

**SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY  
LEGISLATIVE/PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE  
APRIL 15, 2026 AT 9:00 A.M.**

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<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Mr. Gonzales called the committee meeting to order and reviewed the actions anticipated on the agenda.
<b>REMOTE PARTICIPATION DECLARATION – AB 2449 [Government Code Section 54953(f)]</b>	None.
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Robert Gonzales and Valerie Munoz
<b>WATERMASTER LIASON</b>	None.
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Bob Kuhn.
<b>OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	None.
<b>STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Randy Schoellerman, Executive Director (online); Dan Colby, Assistant Executive Director; Stephanie Moreno, Director of Communications; Mary Saenz, Director of Finance; Jackie Montgomery, Accounting Specialist; Pearl Escobar, Project Resource Specialist; Michelle Sanchez, Senior Administrative Assistant/Office Coordinator
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT</b>	Lenet Pacheco, Valley County Water District
<b>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATING ONLINE</b>	Gabriel Monares, The Monares Group; Bruce Knowles, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; Chris Lancaster, Civic Publications
<b><i>Public Comment</i></b>	None.
<b><i>Discussion Regarding Next Advertorial</i></b>	Ms. Moreno reported that the upcoming advertorial will appear in the Earth Day publication, which will be in partnership with National Geographic and is scheduled for release during the week of April 22 <sup>nd</sup> , in recognition of Earth Day. She stated that WQA's article will feature basic facts of WQA - Who we are; What we do; and What we are here for. She then presented the digital interactive article to the committee.

Committee Member Munoz expressed how much she liked the visual appeal of the advertorial and the interactive aspect of it.

Mr. Lancaster stated that the publication will be in the LA Times digital newspaper for a week and includes approximately 200,000 accompanying digital adds thru the week.

Ms. Moreno requested an update on the next scheduled publications.

Mr. Lancaster stated that the next publications would be California Water or Civic Leadership and would publish before the end of June. He noted that the publication in July would be Community Profiles. He also reported to the committee that he is looking into other ways to distribute the publications using podcasts and online influencers.

### ***Legislative Activities/Reports***

#### **State**

Mr. Monares reported that he was in Sacramento the previous day and attended a Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee hearing. During the hearing, legislation (AB 1894), introduced by Blanca Rubio and related to invasive mussels, was considered and passed out of committee. He noted that the bill will likely proceed to the Appropriations Committee. He also mentioned a separate bill concerning tribal water but stated that it does not appear to significantly impact the agency's operations.

#### **Federal**

Mr. Monares reported that in Washington, D.C., the markup schedule has been tentatively set, with the House Energy and Water markup scheduled for May 15<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the agency's appropriations are expected to be included as part of that process.

Mr. Schoellerman noted that the Energy and Water markup will include the WQA's \$10 million funding request, which has been submitted on the member request lists of Congressmembers Judy Chu and Gil Cisneros. He noted that inclusion on both lists is a positive outcome following the agency's February trip to Washington, D.C. He further reported that additional letters of support for the federal funding request have been received, including letters from the City of Monterey Park and the City of Arcadia. He added that funding requests have also been submitted to both U.S. Senators; however, the Senate has not yet released its project lists, and updates are pending.

Mr. Schoellerman stated that while the agency awaits further news regarding the \$10 million request for FY 2027, it has already been awarded approximately \$3.237 million for FY 2026. He reported that Congressman Gil Cisneros' office has invited the Board to participate in a photo opportunity on May 5<sup>th</sup> to present a ceremonial check in the amount of \$3.237 million. Coordination with the Congressman's office is underway to confirm a time that accommodates both the Board and the Congressman, and additional details will be provided to the Board.

Mr. Schoellerman also commented on the invasive mussel legislation introduced by Assemblymember Blanca Rubio, noting that the bill is important locally and has advanced following the adoption of several amendments that addressed prior opposition.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Schoellerman asked Ms. Moreno to give an updated on upcoming activities.

Ms. Moreno reported on the upcoming events as follows:

- April 30<sup>th</sup> – Suburban Water Systems Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Upper Water's Annual Water Fest
- May 16<sup>th</sup> – Valley County Water District's 100th Anniversary Event
- May 21<sup>st</sup> – San Gabriel Valley Water Association Quarterly Breakfast Meeting
- May 28<sup>th</sup> – Southern California Water Utilities Association Water Supply Tour

Mr. Schoellerman reported that negotiations for the Baldwin Park Operable Unit agreement are ongoing, with a recent meeting held the previous day that was productive. He noted that these negotiations are significant, as the agreement could establish terms for approximately the next 10 years, although the final term has not yet been determined. He stated that progress is being made and that both the responsible parties and water entities are working collaboratively. An October 2026, deadline has been established with the next negotiation meeting scheduled in approximately two weeks.

He informed the Committee that he recently underwent surgery to repair his broken wrist, which was successful, and that he is currently recovering.

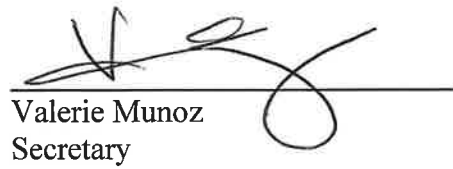
**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Gonzales thanked the elected officials Lenet Pacheco from Valley County Water District and Bruce Knowles from the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District for attending our committee meetings.

Mr. Gonzales asked if there were any other items of business to come before the committee. There being none, the meeting was adjourned.



Lynda Noriega  
Chairwoman



Valerie Munoz  
Secretary