

**DRAFT****MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE MAIN SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATERMASTER  
729 NORTH AZUSA AVENUE, AZUSA, CALIFORNIA  
MARCH 4, 2009 AT 3:00 O'CLOCK P.M.**

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A regular meeting of the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster was duly and regularly held in the Conference Room of the City of Azusa Light and Water Administration Facility, at 729 North Azusa Avenue, in the City of Azusa, County of Los Angeles, State of California, 91702, on Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at the hour of 3:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

James Byerrum, Chairman, called the meeting to order and presided thereover.

**ROLL CALL OF WATERMASTER MEMBERS**

The following members of Watermaster were present on roll call:

**PRESENT:** Dan Arrighi, Robert W. Bowcock, James Byerrum, Al Contreras, Pat Malloy, Michael Quinn and Charles E. Shaw.

**ABSENT:** Ed Chavez and Thomas Love

(Mr. Chavez arrived later in the meeting.)

**STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT**

Staff present at the meeting included: Carol Williams, Executive Officer; Fred Fudacz, Attorney; Stephen Johnson, Consulting Engineer; Tony Zampielo, Assistant Executive Officer; Donna DiLaura, Administrative Coordinator; and Wendy La, Staff Engineer.

Others present included: Chet Anderson, Todd Brown, Brian Bowcock, Mark Carney, Barbara Carrera, Koby Cohen, Greg Galindo, Craig Gott, Gary Hofer, Dave Johnson, Marianna Lake, Tom Lindros, Dave Michalko, Martin Ray, Stacey Roberts, Patrick Scanlon, Alice Shiozawa, Che Venegas and Dale Wert.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The Chairman then asked if there were any changes to be made to the agenda. On motion made by Mr. Bowcock, seconded by Mr. Arrighi, and unanimously carried, the agenda was adopted with an amendment to defer Item 7 to later in the meeting.

**TIME RESERVED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were offered.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion made by Mr. Arrighi, seconded by Mr. Malloy, and unanimously carried, the following items were approved:

- a) Minutes of a Regular Meeting of Watermaster held February 4, 2009.
- b) Lists of Demands: Items 13787 through 13823 in the amount of \$406,644.22 on the Administrative Fund, and Items 851 through 852 in the amount of \$200,452.95 on the Replacement Water Fund.
- c) Financial Statements, February 2009
- d) Authorization to attend ACWA Spring Conference, May 19-22, 2009, in Sacramento, CA

In response to a question by Chairman Byerrum, the Executive Officer clarified the difference between an event listed as an Information Item and an event listed on the Consent Calendar. She noted that items approved on the Consent Calendar authorize Watermaster board member attendance, while events listed as Information Items are provided as a courtesy, for information only.

## WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Application from Golden State Water Co. to Destroy Artesia Well No. 2 – The Consulting Engineer stated that Golden State Water Co. (GSWC) has submitted an application for destruction of Artesia Well No. 2, located in the City of San Dimas. The well was constructed in 1906 to a depth of 548 feet, and had a pumping capacity of 480 gallons per minute at the time the well ceased production in 2007. The casing of the well has collapsed in several sections and cannot be repaired.

After reviewing various alternatives to well destruction, and determining that destroying the well will not adversely affect contaminant migration in the area of the well, the Consulting Engineer recommended that Watermaster approve the GSWC's application to destroy Artesia Well No. 2, subject to the conditions in the staff report.

On motion made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Arrighi, and unanimously carried, Watermaster approved Golden State Water Co.'s application to destroy Artesia Well No. 2, subject to the conditions in the staff report.

Application from Golden State Water Co. to Drill Garvey Well No. 3 and to Construct Treatment Facility – The Consulting Engineer stated that Golden State Water Co. (GSWC) has submitted an application for construction of new Garvey Well No. 3, to be located at the GSWC Garvey Plant site in the City of Rosemead. The Garvey Plant provides water to the

GSWC's South San Gabriel distribution system. The new well is intended as a replacement well to replace lost production capacity from GSWC Garvey Wells No. 1, No. 2 and Earle Well No. 1. The Consulting Engineer noted that GSWC has indicated that it will no longer produce from these three wells and intends to submit applications to destroy the wells. The wells were pulled from service due to Volatile Organic Compounds and low production capacity.

