

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance
May 22, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**

Meeting Attendees

Agency	Representative	
City of Banning	Art Vela	Present
City of Beaumont		Absent
Banning Heights Mutual Water Company		Absent
Beaumont Basin Watermaster	Art Vela Dan Jagers	Present
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	Daniel Slawson Dan Jagers	Present
Cabazon Water District	Taffy Brock	Present
City of Calimesa		Absent
High Valleys Water District	Stan Houghton	Present
Mission Springs Water District		Absent
Morongo Band of Mission Indians		Absent
Riverside County EDA / Flood Control	Jason Uhley	Present
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Kevin Walton	Present
South Mesa Water Company		Absent
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Joyce McIntire	Present

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Daniel Slawson called to order the regular meeting of the San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance at 5:02 p.m. Roll call was conducted of the attendees and is reflected in the list of meeting participants above.

2. Public Comments: None.

3. Consent Calendar

- A. Approval of Alliance Meeting Minutes from March 27, 2024
The Consent Calendar was approved by the following vote:

MOVED: Slawson	SECONDED: Houghton
CONSENT CALENDAR APPROVED	VOTE 6-0-1
City of Banning	YES
City of Beaumont	Absent
Banning Heights Mutual Water Company	Absent
Beaumont Basin Watermaster	YES
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	YES
Cabazon Water District	YES
City of Calimesa	Absent
High Valleys Water District	YES
Mission Springs Water District	Absent
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	Absent
Riverside County EDA / Flood Control	No vote
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	YES
South Mesa Water Company	Absent
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Abstain

4. Annual Business Meeting per the SGPRWA Best Practices

- A. The following officers were selected by unanimous vote for the term July 2024 to May 2025:

Officers	Term 2024-2025
Chairperson	Daniel Slawson
Vice Chairperson	Stan Houghton
Secretary	
Treasurer	

- B. Review current Memorandum of Understanding

Chair Daniel Slawson recalled some former members of the Alliance, introduced discussion of the MOU, and reviewed each section.

Member Jagers posited that advances in water supply have been made in the region and there is still worthwhile information to share via this platform with electeds and others in the region. Member Houghton indicated it has been a great resource.

Chair Slawson noted under Section 5 that it has been understood that the Treasurer is Riverside County Economic Development Department and Flood Control, and the Secretary is BCVWD (previously Banning).

It has been agreed to meet every other month, Slawson noted, but this can be revisited if desired.

No changes were proposed.

C. Review Best Practices

Chair Slawson pointed out the meeting details and noted changes in practice. He reviewed the document sections.

No changes were proposed.

D. Review Budget

Chair Slawson drew attention to the Budget Report and advised there is a balance of \$13,336.02 in the account.

5. Presentations / Discussion Items

A. Beaumont Basin Watermaster Report

BBWM representative Art Vela reported:

- The BBWM has been reviewing the 2023 Annual Report and is providing comments to the consultant, with a final draft expected soon
- Expecting a draft report in June on the Safe Yield Redetermination; surprisingly, the model shows the safe yield may increase
- Several worthwhile items will be discussed at special meetings
- There have been good, complicated discussions and all seem open-minded
- Management under the umbrella of adjudication is complicated due to the bifurcation of the basin by faultlines

BBWM representative Dan Jagers reported:

- The BBWM has been discussing the health of the Basin
- Recharge is having more effect on the eastern side than the western, and in the near term there is work toward creating a physical solution
- The last couple of wet years have allowed recovery from the drought
- A lot of elements are being discussed that help all see transparency in the Basin with the goal of proactive management to be sustainable over time
- There are no immediate, near-term, dire red flags

B. San Geronio Pass Water Agency activities update

Representative Kevin Walton reported:

- An AI-assisted security camera has been installed over the pond area
- Beautification of the area at the intersection of is underway with a monument
- Working with counsel regarding ARPA funds for the Canyonland Road project and heli-hydrant project
- USGS wells going into the Cabazon area
- Actively pursuing the water portfolio

