A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY
SEPTEMBER 16, 2026, AT 12:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER	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.
REMOTE PARTICIPATION DECLARATION – SB 707	None.
ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS	Lynda Noriega, Mark Paulson, Robert Gonzales, Bob Kuhn, Ed Chavez and Robert DiPrimio.
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT	Valerie Munoz.
STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT	Randy, Schoellerman, Executive Director; Stephanie Moreno, Director of Communications; Dan Colby, Assistant Executive Director/Senior Project Manager; Maritza Cardenas, Director of Finance; Jackie Montgomery, Accounting Specialist; Pearl Escobar, Project Resource Specialist; Michelle Sanchez, Senior Administrative Assistant/Office Coordinator; Richard Padilla, WQA General Counsel.
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT	Gabriel Monares, The Monares Group; Lenet Pacheco, Valley County Water District; Bruce Knoles, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT PARTICIPATED VIA ONLINE/TELECONFERENCE	Michael Miller, California American Water Company; Steve Kiggins, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; Irma Cooper, Member of the Public.
PUBLIC COMMENT	None.
ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED	None.
CONSENT CALENDAR	Mr. Kuhn moved to approve the consent calendar as presented. Mr. Paulson seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously with the following abstentions: Ms. Noriega abstained from Project Demand Nos. E93141. Mr. DiPrimio abstained from Project Demand Nos. E93142.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative/Public Information Committee Report None.

Administrative/Finance Committee Report None.

OTHER ACTION ITEMS None.

PROJECT REPORTS

Mr. Colby reported that WQA hosted a joint quarterly technical meeting with Whittier Narrows (WNOU) and South El Monte Operable Units (SEMOU) on September 15, 2026. He stated that U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was unable to attend. He reviewed the highlights of the meeting.
He noted that regarding the WNOU that Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and the San Gabriel Valley Water Company (SGVWC) are working toward placing the treatment facility into potable water service by the end of the fiscal year, which is June 2027. He stated that currently, approximately 800 gallons per minute (GPM) are discharged to Legg Lake. Once the SGVWC receives its amended water supply permit, additional treated water can be delivered into its distribution system. This would allow total extraction from the facility to increase by approximately 1,300 GPM, for a potential total of 2,100 GPM.
He also reported that DTSC successfully amended its Proposition 1 grant to fund construction of a deeper extraction well associated with the WNOU remedy. He explained that contamination has been detected below the screened intervals of the existing extraction wells. The additional well will target the deeper contamination and help prevent its potential migration into the central basin.

Mr. Colby reported that within the SEMOU, DTSC received $1.5 million in EPA funding to repair existing monitoring wells. He further stated that DTSC secured additional state funding to conduct site investigation activities in the northwest portion of the SEMOU, where increasing contaminant trends have been observed near SGVWC's Plant G4 and Amarillo Mutual Water Company's wells. He noted that WQA has raised concerns regarding these trends in its quarterly reports to DTSC and on EPA's five-year review of the SEMOU remedy.

In addition, he reported that DTSC completed its 2024 performance evaluation report for both the WNOU and SEMOU. The two operable units were combined into a single report for the first time since both are under DTSC oversight. The report concluded that the remedies at both sites continue to be protective of human health, with treated drinking water meeting or exceeding applicable standards. The report also noted that the WNOU remedy continues to prevent contaminant migration into the Central Basin. Regarding the SEMOU, Mr. Colby reported that DTSC's report acknowledged increasing contaminant trends in the

northwest portion of the site. He stated that DTSC plans to reevaluate the Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements for both operable units to assess the impacts of contaminants that are not currently designated as contaminants of concern such as 1,4-dioxane and PFAS. The evaluation will consider the feasibility and cost of addressing these contaminants as part of the interim remedies and will include recommendations to EPA regarding whether any emerging contaminants should be designated as new contaminants of concern.

Mr. Colby also reported that DTSC continues to participate in efforts to support drinking water permit compliance and increase remedy extractions. He noted that DTSC and the Division of Drinking Water are working to streamline the permit process and reduce potential delays associated with bringing new extraction wells and remedy enhancements online.

Finally, Mr. Colby reported that WQA will host a technical meeting regarding the El Monte Operable Unit at the end of September. He stated that additional information regarding the status of the operable unit would be available following that meeting.

Ms. Noriega asked a question regarding the potential designation of PFAS as a contaminant of concern (COC) and whether contributing parties had been identified.

Mr. Colby replied that no contributing parties have been identified at this time. He then read verbatim from the DTSC performance evaluation report to further clarify. *"Re-evaluate ARARs for WNOU and SEMOU to assess the impact of non-COCs, particularly those required to meet potable end-use requirements (such as PFAS, 1,4-dioxane and TDS), on feasibility and costs to perform the interim remedy. In addition, evaluate and provide recommendations to USEPA regarding which emerging contaminants, if any, should be designated as new COCs for either remedy."*

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mr. Padilla reported that there was a need for closed session.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Monares reported that Congress is currently in recess. He noted that Governor Newsom has until the end of September to sign any bills.

He reported that the Senate just returned from recess and he has no updates to report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Schoellerman reported that Carla Nemeth became the Executive Director of the Association of California Water Agencies effective September 1, 2026. He noted that he was interested in seeing the perspective and changes she may bring to the organization based on her previous experience leading the Department of Water Resources.

Mr. Schoellerman also reported that a draft bill related to the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund (Restoration Fund) is being sponsored by Congressman Gil Cisneros, with Congresswoman Judy Chu agreeing to serve as a co-author. He stated that efforts were underway to obtain additional bipartisan support in the House before the bill is formally introduced. The proposed legislation would provide additional funding for the Restoration Fund and remove the current 10-year limitation. He stated that efforts on the legislation continue while Congress is in recess. He concluded his report and noted that he would provide additional information during closed session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Noriega reported that the Board finalized Mr. Schoellerman's annual performance evaluation at the adjourned meeting held on August 26. She noted that, based on discussions with Mr. Padilla, retroactive salary adjustments are not permitted. Therefore, the evaluation process will need to begin earlier in future years to allow sufficient time for Board approval before the start of the new fiscal year. Ms. Noriega explained that the evaluation process should begin in April or May so that any salary adjustment can be approved in June and become effective July 1. She noted that this would avoid the need for retroactive compensation and advised future Board Chairs of the revised timeline.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Ms. Moreno reported on the upcoming events as follows:

- September 24, 2026 – San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership Awards Gala
- November 5, 2026 – Southern California Water Utilities Association Vendors Fair
- December 1-3, 2026 – ACWA Fall Conference

FUTURE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The next Legislative/Public Information Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

The next Administrative/Finance Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, 2026, at 10 a.m.

The next WQA Board meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2026, 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

Mr. Padilla reported that the Board met in closed session and six members were present, Ms. Munoz was absent. He stated that there is no reportable action.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS/ REPORTS

Mr. DiPrimio commended the San Gabriel Basin Watermaster and staff for their efforts in restoring water deliveries after LA County temporarily shut off the water due to the discovery of golden mussels. Ms. Noriega noted that the restoration was the result of a collective effort.

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 21, 2026.

Lynda Noriega
Chairwoman

Valerie Munoz
Secretary