

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance
July 24, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.**

Meeting Attendees

Agency	Representative	
City of Banning	Rick Minjares	Present
City of Beaumont	David Fenn Thaxton Van Belle	Present
Banning Heights Mutual Water Company		Absent
Beaumont Basin Watermaster	Dan Jaggars	Present
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	Daniel Slawson Dan Jaggars	Present
Cabazon Water District	Taffy Brock	Present
City of Calimesa		Absent
High Valleys Water District	Stan Houghton	Present
Mission Springs Water District	Amber Duff	Present
Morongo Band of Mission Indians		Absent
Riverside County EDA / Flood Control	Julianna Adams	Present
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Kevin Walton Emmett Campbell Ron Duncan	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 5:00 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 May 22, 2024
The Consent Calendar was approved by the following vote:

MOVED: Slawson	SECONDED: Houghton
CONSENT CALENDAR APPROVED	VOTE 9-0-4
City of Banning	YES
City of Beaumont	YES
Banning Heights Mutual Water Company	Absent
Beaumont Basin Watermaster	No vote
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	YES
Cabazon Water District	YES
City of Calimesa	Absent
High Valleys Water District	YES
Mission Springs Water District	YES
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	Absent
Riverside County EDA / Flood Control	YES
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	YES
South Mesa Water Company	Absent
Yucaipa Valley Water District	YES

4. Presentations / Discussion Items

- A. Beaumont Basin Watermaster Report

BBWM representative Dan Jagers reported:

- The July Watermaster meeting was short as most agenda items were tabled
- There is talk about continuing to advance the management of the basin

- B. San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Water Portfolio Strategic Program

Senior Water Resources Planner Emmett Campbell presented information on the long-term water supply reliability outlook for the region over a 50-year planning horizon:

- Taking advantage of wet years (higher highs, lower lows) to prepare for dry years (drought resiliency)
- Assumes actions by SGPWA and retailers / regional collaboration
- Potential acquisition of future supplies; leveraging existing portfolio; maximizing value

- Local banking, conservation efforts, effective use of recycled water, collaborative projects
- Activities:
 - Urban Water Management Plans
 - Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessments
 - Attainment of required Urban Water Use Objectives
 - New regulatory structures
 - Groundwater recharge
 - Local and State water supply initiatives
- Active engagement with the State due to regulatory impacts
- Conditions of the State Water Project
 - Hydrologic variability (climate change effects)
 - Aging infrastructure
 - Regulatory uncertainty
- Water Asset Portfolio: Long term and short-term actions to augment including water purchases and leases / transfers
- The SGPWA water asset portfolio is flexible and open to opportunities
- External banking is needed
- Leverage the wet years for use in dry years and proactively prepare for an unpredictable future
- Supply and banking opportunities have been identified, and options evaluated
- Actively working on Sites Reservoir and Delta Conveyance Project
- Conjunctive use works
- Maximize value of joint-use facilities and assure resources are coordinated
- Watermaster and groundwater management agencies working toward the future and alignment of plans
- SGPWA water supply is robust and can meet demands, but more sources will be needed in the future
- Water supply certainty includes protecting what we have and assuring the region is properly represented to the State
- Engaged in generational projects with large impact
- Collaboration to assure the long-term and eliminate duplication of effort

Chair Slawson asked about the amendment to the water contract that allowed transfers. Mr. Campbell confirmed this was a recent action. In prior years, exchanges were used but resulted in water debt. He pointed to the 20-year Ventura lease deal.

Member Armstrong asked about the SWP allocation this year and trends. Mr. Campbell said this year it is 40 percent, but last year was the first 100 percent year and the State had plentiful water. This year's allocation would have been 65 percent, but there were fish near the pumps and DWR was unable to export 1 million acre-feet. It is anticipated there will be 900,000 af carryover to next year.

C. Artificial Intelligence demonstration

Member Jagers recalled prior discussion and comments and shared a report produced by the County of Riverside. He said he expected AI would continue to add opportunity for districts and cities and demonstrated use of AI to transcribe a meeting, create and organize v-cards, write a letter, and analyze information and produce a social media post and a PowerPoint.

Jaggers mused about future use of AI and robotics. The District is cautious about deploying the technology, he noted. Making sure it fits a district's business model in an efficient manner is important, he added. BCVWD is exploring the opportunities now to ensure proper staffing levels and high efficiency.

Jaggers pointed out that a district's data can be isolated to assure it is not absorbed into an AI database.

Jaggers responded to member questions. He noted that it is not to a point where AI can be trusted and must be reviewed and fact checked.

Chair Slawson asked about Chat GPT versions and cost. BCVWD Director of Information Technology Robert Rasha recommended the paid version (\$25 per user per month) of Chat GPT for feeding data and assuring the system is not "learning" on the data.

Members discussed and shared their uses of the technology and provided suggestions, including letter composition, technical analysis, and streamlining / focusing presentations of staff reports.

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

A. City of Beaumont – Mayor David Fenn invited all to the State of the City address.

Mr. Van Belle added:

- The Mesa force main should be wrapped up by mid-August with addition of a second line for additional capacity
- Out to bid for improvements to the regional lift station

B. Banning Heights Mutual Water Company – Absent

C. City of Banning – No report

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

- Construction is beginning on a 24-inch water line and materials are 30 weeks to delivery

E. Cabazon Water District – No report

F. City of Calimesa – Absent

G. High Valleys Water District – Stan Houghton reported:

- Went out to bid for the 8-inch line being funded by grants

H. Mission Springs Water District – Amber Duff reported:

- The opening of the reclamation facility was delayed to early September due to an issue with the conveyance line and Southern California Edison. Invitations to the ribbon cutting will be sent
- Dealing with some air quality issues in the Coachella Valley due to impacts of Tropical Storm Hilary and construction of some large warehouses

I. Morongo Band of Mission Indians – Absent

J. Riverside County EDA / Flood Control District – No report

K. San Geronio Pass Water Agency – No report

L. South Mesa Water Company – Absent

M. Yucaipa Valley Water District – Joyce McIntire reported:

- YVWD will be recognized by Water Reuse California as a medium recycled water agency of the year

7. Suggested Presentations and Topics for Future Meetings

- Briefing on San Geronio Pass Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- Update and Discussion Regarding Funding for the Sites Reservoir Project
- Discussion Regarding Funding for the Delta Conveyance Project
- Discussion Regarding Funding for the Regional Cabazon/Banning Backbone Project
- PFAS
- Lead and Copper Rule
- City of Banning Chromium 6 compliance study
- Artificial intelligence demonstration

8. Future Meeting Dates

- September 25, 2024
- January 22, 2025

9. Adjournment

Chairman Daniel Slawson adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.