

# UPPER SANTA ANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 920, Rialto, CA 92377-0920

San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
1630 W. Redlands Blvd., Suite A  
Redlands, CA 92373

## AGENDA

Thursday, June 12, 2014

9:30 a.m.

1. **Introductions**
2. **Approval of Minutes** – February 13, 2014, March 13, 2014 & April 10, 2014
3. **Presentation** – Drought and Basin Management Recommendations Daniel Cozad
4. **Update on San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Activities**
5. **Legislative Update** Manuel Aranda
6. **Other**
7. **Committee Reports & Schedules**
  - Habitat Conservation Plan Committee Stacey Aldstadt
  - Recharge Committee Daniel Cozad
  - Basin Technical Advisory Committee Thomas Crowley
  - Seven Oaks Dam Water Quality Committee Daniel Cozad
  - Santa Ana Sucker Task Force
8. **Additional Items/Comments/Suggestions for Next Meeting**
9. **Next Meeting** – July 10, 2014
10. **Adjourn**

Anthony W. "Butch" Araiza, President  
West Valley Water District  
855 W. Base Line  
Rialto, CA 92376  
Phone (909) 875-1804 ext. 703, Fax (909) 875-7284

Please contact Shanae Smith at (909) 875-1804 ext. 704 or by e-mail at [ssmith@wvwd.org](mailto:ssmith@wvwd.org) by the last Thursday of each month to request that items be placed on the agenda.

# UPPER SANTA ANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION MINUTES

February 13, 2014

## PRESENT:

Anthony Araiza, West Valley Water District  
Manny Aranda, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
Don Lee, TetraTech  
Sarah Benoit, District Representative for Gary Miller, 31<sup>st</sup> District  
David Garcia, City of Riverside  
Steve Copelan, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District  
Melody McDonald, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
Ben C. Coleman, East Valley Water District  
Stephanie Stafford, Rialto Water Service  
David E. Raley, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
John Mura, East Valley Water District  
Gil Navarro, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District  
Josh Swift, Fontana Union Water Company  
George Aguilar, City of Colton  
Cecilia Griego, City of Redlands  
David Matza, District Representative for Mike Morrell, 40<sup>th</sup> District  
Charles Roberts, Highland News  
Mark Bulot, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District  
Shanae Smith, West Valley Water District

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. **Introductions were made.**
2. **Election of officers:** Anthony Araiza announced the election of officers. After discussion, the following slate of candidates were elected:
  - M/S/C (Mura – McDonald) Anthony Araiza to continue as Chairman of the Association.
  - M/S/C (Araiza– Garcia) Douglas Headreck to continue as Treasurer.
  - M/S/C (Navarro-Araiza) to nominate Manny Aranda as Vice Chairman.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – M/S/C (Aranda-Kilgore) to approve the minutes of March 14, 2013, May 16, 2013, June 13, 2013, July 11, 2013, August 8, 2013, September 12, 2013, October 10, 2013, November 14, 2013, December 12, 2013.

**4. Update on San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Activities** – Mark Bulot reported on the following SBVMWD activities:

- Preliminary design for the City of San Bernardino park. Lots are being consolidated, as well as other details to break ground.
- Construction ongoing for a reservoir for the East Branch Extension Phase II.
- Studying permanent solution for the crossing at City Creek.
- More aggressive approach for water conservation. Gil Navarro reported that a recommendation would be made to the SBVMWD Board to adopt a resolution to implement a 20% cut back on water consumption. The focus would be on converting large lawns with water conserving plants within school districts.
- CV Strategies had been hired to assist with promoting water conservation on a regional level.
- John Mura reported that East Valley Water District (EVWD) would be moving to its new headquarters, which has a demonstration garden with several different drought tolerant plants and require little water. Mr. Mura also thanked SBVMWD for setting the precedent for inline generation.

**5. Legislative Update** – Manny Amanda reported on the following legislature:

- Senate Bill 848, \$6 billion, zero allocation for San Bernardino area.
- Senate Bill 1331, \$11 billion
- ACWA Water bond; \$8 billion, zero allocation for San Bernardino area.

Sarah Benoit announced that Congressman Gary Miller had decided not to run for re-election, however, he has remained committed through the end of term.

**6. Other** – None

**7. Committee Reports & Schedules:**

- **Habitat Conservation Plan Committee** – Mr. Bulot reported the Committee is working with the consultant on the HCP.
- **Recharge Committee** – No report.
- **Basin Technical Advisory Committee** – No report.
- **Seven Oaks Dam Water Quality Committee** – No report

- **Santa Ana Sucker Task Force** – Mr. Bulot reported that the Santa Ana Sucker litigation is at the Ninth Circuit Court. The Task Force has petitioned the court to make a rational decision and plan to appeal, should they lose.