Dan Jagers added:

- Six heli-hydrant sites are being considered; BCVWD is supportive
- ARPA funding also targeted at the Calimesa Recharge Basin to help with regional water supply sustainability
- SGPWA reviewed the year in water supply: looked like Beaumont received 18+ inches of rain
- Reservoirs are basically full and SWP allocation is at 40 percent
- Pumping has been constrained at the Delta due to presence of fish
- SGPWA has delivered 478 acre-feet of carryover from the Ventura deal
- Bringing down another 8,650 af of carryover, plus this year's supply
- Total available supply with Nickel water is 25,448 af
- There will likely be carryover into next year, and SGPWA is looking to leverage it into more water in the future
- Good collaboration between agencies

6. Comments and Updates by the Elected Official or Agency Representative

A. City of Banning – Art Vela

- Updating a tech memo on Chromium 6 to understand impact on cost and impact to ratepayers
- Wastewater treatment plant improvement project is underway with RFPs going out (cost estimated at \$60 to \$70 million)
- Moving forward with ARPA projects – booster station facility and reservoirs to complement the recycled water transmission system
- The Making Conservation a California Way of Life regulation has been revised again – still a heavy lift to comply

B. Banning Heights Mutual Water Company – Absent

C. City of Beaumont – Absent

D. Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District – Dan Jagers highlighted:

- Working on Chromium 6 strategy and collaboration to address substantial impact (3 wells affected)
- Congratulated Mr. Vela on addition of responsibilities (Banning electric utility has been rolled into the Department of Public Works)
- Undergoing a five-year cost of services / rate study

- This group was helpful with collaboration on ARPA applications
 - Pipeline replacements and a new tank are on the project list
- E. Cabazon Water District – Taffy Brock reported:
- Scheduling installation of two heli-hydrants
 - Sanitary survey completed by State Water Resources Control Board and projects were approved
 - Accepted a bid for Esperanza pipeline (circa WWII infrastructure)
- F. City of Calimesa – Absent
- G. High Valleys Water District – Stan Houghton reported:
- Moving forward with pipe upgrade
 - Looking forward to the heli-hydrant project
 - Began the required lead and copper survey
 - PFAS and other requirements will be coming along
 - Attended Cal Rural Water Expo
- H. Mission Springs Water District – Absent
- I. Morongo Band of Mission Indians – Absent
- J. Riverside County EDA / Flood Control District – Jason Uhley reported:
- The Board of Supervisors allocated funding for the heli-hydrant project and Countyline Road pipeline
 - Entered agreement with Calimesa for the Countyline flood control channel which will include a second recharge basin
 - Weather models predict a mild monsoon season and a La Nina winter
- K. San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency – Kevin Walton reported:
- Gap funding paved the way for projects
 - Cheryle Stiff is retiring, and will be replaced by Maricela Cabral
 - Heli-hydrants for fire suppression helicopters may be in the future
 - Partnerships are being sought
- L. South Mesa Water Company – Absent
- M. Yucaipa Valley Water District – Joyce McIntire reported:
- Groundbreaking ceremony held at Crystal Creek water filtration plant
 - Groundbreaking ceremony scheduled for June 20 at the Wochholz Regional Water Recycling facility
 - Will report when the three injection wells in Calimesa start up

7. **Suggested Presentations and Topics for Future Meetings**

- a. Briefing on San Gorgonio Pass Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- b. Update and Discussion Regarding Funding for the Sites Reservoir Project
- c. Discussion Regarding Funding for the Delta Conveyance Project

- d. Discussion Regarding Funding for the Regional Cabazon/Banning Backbone Project
- e. PFAS
- f. Lead and Copper Rule
- g. City of Banning Chromium 6 compliance study
- h. Artificial intelligence demonstration

8. Future Meeting Dates

- July 24, 2024
- September 25, 2024

9. Adjournment

Chairman Daniel Slawson adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m.