

MINUTES

RAYMOND BASIN MANAGEMENT BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT AND PARTIES REPRESENTED

Jennifer Betancourt Torres	Lincoln Avenue Water Company La Canada Irrigation District Las Flores Water Company Pasadena Cemetery Association Valley Water Company
Chris Burt	Kinneloa Irrigation District Huntington Library and Art Gallery
John Corona (A)	City of Arcadia
Jim Prior	San Gabriel County Water District
Stacie Takeguchi	City of Pasadena
Jessica Taylor	California American Water Company
Ken Tchong	Sunny Slope Water Company
Lisa Yamashita-Lopez*	Rubio Cañon Land and Water Association

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Paul Cranmer	City of Arcadia
Martin Ray	City of Alhambra
Jose Reynoso	City of Sierra Madre

OTHERS PRESENT

Lawrence Duncan	Lincoln Avenue Water Company
Bob Fan	Valley Water Company
Fred Hicks	Hicks-Richardson Associates (<i>via Zoom consultant presentation</i>)

STAFF PRESENT

Lupe Artis	Raymond Basin Management Board
Kelly Gardner	Raymond Basin Management Board
Steve Johnson	Stetson Engineers
Ana Mata	Raymond Basin Management Board
Jenny Savron	Stetson Engineers

*Director Remote Participation Pursuant to Assembly Bill 2449: Director Lisa Yamashita-Lopez, Chair, attended the meeting virtually due to just cause.

Director Takeguchi arrived later in the meeting.

1. PRELIMINARY ITEMS

A regular meeting of the Raymond Basin Management Board (RBMB) was duly and regularly held in the Conference Room of the Raymond Basin Management Board Office, at 725 North Azusa Avenue, in the City of Azusa,

County of Los Angeles, State of California, 91702, and via Zoom Meeting on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at the hour of 2:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Director Yamashita-Lopez, Chair. It was determined that a quorum was present and no additions to the agenda or public comments were offered.

On motion made by Director Ken Tcheng, seconded by Director Chris Burt, Secretary, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the January 17, 2024, meeting were approved.

2. REPORT FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Mr. Fred Hicks, Hicks-Richardson Associates, RBMB Lobbyist, provided a presentation on federal legislative matters.

3. TREASURERS REPORT

On behalf of the Treasurer, Mr. John Corona reported that, as of March 31, 2024, the RBMB has collected \$918,700 in Assessments and \$400 in Long-Term Storage. All Assessments and Long-Term Storage Program Revenue has been collected for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24. He added that, as of March 31, 2024, the RBMB has spent \$1,101,000 (which includes Monk Hill Subarea In-Lieu Program, Title 22, and Salvage Credit Reimbursable Expenditures), and currently has a balance of \$47,000 in Receivables and \$3,776,000 in available cash. Reserved Funds available for groundwater recharge projects are \$2,655,000.

Director Yamashita-Lopez, Chair, asked for any questions, and with none offered, ordered the financial statement for quarter ending March 31, 2024 received and filed.

4. FINANCE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT AND APPROPRIATE ACTION

Director Yamashita-Lopez, Chair, reported that the Finance and Executive Committees met jointly on March 21, 2024, and reviewed the RBMB's 2024-25 Budget and Assessment proposal; and is now recommending this budget to the full Board for approval. She reported that the proposed budget for FY 2024-25 was included in each Board Member's packet along with a spreadsheet showing the apportionment of the tentative budget among the Basin Parties.

Director Yamashita-Lopez, Chair, reported that the Committee also discussed the upcoming 2023-24 financial audit. RBMB staff has received a bid for auditing services from Egan & Egan, and following a discussion, the Committee agreed to present their recommendation to the Board to continue audit work with Egan & Egan.

The Executive Officer, Mrs. Kelly Gardner, referred to the staff report included in the Board packet, went through the budget, provided an understanding of each item and answered any questions.

Mrs. Gardner stated that the Committee recommends an increase in the assessment from \$30.00 per acre-foot to \$35.00 per acre-foot.

Item i: On motion made by Director Burt, Secretary, seconded by Director Jim Prior, and unanimously carried, the 2024-25 Proposed Tentative General Budget was approved.

Item ii: On motion made by Director Burt, Secretary, seconded by Director Prior, and unanimously carried, the 2024-25 Apportionment of Budget Among Parties was approved.

Item iii: On motion made by Director Tcheng, seconded by Director Jennifer Betancourt Torres, and unanimously carried, the Board approved renewing financial auditing services with Egan & Egan and authorizing them to prepare the 2023-24 Financial Audit.

