

MINUTES
CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
WATERMASTER BOARD MEETING
March 23, 2023

The Watermaster Board meeting was held at the offices of the Chino Basin Watermaster located at 9641 San Bernardino Road, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, and via Zoom (conference call and web meeting) on March 23, 2023.

WATERMASTER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT AT WATERMASTER

James Curatalo, Chair	Appropriate Pool – Minor Representative
Jeff Pierson, Vice Chair	Agricultural Pool – Crops
Bob Kuhn, Secretary/Treasurer	Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Brian Geye for Bob Bowcock	Non-Agricultural Pool – CA Speedway Corporation
Scott Burton	City of Ontario
Steve Elie	Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Bob Feenstra for Paul Hofer	Agricultural Pool – Dairy
Mike Gardner	Western Municipal Water District
Manny Martinez	Monte Vista Water District

WATERMASTER BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Bob Bowcock	Non-Agricultural Pool – CalMat Co.
Paul Hofer	Agricultural Pool – Crops

WATERMASTER STAFF PRESENT

Peter Kavounas	General Manager
Joseph Joswiak	Chief Financial Officer
Edgar Tellez Foster	Water Resources Mgmt. & Planning Director
Anna Nelson	Director of Administration
Justin Nakano	Water Resources Technical Manager
Frank Yoo	Data Services and Judgment Reporting Mgr.
Alexandria Moore	Executive Assistant I/Board Clerk
Ruby Favela Quintero	Administrative Analyst
Kelli Hills	Office Specialist/Receptionist
Alonso Jurado	Senior Field Operations Specialist
David Huynh	Senior Field Operations Specialist

WATERMASTER CONSULTANTS PRESENT AT WATERMASTER

Scott Slater	Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP
Andy Malone	West Yost

WATERMASTER CONSULTANTS PRESENT ON ZOOM

Brad Herrema	Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP
Garrett Rapp	West Yost

OTHERS PRESENT AT WATERMASTER

Jimmy Medrano	Agricultural Pool – State of CA
Leon Kazandjian	Agricultural Pool – State of CA
Dave Crosley	City of Chino
Ron Craig	City of Chino Hills
Chris Diggs	City of Pomona
Amanda Coker	Cucamonga Valley Water District
Chris Berch	Jurupa Community Services District
Bryan Smith	Jurupa Community Services District
John Russ	Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Justin Scott-Coe	Monte Vista Irrigation Company
Justin Scott-Coe	Monte Vista Water District
Alyssa Coronado	Santa Ana River Water Company

John Lopez
Laura Roughton

Santa Ana River Water Company
Western Municipal Water District

OTHERS PRESENT ON ZOOM

Kati Parker
Natalie Avila
Courtney Jones
John Bosler
Eduardo Espinoza
Rob Hills
Ben Roden
Jiwon Seung
Tarren Alicia Torres
Christiana Daisy
Shivaji Deshmukh
Michael Hurley
Jesse Pompa
Stephanie Reimer
Bill Wyatt
David De Jesus
Mallory Gandara
Richard Rees

Chino Basin Water Conservation District
City of Chino
City of Ontario
Cucamonga Valley Water District
Cucamonga Valley Water District
Cucamonga Valley Water District
Cucamonga Valley Water District
Cucamonga Valley Water District
Egoscue Law Group, Inc.
Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Jurupa Community Services District
Monte Vista Water District
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton
Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Western Municipal Water District
WSP

FLAG SALUTE

Chair Curatalo led the Board in the flag salute.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Curatalo called the Watermaster Board meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

(00:00:51) Ms. Moore conducted the roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENDA – ADDITIONS/REORDER

None

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be acted upon by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion on these items prior to voting unless any members, staff, or the public requests specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action.

A. MINUTES

Approve as presented:

1. Minutes of the Watermaster Board Meeting held February 23, 2023

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Receive and file as presented:

1. Cash Disbursements for the month of January 2023
2. Watermaster VISA Check Detail for the month of January 2023
3. Combining Schedule for the Period July 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023
4. Treasurer's Report of Financial Affairs for the Period January 1, 2023 through January 31, 2023

5. Budget vs. Actual Report for the Period July 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023
6. Cash Disbursements for February 2023 (Information Only)

C. WATER TRANSACTION – CITY OF CHINO TO NIAGARA BOTTLING, LLC

Approve the proposed transaction:

The purchase of 4,000 acre-feet of water from City of Chino by Niagara Bottling, LLC. This purchase is made from City of Chino's Excess Carryover Account.

D. OBMP SEMI-ANNUAL STATUS REPORT 2022-2

Adopt the Semi-Annual OBMP Status Report 2022-2, and direct staff to file a copy with the Court, subject to any necessary non-substantive changes.