**8. Additional Items/Comments, Suggestions for Next Meeting –**

- Gil Navarro announced that he had been appointed to the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Education Committee. Mr. Navarro stated that CSDA would provide a draft press release for workshop attendees.
- Mr. Mura announced EVWD's fact finding mission for the sewer treatment business. EVWD is looking into a sewer treatment plant that would potentially provide 6 million gallons per day as a source for recharge. Mr. Mura would be making a presentation to the Association for their input at a future meeting. Mr. Mura also invited members of the Association to attend the Open House Celebration and tour of their new headquarters on Saturday, March 15, 2014, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. located at 31111 Greenspot Road, in Highland.

**9. Next Meeting** – The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2014, at 9:30 a.m. at the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District.

**10. Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

# UPPER SANTA ANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION MINUTES

March 13, 2014

## PRESENT:

Manny Aranda, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
Don Lee, TetraTech  
Gil Navarro, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District  
Melody McDonald, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
Kip Sturgeon, East Valley Water District  
Stephanie Stafford, Rialto Water Service  
T. Jarb Thaipejr, City of Loma Linda  
Mark Bulot, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District  
Douglas Headrick, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District  
Jack Nelson, Yucaipa Valley Water District  
David Garcia, City of Riverside  
Mark Bulot, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District  
Shanae Smith, West Valley Water District

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. **Introductions were made.** – Manny Aranda chaired the meeting in Chairman Anthony Araiza's absence. Mr. Aranda announced Gil Navarro's filing to run against Assemblymember Cheryl Brown to represent the 47<sup>th</sup> District.
2. **Approval of Minutes** - Minutes for the February 13, 2014 meeting were tabled to the April 10, 2014 meeting due to the lack of a quorum.
3. **Update on San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (Valley District) Activities** – Douglas Headrick reported on the following Valley District activities:
  - Time spent on drought planning. Meeting with Bear Valley Mutual Water Company (Bear Valley) and irrigators regarding the In-Lieu agreement for delivery of water to Bear Valley customers. It would be a challenge to meet the requirements of the agreement due to the State Water Project (SWP) water allocation being set at zero. Staff is working on a new in-lieu strategy and bringing systems on line to meet demand.
  - Santa Ana River is flowing between 26 – 28 cfs. Account is lower than it has ever been.
  - SBVMWD Board would consider approval for the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for full scale contract.

- Working with grant consultants on three grant applications: 1) Fish Habitat Restoration Project; 2) Development on series of tools for agencies to use for rate structures; and 3) Regional Conjunctive Use Program to tie in this basin's programs with others to use ours and Metropolitan Water District's (MET) regional structure. Drought legislation may help to fast tracks some funds. We must ensure that the funds are utilized for the right purpose.
- Gil Navarro reported on his promotion of water conservation measures within the community. Mr. Navarro stated he has been meeting with the Chief of Staff from Assemblymember Mike Morrel's office regarding his concerns on water conservation and providing possible assistance to Morrel's office for possible legislation in that area.

**4. Legislative Update** – Manny Amanda reported on the following legislature:

- AB 935 would increase minimum wage from \$11.00 to \$12.00, and one dollar annually thereafter to maintain employee purchasing power, utilizing the Consumer Price Index (CPI).
- AB 420 would authorize cities or counties to adopt and enforce well stimulation treatments and to increase petroleum and reduce prices.
- Constituents would vote on the 2014 Water Bond in November.
- California's Water Action Plan.
- Environmental groups lack of support for water related issues.
- Gil Navarro stressed the importance of state legislators attending Association meetings to discuss important water issues. Aggressive efforts should be made to invite local legislators to the meetings. Highland News writes several articles and press releases that should be sent to local state legislators. Mr. Aranda nominated himself and Mr. Navarro to lead the effort.

**5. Other** – Mr. Headrick reported on the Regional Conservation Program. CV Strategies is working on a cost proposal that would be submitted and share by multiple agencies. Mr. Headrick stated this is the time to strike with regard to the drought. The BTAC Water Conservation Sub-committee is the lead on the drought messaging effort. The goal is to add flash to water conservation messaging to reinvigorate a "cautioned panic" message. Valley District may be providing incentives in the future that would be available on the [usavewater.com](http://usavewater.com) website. T. Jarb Thaipejr, City Manager for the City of Loma Linda reported the City office is replacing its grass with turf and that current City residents have complained they would like green grass for the parkway instead. The City has also identified grass replacement with hardscape in next year's budget. Mr. Navarro announced that a brochure for drought tolerant plants is available on Valley District's website.