The Consulting Engineer stated that GSWC has proposed to drill Well No. 3 to a depth of no more than 424 feet bgs and the perforations of the well will be from approximately 350 feet to 425 feet bgs. The proposed depth and perforations are consistent with the existing wells at the Garvey Plant. The proposed pumping capacity of Well No. 3 is 1,000 gpm and will replace the combined pumping capacity of Garvey Well No. 1, No. 2 and Earle Well No. 1. The Consulting Engineer also stated that drilling a new well at the site will help to reduce GSWC's reliance on imported water from Metropolitan Water District.

The Consulting Engineer stated that GSWC has also submitted an application to construct a Water Treatment Facility at its Garvey Plant site in conjunction with its application to drill Well No. 3. The proposed treatment facility will have a capacity of 1,000 gpm and consist of four liquid-phase granular activated carbon (LGAC) vessels. The LGAC vessels will be arranged in two sets of vessels with each set operating in a lead-lag configuration, and each set treating about 500 gpm. The total treatment capacity will match the capacity of the proposed well. The proposed treatment facility is intended to remove potential VOCs from proposed new Well No. 3 and/or any of the existing wells at the GSWC Garvey Plant site to non-detectable concentrations.

The Consulting Engineer noted that Perchlorate has not been detected in Garvey Wells No. 1 and No. 2 or Earle Well No. 1, but has been detected in Wells SG1 and SG2, which are located about 1,000 feet southwesterly of the GSWC Garvey Plant. For this reason, GSWC has also proposed construction of ion exchange vessels to treat Perchlorate. The proposed treatment facility will consist of a single set of ion exchange vessels, operating in a lead-lag configuration with a total capacity of 1,000 gpm. Disposable ion exchange resin will be used and there will be no waste brine generated.

The Consulting Engineer briefly reviewed the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) requirements and resulting discharges of treated water to the Alhambra Wash necessary for permitting. The Consulting Engineer recommended that Watermaster approve GSWC's application to drill Well No. 3, and to construct a Water Treatment Facility at its Garvey Plant site, subject to the conditions in the staff report.

The Chairman asked if GSWC would be required to make application to destroy the other wells, and the Consulting Engineer noted that the requirement should be included in the recommendations for GSWC to submit applications to Watermaster within three months to destroy Garvey Wells No. 1 and No. 2 and Earle Well No. 1.

On motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Mr. Contreras, and unanimously carried, Watermaster approved GSWC's application to drill new Garvey Well No. 3, and to construct a Water Treatment Facility at its Garvey Plant site, subject to the conditions in the staff

report, including a provision that GSWC submit applications for well destruction for the three wells within three months.

## **AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE INDIVIDUAL PRODUCER CYCLIC STORAGE AGREEMENTS**

(Mr. Chavez joined the meeting.)

The Executive Officer stated that this is a continuation of an item from the February meeting wherein Watermaster approved several Individual Producer Cyclic Storage Agreements. She noted that, at the February meeting, the Chairman had deferred approval of these Agreements to a later date due to lack of the six required votes with any board member abstaining. The Executive Officer reported that the Individual Producer Cyclic Storage Agreements were initially executed in 2004, in order to allow Watermaster to buy replenishment water from Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District on the producer's behalf. She noted that the terms of these agreements would be for another five years. The Chairman noted that, as advised by the Attorney, Watermaster should act on each agreement individually.

On motion made by Mr. Arrighi, seconded by Mr. Shaw, and unanimously carried, with Mr. Malloy abstaining, Watermaster approved the renewal of the Individual Producer Cyclic Storage Agreement between Watermaster and the City of Arcadia in the amount of 5,000 acre-feet for a five-year term.

