's recommended slate as well as individual candidates running for the Region 8 Board. She noted that the region chair and vice chair will serve on ACWA's Board of Directors for this two-year term of office. She also noted that the newly elected chair will communicate the region's committee recommendations to the ACWA President for the 2026-2027 term. Also, either the chair or vice chair will serve on the ACWA Finance Committee.

Ms. Moreno reviewed the Region 8 slate as follows:

- Anthony Fellow, Chair
- Scott Quady, Vice Chair
- William Cooper, Board Member
- Robert Lewis, Board Member
- Jacquelyn McMillan, Board Member
- Chisom Obegolu, Board Member
- Richard Wilson, Board Member

Mr. Paulson moved to approved the Region 8 Nominating

Committee's recommended slate. Ms. Noriega seconded the motion, and was approved unanimously.

***Discussion/Action Regarding  
Drilling Bid for the Whitmore  
Street Groundwater Remediation  
Facility Expansion***

Mr. Colby reported that on July 11, 2024, WQA was awarded a Proposition 1 Implementation Grant in the amount of \$4,153,452 for the Whitmore Street Groundwater Remediation Facility Expansion (Project). He noted that the Project includes the installation of 24 new wells (12 extraction and 12 monitoring wells), associated pipelines and existing treatment plant improvements. He stated that the Project will greatly enhance the remediation of a known 1,4-Dioxane plume in northern shallow zone of the South El Monte Operable Unit (SEMOU).

Mr. Colby reported that on June 27, 2025 Weaver Consultants Group (WCG), conducted a pre-bid site walk for the installation of the 24 wells for the Project. He stated that four prospective drilling contractors participated in the pre-bid site walk. On July 2, 2025, WCG distributed the Request for Proposal for Well Installation Services to the site walk participants with a due date of July 11, 2025.

Mr. Colby reported that 3 Bids were received as follows:

ABC Liovin	\$581,340
M&R Drilling	\$701,890
BC2	\$850,321
Greg Drilling	Did Not Submit

Mr. Colby stated that staff is recommending the board to approve the award of the contract to ABC Liovin in the amount of \$581,340 for two reasons; (1) being the lowest bidder, and (2) ABC Liovin was the drilling contractor for WQA's Regional Groundwater Site Investigation Proposition 1 Grant which conducted a detailed investigation of 12 high priority sites within the SEMOU.

Ms. Munoz moved to approve the well drilling contract be awarded to ABC Liovin in the amount of \$581,340 for the installation of 12 extraction wells and 12 monitoring wells for the Whitmore Street Groundwater Remediation Facility Expansion Project and authorize Mr. Schoellerman to execute the contract. Mr. Gonzales seconded the motion, and was approved unanimously.

***OTHER  
ACTION/INFORMATION  
ITEMS***

None.

**PROJECT REPORTS**

Mr. Colby reported that WQA hosted a joint Whittier Narrows Operable Unit (WNOU) and SEMOU Technical meeting on September 9th. He stated that Mr. David Britt, who is the new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Project Manager for

both sites was in attendance. He stated that Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has a Prop. 1 grant for improvements at the WNOU to make a more robust potable supply. He reported that staff was informed at this meeting that Division of Financial Assistant amended the Prop. 1 grant for an additional \$5M for the construction of a new extraction well. Mr. Colby reviewed a plume map to show the board where the new extraction well will be constructed.

He stated that during the SEMOU portion of the meeting, DTSC acknowledged the significant increasing contaminant trends at the San Gabriel Valley Water Company's (SGVWC) Plant G4, which is located in the north west portion of the SEMOU. He stated that DTSC did acknowledge the increasing trend and shared preliminary plume maps showing the elevated contamination while affirming that additional investigation is needed to understand the increasing trend.

Mr. Colby reported that staff will be hosting an El Monte Operable Unit Technical meeting later this month with all stakeholders. He stated that one of the discussion items will be Golden State Water Company's (GSWCs) increasing hexavalent chromium trend at its Encinita Well Field and whether dedicated treatment will be required. He noted the importance of the Encinita Well Field as it is the location of EPA's northwest EMOU intermediate zone remedy.

Mr. Colby pointed out that on the project demands that were approved was the Federal Funding Program Administration Award to Covina Valley Water Company (formerly, Covina Irrigating Company), for their PFAS treatment in the amount of \$694,000. He noted that this payment fulfills the \$1.2 M grant which the board had approved.

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. Padilla reported that there is no need for closed session.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Mr. Schoellerman reported that Congress is currently deliberating on the budget and is scheduled to recess next week. He noted that a Continuing Resolution (CR) has been prepared for passage by the end of this week, which would extend funding through November 21. He stated that there is currently \$3.2M in the House bill and \$10M in the Senate bill for the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund; however, those amounts may be irrelevant if Congress ultimately adopts a full-year CR, which is the most likely outcome.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Schoellerman reported that the election for cities with pumping rights is underway and WQA is able to receive nominations starting September 18<sup>th</sup> through October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Schoellerman reported that SB 707 (Durazo) is pending the Governor's signature. He stated that the bill extends remote meetings until 2030. He noted that due to the staff size of

WQA its passage will not affect current procedures regarding remote meetings and board remote participation.

Mr. Schoellerman reported that he would be submitting the ACWA election votes today, which had been approved earlier in the meeting.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

Ms. Moreno reported on the upcoming events as follows:

- September 18th – San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership meeting with Senator Sasha Renee Perez
- September 19th – BizFed Water Summit
- September 25th – San Gabriel Valley Public Affairs Network Mayors and City Council Reception
- October 25th – San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership Awards Gala

**FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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

The next Administrative/Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

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

**CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS/REPORTS**

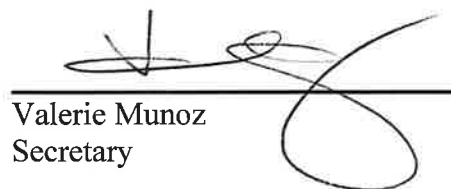
Ms. Noriega thanked Ms. Moreno for updating the board on upcoming events and for obtaining the information regarding the ACWA elections. She commented that the Delta Conveyance Project trailer bill did not make it through the process and perhaps the focus can be shifted to advocate for the Pure Water Project that will have an enormous impact on sustaining future water supplies for the region but will come with a cost.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Chairwoman 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 October 22, 2025.



Lynda Ncriega  
Chairwoman



Valerie Munoz  
Secretary