

**Record of the Minutes of the  
Beaumont Basin Committee Meeting of the  
Beaumont Basin Watermaster  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, February 7, 2018**

**Meeting Location:**

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
560 Magnolia Avenue  
Beaumont, CA 92223

**I. Call to Order**

*Chairman Arturo Vela called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.*

**II. Roll Call**

<i>City of Banning</i>	<i>Arturo Vela</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>City of Beaumont</i>	<i>Kyle Warsinski</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District</i>	<i>Tony Lara</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>South Mesa Water Company</i>	<i>George Jorritsma</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Yucaipa Valley Water District</i>	<i>Joseph Zoba</i>	<i>Present</i>

*Thierry Montoya was present representing legal counsel for the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.*

*Hannibal Blandon and Tom Harder were present as consultants and engineers of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster.*

*Members of the public who registered or attended were: William Clayton, David Fenn, Fran Flanders, Dan Jaggars, Mike Kostelecky, John Covington, Ashley Gibson, Libi Uremovic, and Tom Shalhoub.*

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

*Chairman Vela led the pledge of allegiance.*

**IV. Public Comments**

*Ms. Libi Uremovic asked the three water district managers to state on the record how much imported water they depend on. Chairman Vela noted this information is in the annual report which is on the website.*

**V. Consent Calendar**

*It was moved by Member Lara and seconded by Member Warsinski to approve the Meeting Minutes of the following dates:*

1. Meeting Minutes for August 2, 2017

2. Meeting Minutes for August 30, 2017
3. Meeting Minutes for October 4, 2017
4. Meeting Minutes for December 6, 2017
5. Meeting Minutes for January 10, 2018

AYES: Jorritsma, Lara, Vela, Warsinski, Zoba  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
STATUS: Motion Approved

## **VI. Reports**

- A. Report from Engineering Consultant - Hannibal Blandon, ALDA Engineering

*No report.*

- B. Report from Legal Counsel - Thierry Montoya, Alvarado Smith

*Legal Counsel Thierry Montoya advised that a March 19 hearing is pending in the Riverside County Superior Court for approval of appointment of all members and alternates.*

## **VII. Discussion Items**

- A. Status Report on Water Level Monitoring throughout the Beaumont Basin through January 24, 2018

Recommendation: No recommendation.

*Engineer Hannibal Blandon reported on monitoring of existing wells in January. There are some candidate wells in the central western portion of the basin. He is talking to the owners for potential use of the wells in the monitoring program.*

*Mr. Blandon noted that probes are now working in wells Yucaipa 34 and Oak Valley 5 and gave an overview of water level changes. He said that the City of Banning Well M-A is no longer viable as a monitoring well; the level has declined about 20 ft. in the last two years. Water levels at Beaumont-Cherry Valley wells 2 and 25 are parallel. City of Banning Well 8 is no longer viable for monitoring; it may have collapsed and a sounding probe was unrecoverable.*

*The loss at Well 8 resulted in a need to replace equipment- a new sounding probe will be requested, along with a 400-ft cable.*

*Chairman Vela asked about corrupt data. Mr. Blandon pointed out gaps in Sun Lakes graphs over the last two months.*

B. Presentation of the Draft 2017 Consolidated Annual Report and Engineering Report

Recommendation: No recommendation.

*Engineer Hannibal Blandon drew attention to the document for member review and comment. It must be finalized at the March meeting; he reminded members the meeting date was changed to accommodate the April 1 deadline.*

*Mr. Blandon reviewed two resolutions passed in 2017.*

*Mr. Blandon noted the 100 year average precipitation from 1918 to 2017 was 17.16 inches annually. He pointed out changes in tracking of different types of water rights as part of the adjudication. Production rights of appropriators are now based on transfers of underproduction from overlying parties or other appropriators, purchase of water, and maintenance of a storage account in the Basin.*

*In 2017, production was 13,462 Acre-Feet (AF), slightly higher than the 5-year average. The highest production recorded was in 2007 at 16,505 AF. Water production has been inching up toward that number each of the last three years. The operating safe yield was revised in 2013 to 6,700 AF.*

*To create the report, production information is requested from the overlying users, and there is an issue with the Plantation by the Lake. Previous reports must be revised, as there is a significant discrepancy with how the data has been reported for the last few years.*

*Mr. Blandon discussed the transfer of overlying rights from Oak Valley Partners to Yucaipa Valley Water District under an agreement that YVWD will provide water to the development.*

*Member Warsinski expressed concern about the data as reported. He suggested a smaller time span sample of Cumulative Departure from the Mean Precipitation than the 100-year data in the chart. Mr. Blandon will add a smaller data set with the final version.*

*Mr. Tom Harder addressed the preliminary 2017 Operating Safe Yield Estimates, indicating 2,289 AF of operating safe yield, which is significantly lower than it has been in the past. The average from 2012-2017 is about 6,000 AF per year, so it is running a bit below the long-term safe yield. There is not a lot of change in storage from precipitation. He shared the 2016-17 changes in groundwater elevation noting increases in water levels around the Noble Creek recharge facility and downward trends at Tukwet Canyon and Beaumont Well 29.*

*Mr. Blandon said area water quality meets state and federal standards with the exception of one well which once exceeded the notification limit for Vanadium.*

*Member Zoba asked about the potential of developing a water recharge policy now that the model is in place and calibrated. Mr. Blandon explained more information on discharge would be needed. Mr. Harder added that more investigation is needed, and recommend putting in some monitoring wells.*

*It was suggested to attach the slides as appendices to the report and include graphs of safe yield.*

C. Discussion Regarding Task Order No. 15 with ALDA Inc. for the Preparation of the 2017 Consolidated Annual Report, Estimate of the Basin Safe Yield, Update of the Groundwater Model, and Associated Consulting Services for 2018

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee approves Task Order No. 15 for a sum not to exceed \$95,970 and invoice the Watermaster members accordingly.