E. SGMA REPORTING FOR WATER YEAR 2022

Approve and direct staff to file the information/reports with the DWR.

(00:02:57)

Motion by Mr. Bob Kuhn, seconded by Mr. Mike Gardner, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

11:04 a.m.: Mr. Kuhn left the meeting after Consent Calendar and did not return.

II. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. THIRD AMENDMENT TO TASK ORDER NO. 8 UNDER THE MASTER AGREEMENT FOR COLLABORATIVE RECHARGE PROJECTS (SAN SEVAINE BASIN)

Approve the Third Amendment to Task Order No. 8 Under the Master Agreement for Collaborative Recharge Projects to officialize the project closeout as presented.

(00:03:33) Mr. Kavounas invited Mr. Justin Nakano to give a presentation. A discussion ensued.

(00:04:46)

Motion by Mr. Mike Gardner, seconded by Vice-Chair Jeff Pierson, and passed unanimously by roll call vote as attached to these minutes.

Moved to approve staff's recommendation of Business Item II.A. as presented.

B. WATERMASTER BOARD PHILOSOPHY RE STAFFING AND COMPENSATION

Review and provide input to staff.

(00:06:58) Mr. Kavounas gave a report. A discussion ensued.

III. REPORTS/UPDATES

A. WATERMASTER LEGAL COUNSEL

1. March 17, 2023 Hearing
2. April 5, 2023 Hearing
3. Court of Appeal Case No. E079052
4. Court of Appeal Case No. E080457
5. Court of Appeal Case No. E080533
6. Kaiser Permanente Lawsuit
7. Review of Brown Act Memorandum Dated February 2, 2023

(00:25:56) Mr. Slater gave a report. A discussion ensued.

B. ENGINEER

1. SGMA Reporting for Water Year 2022
2. Prado Basin Habitat Sustainability Committee

3. Ground-Level Monitoring Committee
4. Safe Yield Court Order Implementation
5. Impaired Status of Chino Creek

(00:34:21) Mr. Malone gave a report on items 1-3 and 5. Mr. Rapp gave a report on item 4.

C. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

1. Fiscal Year 2023/24 Budget Schedule

(00:49:56) Mr. Joswiak gave a report. A discussion ensued.

D. GENERAL MANAGER

1. Stormwater Flows into San Sevaine 3
2. Status Report: Exhibit G Physical Solution Transfers
3. System Losses Study
4. Other

(00:57:10) Mr. Kavounas invited Mr. Nakano to give a report on item 1. A discussion ensued. Mr. Kavounas gave an update on item 2, indicating there were no interested buyers for the fiscal year 2022/23 Exhibit G water. He reported on item 3 indicating that the Appropriative Pool Committee made the decision at its meeting earlier in the month to not move forward with the System Losses Study, and instead reconsider future opportunities when science, technology, and understanding for the process matures. For item 4, Mr. Kavounas mentioned that as a result of the recent year, Metropolitan Water District will have excess water and will be considering storage options in the Chino Basin and that he would provide updates along the way.

IV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

(01:06:35) Mr. Mike Gardner gave an update on Lake Shasta increasing storage by a half-million acre feet in one week due to recent storm events which leaves the reservoirs full.

(01:07:40) Mr. Scott Burton mentioned that under the UCMR 5 rules all parties in the Chino Basin will be required to test for 29 PFAS chemicals and the results could unveil possible mitigation requirements for parties.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

None

VI. CONFIDENTIAL SESSION – POSSIBLE ACTION

Pursuant to Article II, Section 2.6, of the Watermaster Rules & Regulations, a Confidential Session may be held during the Watermaster Board meeting for the purpose of discussion and possible action.

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Curatalo adjourned the Watermaster Board meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Secretary: 

Approved: _____ April 27, 2023

Attachments:

1. 20230323 Roll Call Vote Outcome for Business Item II.A.

ATTACHMENT 1

March 23, 2023 Watermaster Board Meeting Roll Call Vote Outcome

Member	Alternate	II.A.
Burton, Scott		Yes
Brian Geye for Bowcock, Bob	Yes	
Elie, Steve		Yes
Gardner, Mike		Yes
Bob Feenstra for Hofer, Paul	Yes	
Kuhn, Bob, Secretary/Treasurer		Absent*
Martinez, Manny		Yes
Pierson, Jeff, Vice-Chair		Yes
Curatalo, James, Chair		Yes
	OUTCOME:	Passed Unanimously

*Mr. Kuhn left the meeting at 11:04 a.m. and did not return.