Item iv: Director Tcheng, Nominating Committee Chair, reported that an action of Board Officers was also held and recommended the following slate of officers for FYs 2024-26:

Chair:	Jose Reynoso
Vice Chair:	Chris Burt
Secretary:	Paul Cranmer
Treasurer:	Stacie Takeguchi
Member At Large:	Lisa Yamashita-Lopez

Director Yamashita-Lopez, Chair, asked if there were any other nominations, and there being none, on motion made by Director Burt, Secretary, seconded by Director Prior, and unanimously carried, the slate of officers was adopted for FY 2024-26.

Director Takeguchi joined the meeting.

5. PUMPING AND STORAGE AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT AND APPROPRIATE ACTION

Mrs. Gardner reported that the Pumping and Storage Committee met jointly with the Technical Advisory Committee on March 5, 2024 and April 2, 2024, and referenced the staff reports included in the Board packet, stating that the discussion included the status of the Raymond Basin Model, Monk Hill Short-Term Storage Concept and Santa Anita Subarea 500' Rule.

Mr. Johnson referenced the presentation included in the Board packet and provided an overview of three suggested successive model simulations addressing potential dry climate impacts, enhancing groundwater storage, and the significance of the Eaton Wash Fault.

On motion made by Director Burt, Secretary, seconded by Director Stacie Takeguchi, and unanimously carried, that the three successive model simulations were approved.

6. RUBIO CAÑÓN LAND AND WATER ASSOCIATION'S MONK HILL PUMPING REDUCTION PLAN EXEMPTION QUARTERLY UPDATE

Mrs. Gardner referred to Director Yamashita-Lopez', Chair, written report included in the Board packet.

On motion made by Director Burt, Secretary, seconded by Director Prior, and unanimously carried, Rubio Cañon Land and Water Association's Monk Hill Pumping Reduction Plan Exemption Quarterly Update, was received and filed.

7. EVALUATION OF SANTA ANITA SUBAREA GROUNDWATER PUMPING "500-FOOT RULE"

Mr. Steve Johnson, Stetson Engineers, reported that this is an annual review of the groundwater levels within the East Raymond Basin - Santa Anita Subarea, that influences water production. He then referred to the staff report included in the Board packet and provided an overview on groundwater pumping and levels.

Mr. Johnson stated that it is staff's recommendation to continue supporting the cities of Arcadia and Sierra Madre in their efforts to manage groundwater levels in the Santa Anita Subarea, and groundwater pumping continue to be reduced, consistent with the Judgment.

On motion made by Director Prior, seconded by Director Tcheng, and unanimously carried, the Santa Anita Subarea Groundwater Pumping "500-Foot Rule," was received and filed.

8. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF LONG-TERM STORAGE POLICY ITEMS

Mrs. Gardner stated that this item is routine in nature and that the policy requires that it be heard at this meeting, each year. She stated that each item should be voted on independently, and that there are no changes recommended from last year.

Item A: The Executive Officer stated that it is recommended that the Board of Directors receive and file the Monk Hill Party pumping schedules pursuant to the established Long-Term Storage Accounts.

On motion made by Director Burt, seconded by Director Betancourt Torres, and unanimously carried, Item A was approved.

Item B: The Executive Officer stated that the recommendation is to approve the Determination of Administrative Charge per acre-foot for 2024-25 as \$1.50/AF.

On motion made by Director Burt, Secretary, seconded by Director Betancourt Torres, and unanimously carried, Item B was approved.

Item C: The Executive Officer requested approval for the determination of percentage loss of stored water applicable to 2024-25 and be set at 1%.

On motion made by Director Burt, Secretary, seconded by Director Betancourt Torres, and unanimously carried, Item C was approved.

9. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Johnson referred to the written Engineers Report included in the Board packet, highlighting hydrologic conditions and information by subarea on rainfall, groundwater levels, production records and spreading.

10. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mrs. Gardner referred to the report on outside activities included in the Board packet.

She thanked the City of Pasadena for including the RBMB staff in the dedication of the new Wadsworth Treatment Facility, designed to enhance the reliability, safety and quality of local water supply.

Mrs. Gardner reported on the Water Resources Development Act of 2024, stating that a draft letter will be provided to the RBMB for their review and approval.

She provided a brief update on the Strategic Planning Meeting process, stating that the Consultant is completing the interviews.

Lastly, Mrs. Gardner reported that the Pumping and Storage Committee scheduled for May 7, 2024 conflicts with the Association of California Water Agencies Conference; therefore, it will be rescheduled to a later date jointly with the Technical Advisory Committee. RBMB staff was directed to provide options of availability for consideration.

Director Tchong left the meeting.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

Director Yamashita-Lopez, Chair, referred to the items included in the Board packet.

On motion made by Director Burt, Secretary, seconded by Director Jessica Taylor, and unanimously carried, the information items were noted, and received and filed.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, a motion was made by Director Prior, seconded by Director Tchong, and unanimously carried, adjourning to the next Regular Board meeting on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 2:30 p.m.

Lisa Yamashita-Lopez, Chair

Attest:

Chris Burt, Secretary