*Mr. Blandon indicated this is a new Task Order and explained the work. The contract cost is the same as last year.*

*Member Zoba moved to approve Task Order No. 15 for a sum not to exceed \$95,970 and invoice the Watermaster members accordingly. The motion was seconded by Member Lara.*

AYES:	Jorritsma, Lara, Vela, Warsinski, Zoba
NOES:	None.
ABSTAIN:	None.
ABSENT:	None.
STATUS:	Motion Approved

D. Discussion Regarding Task Order No. 16 with ALDA Inc. for the Installation, Maintenance, and Data Collection of Water Level Monitoring Equipment in 2018

Recommendation: That the Watermaster Committee approves Task Order No. 16 for a sum not to exceed \$21,520 and invoice the Watermaster members accordingly.

*Mr. Blandon indicated this is a renewal for 2018 and explained the work. The cost is the same as last year.*

*Member Zoba moved to approve Task Order No. 16 for a sum not to exceed \$21,520 and invoice the Watermaster members accordingly. The motion was seconded by Member Warsinski.*

AYES:	Jorritsma, Lara, Vela, Warsinski, Zoba
NOES:	None.
ABSTAIN:	None.
ABSENT:	None.
STATUS:	Motion Approved

E. Presentation of Preliminary Recharge and Recovery Scenarios for Analysis to Estimate Storage Losses in the Beaumont Basin – Project Progress Update

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Engineer Harder explained the project and said 89 scenarios were evaluated. Historical losses were assessed. He explained the model and said that on the east side of the basin, about 20 percent of the water put in is lost. Based on numbers in the Urban Water Management Plan and information from Jeff Davis, if the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency began recharge in the Noble

Creek area in 2019, it would result in an additional 17 percent increase in loss. He noted that strategic pumping could decrease the losses.

Discussion ensued regarding projected water losses. Mr. Harder suggested the next step would be to form a policy.

### **Closed Session**

*Public Comment: Mr. David Fenn, President of the Board of Directors of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency introduced himself and spoke on item F and the related Closed Session item 11. He thanked the Committee for sending a copy the proposed Resolution 2018-01 in advance. The SGPWA Board has reviewed it with its counsel and has some requested changes, which are in line with agency law, and support the SGPWA goals and objectives. He noted the changes have been explained to the Watermaster attorney, and, as a settlement offer, requested the Committee accept and approve the suggested changes. He thanked the Committee for their consideration in resolving the matter to put an end to the litigation.*

Adjourn to Closed Session: 11:29 a.m.

Watermaster Committee members and alternates: Arturo Vela, Kyle Warsinski, Tony Lara, George Jorritsma, Joseph Zoba and Jennifer Ares were present in closed session with Legal Counsel Thierry Montoya to discuss the following item:

- A. Closed Session-Conference with Legal Counsel—Existing Litigation, Government Code section 54956.9:
  - i. Case: *San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency v. Beaumont Basin Watermaster, et al.*, Riverside Superior Court Case No. RIC 1716346.

Reconvene to Open Session: 12:19 p.m.

*Counsel Thierry Montoya reported on the closed session and introduced Item F, consideration of Resolution 2018-01, below.*

- F. Consideration of Resolution 2018-01 Rescinding Resolution 2017-01 and Approving the Groundwater Storage Agreement in the Beaumont Basin for the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency in the Amount of 10,000 Acre Feet (as amended)

*Counsel Thierry Montoya reported that in an effort to resolve the ongoing litigation, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency v. Beaumont Basin Watermaster, et al., Riverside Superior Court Case No. RIC 1716346 there has been ongoing dialog with SGPWA counsel and a resolution has been discussed, including suggested language from SGPWA's counsel. The Board has agreed to accept the changes, except for the requested change in the last paragraph to bring in Section 8 of the Rules and Regulations. The actual title of the Rules and Regulations is more broad, and the actual language should be reflected. He read the following title and the Resolution in entirety (as amended) into the record:*

*A Resolution of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster to Confirm and Adopt San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency's (SGPWA) Application for Groundwater Storage Agreement, Subject to Stated Conditions.*

*Member Warsinski moved to adopt Resolution 2018-01 as amended. The motion was seconded by Member Zoba.*

AYES:	Jorritsma, Lara, Vela, Warsinski, Zoba
NOES:	None.
ABSTAIN:	None.
ABSENT:	None.
STATUS:	Motion Approved

### **VIII. Topics for Future Meetings**

*Member Lara noted the earlier discussion about a methodology of the water loss issue and encouraged continuing to move forward; and suggested a policy on the allocation of return flow to appropriators or agency as part of the safe yield calculation.*

- A. Development of a methodology and policy to account for new yield from capturing local storm water in the basin.
- B. Development of a methodology and policy to account for groundwater storage losses in the basin resulting from the spreading of additional water sources.
- C. Development of a methodology and policy to account for recycled water recharge.
- D. Develop a protocol to increase the accuracy and consistency of data reported to the Watermaster.
- E. Develop a policy to account for transfers of water that may result when an Appropriator provides water service to an Overlying Party.

### **IX. Comments from the Watermaster Committee Members**

*There were no comments.*

### **X. Announcements**

- A. The next regular meeting of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

### **XI. Adjournment**

*Chairman Vela adjourned the meeting at 12:31 p.m.*

Attest:



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Tony Lara, Secretary  
Beaumont Basin Watermaster