

**MINUTES**  
**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER**  
**WATERMASTER BOARD MEETING**

May 25, 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 May 25, 2023.

**WATERMASTER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT AT WATERMASTER**

James Curatalo, Chair	Appropriative 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
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.
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**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**

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

**WATERMASTER CONSULTANTS PRESENT ON ZOOM**

Garrett Rapp	West Yost
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**OTHERS PRESENT AT WATERMASTER**

Bob Feenstra	Agricultural Pool – Dairy
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
Alyssa Coronado	Santa Ana River Water Company

**OTHERS PRESENT ON ZOOM**

Carol A.Z. Boyd	Agricultural Pool – State of CA
Gregor Larabee	Agricultural Pool – State of CA
Marilyn Levin	Agricultural Pool – State of CA

Nicole deMoet  
Braden Yu  
Ben Roden  
Eduardo Espinoza  
Mark Gibboney  
Tarren Alicia Torres  
Derek Hoffman  
Ben Lewis  
Christiana Daisy  
Jesse Pompa  
Justin Scott-Coe  
Justin Scott-Coe  
Kevin O'Toole  
Bill Wyatt  
David De Jesus  
Nicole deMoet  
Braden Yu  
Mallory Gandara  
Richard Rees

City of Upland  
City of Upland  
Cucamonga Valley Water District  
Cucamonga Valley Water District  
Cucamonga Valley Water District  
Egoscue Law Group, Inc.  
Fennemore Law  
Golden State Water Company  
Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
Jurupa Community Services District  
Monte Vista Irrigation Company  
Monte Vista Water District  
Orange County Water District  
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton  
Three Valleys Municipal Water District  
West End Consolidated Water Co.  
West End Consolidated Water Co.  
Western Municipal Water District  
WSP USA

**FLAG SALUTE**

Chair Curatalo led the Board in the flag salute.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Curatalo called the Watermaster Board meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

(00:00:55) 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 April 27, 2023

**B. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Receive and file as presented:

1. Cash Disbursements for the month of March 2023
2. Watermaster VISA Check Detail for the month of March 2023
3. Combining Schedule for the Period July 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023
4. Treasurer's Report of Financial Affairs for the Period March 1, 2023 through March 31, 2023
5. Budget vs. Actual Report for the Period July 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023
6. Cash Disbursements for April 2023 (Information Only)

(00:02:53)

*Motion by Mr. Steve Elie, seconded by Vice-Chair Jeff Pierson, there being no dissent, the item passed unanimously.*

***Moved to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.***

## **II. BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **A. WATERMASTER FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 APPROVED BUDGET**

Adopt the Watermaster Fiscal Year 2023/24 Approved Budget as presented.

(00:03:30) Mr. Joswiak gave a presentation. A discussion ensued.

(00:19:37)

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

***Moved to adopt the Watermaster Fiscal Year 2023/24 Approved Budget (Business Item II.A.) as presented.***

## **III. REPORTS/UPDATES**

### **A. WATERMASTER LEGAL COUNSEL**

1. May 12, 2023 Hearing (Watermaster Motion for Receipt and Filing of Semi-Annual OBMP Status Report; City of Ontario Motion re 2022-23 Assessment Package)
2. August 4 2023 Hearing (City of Ontario Motion re 2022-23 Assessment Package; Court Tour of Chino Basin)
3. Court Tour of Chino Basin
4. Court of Appeal Case No. E079052 (City of Chino, MVIC, MVWD, City of Ontario appeal re OAP Expenses and Attorney Fees)
5. Court of Appeal Case No. E080457 (City of Ontario appeal re 2021-22 Assessment Package)
6. Court of Appeal Case No. E080533 (Cities of Chino, Ontario appeal re 2022-23 Watermaster budget expenses to support CEQA analysis)
7. Kaiser Permanente Lawsuit

(00:20:57) Mr. Slater gave a report. A discussion ensued.

### **B. ENGINEER**

1. 2023 Storage Framework Investigation
2. Data Collection and Evaluation Report for FY 2021/2022
3. Board-Requested Recharge Project Analysis

(00:47:28) Mr. Rapp gave a report on items 1 and 3, and gave a presentation on item 2. A discussion ensued.

### **C. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

None

### **D. GENERAL MANAGER**

1. 2022/23 DYY Operation
2. AgMAR
3. Available Grant Opportunities
4. Regional Reliability
5. Aruna Reddy Intervention Request
6. Chino Basin Stakeholder BBQ
7. Other

(01:04:14) Mr. Kavounas introduced Mr. Nakano to give a report on items 1 and 2, Mr. Malone gave a report on item 3. On item 4, Mr. Kavounas gave a report on Regional Reliability and requested direction from the Board members to pursue the effort with the three Municipal Water Districts; the Board unanimously supported the effort. On item 5, he stated that the Aruna Reddy Intervention Request will be brought back to the agendas when information from the well owner has been received and reviewed. For item 6, he reminded the Board of the Chino Basin Stakeholder BBQ hosted at the Conservation District in the evening on May 25, 2023.

(01:22:40) Under Other, he mentioned an article regarding the Colorado River deal and introduced Mr. Slater to give a further report. Mr. Kavounas also addressed the new keypad locks that have been installed on the Watermaster premises. A discussion ensued.

**IV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

(01:40:29) Mr. Gardner encouraged all to attend the Watermaster orientation sessions indicating that they are well done and very educational.

(01:40:55) Chair Curatalo encouraged stakeholders to attend all Watermaster meetings as they are informative and helpful to understand Chino Basin.

(01:42:50) Vice-Chair Pierson thanked Watermaster staff for the presentations.

(01:43:15) Mr. Hofer raised a question regarding uncaptured stormwater; Mr. Malone committed to give a presentation at a future meeting after all the data has been collected and processed.

**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.

The Board convened into Confidential Session at 12:45 p.m. to discuss the following:

1. General Manager Performance Evaluation

Confidential Session concluded at 1:36 p.m. with the reportable action shown below:

*The Board members directed general counsel to meet with the General Manager and to prepare a proposed modification to the existing contract that will be placed on the Board's June agenda as a public item for discussion.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Curatalo adjourned the Watermaster Board meeting at 1:38 p.m.

Secretary: 

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ June 22, 2023

Attachments:

1. 20230525 Roll Call Vote Outcome for Business Item II.A.

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**May 25, 2023 Watermaster Board Meeting Roll Call Vote Outcome**

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