On motion made by Mr. Arrighi, seconded by Mr. Malloy, and unanimously carried, with the Chairman and Mr. Quinn abstaining, Watermaster approved the renewal of the Individual Producer Cyclic Storage Agreement between Watermaster and California Domestic Water Company in the amount of 15,000 acre-feet for a five-year term.

On motion made by Mr. Contreras, seconded by Mr. Chavez, and unanimously carried, with Mr. Quinn abstaining, Watermaster approved the renewal of the Individual Producer Cyclic Storage Agreement between Watermaster and Covina Irrigating Company in the amount of 2,000 acre-feet for a five-year term.

On motion made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Mr. Bowcock, and unanimously carried, with Mr. Shaw abstaining, Watermaster approved the renewal of the Individual Producer Cyclic Storage Agreement between Watermaster and San Gabriel County Water District in the amount of 2,000 acre-feet for a five-year term.

On motion made by Mr. Contreras, seconded by Mr. Malloy, and unanimously carried, with Mr. Quinn abstaining, Watermaster approved the renewal of the Individual Producer Cyclic Storage Agreement between Watermaster and Suburban Water Systems in the amount of 18,000 acre-feet for a five-year term.

## **REPORT FROM BASIN WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Bowcock reported that the Basin Water Management Committee met on February 11, 2009, and discussed various items, and encouraged those who are interested to read through

the Board packet for more details. Mr. Bowcock noted that the Committee Report is for informational purposes only and the items do not require Watermaster action at this time.

As a follow up to an item reported at the February meeting, Mr. Bowcock stated that Watermaster successfully terminated the laboratory services contract with TestAmerica, and Weck Lab is now providing those services.

## REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Arrighi reported that the Administrative Committee met on February 18, 2009, and discussed various items, and encouraged those who are interested to read through the Board packet for more details. Mr. Arrighi then reported on two items.

Recommendation for Appointment of 2009 Committees and Representatives to Outside Organizations – Mr. Arrighi reported that the Committee reviewed the existing list of Watermaster committee assignments, considered new requests, and developed a proposed roster of 2009 committee assignments and appointments to outside organizations.

On a motion made by Mr. Arrighi, seconded by Mr. Malloy, and unanimously carried, the recommendations for 2009 Watermaster Committee Assignments and Representatives to Outside Organizations was adopted as presented.

Recommendation to Execute Foothill Water Coalition Agreement – Mr. Arrighi reported that the Committee discussed Watermaster's participation in the FWC, joining in its efforts to develop regional projects to provide supplemental, high-quality water to Southern California. He noted that Watermaster's attorney has reviewed the Agreement and received clarification on a few issues. Consequently, Mr. Arrighi stated that it is the Committee's recommendation that Watermaster approve execution of the Foothill Water Coalition Agreement.

On a motion made by Mr. Arrighi, seconded by Mr. Bowcock, and unanimously carried, Watermaster approved execution of the Foothill Water Coalition Agreement.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items listed on the agenda for information of Watermaster were noted, and ordered received and filed:

- a) Letter dated February 6, 2009, from San Gabriel Valley Water Co. expressing support for recycled water project
- b) Letter dated February 18, 2009, transmitting USGVMWD rates for calendar year 2009
- c) Transmittal of SGVMWD monthly report for January 2009
- d) Notice from WEF of Binational Drought Science Conference, March 26-27, San Diego

- e) Notice of USGVMWD/USDA Forest Service Watershed Restoration Program, March 28 and April 25, 2009
- f) Various newspaper articles

#### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

The Attorney reported that on February 25, 2009 the court confirmed the Upper District appointees to Watermaster, and he welcomed Mr. Chavez and Mr. Contreras to Watermaster.

Relative to the arbitration regarding cost allocation issues among the Baldwin Park Operable Unit CRs, the Attorney reported that Fairchild continues to have severe liquidity problems, and may file for bankruptcy. The Attorney stated again that the dispute continues in arbitration, and he does not expect a final resolution before the final court hearing scheduled for April 24, 2009. He also noted that Watermaster would soon be distributing a Notice of Adjustment of the project's Financial Assurances, to cover costs associated with the new single-pass ion exchange facilities in addition to overall plant operation and maintenance assurances.

#### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

The Consulting Engineer reported that the level of the Baldwin Park Key Well, as of February 26, was 200.9 feet. He noted that the Key Well is approximately 8 feet lower than at this time last year, and dropping. The Consulting Engineer also reported that canyon storage is very near minimum pool, at just over 16,000 acre-feet compared to 52,000 acre-feet at this time last year. He stated that releases are being made at 30 cfs from Morris to the Committee of Nine for direct use. Additionally, the Consulting Engineer stated that the five area landfills were inspected and no violations were found. In response to a request from Director Malloy, the Consulting Engineer contacted the owner of the sixth landfill to inquire about a report of jet skiing in the pit. He noted that a jet ski manufacturer was in fact testing its jet skis in the pit. A Cease and Desist order is expected from the Regional Board very soon.

Relative to hydrologic conditions, the Consulting Engineer stated that rainfall at the Los Angeles Civic Center to date is 8.5 inches, compared to 10.6 inches this time last year. He then commented on a recent article in the Los Angeles Times on the drought situation in California, and noted that there are several mistakes and the article does not include data on many key issues relative to water supply.

Finally, the Consulting Engineer reported that the River Watermaster had completed its calculations and annual report for the 2007-08 water year, and that the Lower Area entitlement for the year was 80,200 AF, while the amount of usable water received by the Lower Area totaled 99,044 AF. The credit to the Upper Area for Water Year 2007-08 is 18,844 AF, increasing the Upper Area's Accrued Credit to 108,579 AF as of September 30, 2008.

## **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Executive Officer reported on the results of the recent series of workshops hosted by Metropolitan Water District (MWD). The workshops were initiated to update MWD's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and consider additional means of meeting its water storage goals. She stated that the meetings were well attended by MWD member agencies and local groundwater managers and appear to have been productive. MWD staff has heard from its members that providing replenishment water to the Basins is a critical aspect of the sustaining the region's water supply. The Executive Officer noted that MWD staff has prepared a progress report to be provided to its IRP Task Force and has also developed a set of groundwater storage principles for review and approval by the Board. The Executive Officer reported that the Association of Ground Water Agencies (AGWA) is proposing a more detailed study, to be paid for by MWD. The study would provide a detailed review of how replenishment water might be managed during surplus times, and how basins will be able to manage those supplies during limited periods of time. CH2M Hill, on behalf of AGWA, had performed a preliminary review of these issues using the Orange County Basin, Central and West Coast Basins and Main San Gabriel Basin to depict basin conditions under various water replenishment scenarios. AGWA has proposed that MWD allow CH2M Hill to further the study to better determine how imported water can be managed in the limited years when it becomes available.

The Executive Officer also commented on the article in the Los Angeles Times. She stated that it did not address many key water supply issues such as the recent biological decision relative to the Delta and the severe cutbacks on State Water Project and Central Valley Project supplies to Central and Southern California.

## **COMMENTS FROM WATERMASTER MEMBERS**

The Watermaster members welcomed Mr. Chavez and Mr. Contreras.

Mr. Chavez stated that he is happy to be part of the Watermaster board, and Mr. Contreras stated that he is happy to be back.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Malloy requested, in light of the Governor's recent drought declaration and the State Water Project allocation that the Basin Water Management Committee meet to discuss potential conservation needs in the Basin. Chairman Byerrum concurred, and the Executive Officer stated that this item would be added to the agenda for next week's committee meeting. Chairman Byerrum requested that, in preparation for the meeting, the Consulting Engineer update the previous projection of wells that may be impacted by declining water levels.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Chairman asked if there were other business to come before Watermaster, and there being none, upon motion duly made by Mr. Malloy, seconded by Mr. Contreras, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned to the next regular meeting of Watermaster

on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the City of Azusa  
Light and Water Administration Facility at 729 North Azusa Avenue, Azusa, CA 91702.

SECRETARY'S SIGNATURE

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DAN ARRIGHI

ATTEST:

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JAMES BYERRUM  
CHAIRMAN