## 6. **Committee Reports & Schedules**

- **Habitat Conservation Plan Committee** – This item was reported on earlier in the meeting.
- **Recharge Committee** – Jeff Beehler reported on the Daily Flow Report and the recent rainfall. Most of the water is sinking into the channels and the storm seemed to have reinforced the severity of the drought. Mr. Beehler also reported that Wash Plan consultants are making data available for the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and that all covered species activities on the Wash Plan footprint is currently in database format and available for review by the Fish & Wildlife Service. An economic analysis for aggregate had also been recently completed. The community is very supportive of the process.
- **Basin Technical Advisory Committee** – No report.
- **Seven Oaks Dam Water Quality Committee** – No report.
- **Santa Ana Sucker Task Force** – Mr. Headrick reported that Valley District recently submitted a brief to the Ninth Circuit Court regarding the Santa Ana Sucker.

7. **Additional Items/Comments, Suggestions for Next Meeting** – Kip Sturgeon invited Association members to attend the Open House for the new East Valley Water District headquarters, scheduled for Saturday, March 15, 2014.

8. **Next Meeting** – The next meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2014, at 9:30 a.m. at the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District.

9. **Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

# UPPER SANTA ANA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION MINUTES

April 10, 2014

PRESENT:

Manny Aranda, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
Athena Monge, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
Melody McDonald, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
Daniel Cozad, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District  
Jack Nelson, Yucaipa Valley Water District  
David Armstrong, South Mesa Water Company  
Kip Sturgeon, East Valley Water District  
Steve Copelan, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District  
Ed Kilgore, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District  
Charles Roberts, Highland Community News  
Don Lee, Tetrattech  
David Garcia, City of Riverside

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 A.M.

1. **Introductions were made.**
2. **Approvals of Minutes** – Minutes from February 13, 2014 and March 13, 2014 were tabled to the June 12, 2014 meeting due to the lack of a quorum.
3. **Update on San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (Valley District) Activities** – Ed Kilgore reported on the following Valley District activities:
  - Thanked everyone in the watershed for their support during the water crisis.
  - E Street Park along 9<sup>th</sup> Street is progressing. The groundbreaking is scheduled to take place in four months.
  - Steve Copelan thanked Bear Valley Mutual Water Company and Mike Huffstutler for identifying wells in which Valley District assisted in making operational.
4. **Legislative Update** – Manny Aranda reviewed the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) recommendations and stressed the importance of outreach.
5. **Other** – None.
6. **Committee Reports & Schedules:**
  - **Habitat Conservation Plan Committee** – Daniel Cozad reported that the Upper Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is progressing well. The San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District (Conservation District), San Bernardino County Flood Control District (SBCFCD), along with six additional water

agencies and the Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) are working cooperatively to identify and develop a process that would keep the Santa Ana Sucker (SAS) in tact and thus allow for maximum recharge and spreading. A consultant has been contracted by Valley District to develop the HCP and to work collaboratively with its partner agencies. The consultant has reviewed the Covered Activities related to the Wash Plan and final costs for the HCP are being identified and would be brought back to individual partner agencies for approval. Mr. Cozad also stated that the scoping language for the HCP is complete and the actual study is ready for development. In addition, a Section 6 grant, in the amount of \$500,000 will be used for the HCP. Mr. Aranda inquired about the progress of the Wash Plan. Mr. Cozad referenced the countdown clock, which indicated five hundred and ninety eight days, fifteen hours remaining to obtain the HCP for the Wash Plan. The Conservation District met with FWS that morning to discuss the Covered Activities, including mining, transportation and trails for Redlands and Highland, water conservation expansion, enhanced recharge in cooperation with Valley District, the Conservation District's maintenance activities, and all maintenance activities including the SBCFCD. Adding these activities to the Wash Plan would give the entities involved, environmental clearance to accomplish their activities while preserving endangered species habitat. The project benefits will also create jobs and provide public of awareness.

- **Recharge Committee** – Mr. Cozad reported that recharge is still minimal and negatively impacting the basin. He distributed *ACWA's Recommendations for Achieving Groundwater Sustainability* handout. The intent in the legislature is to identify basins particularly in the Central Valley and assist in their management and sustainability. Of note, the Conservation District meets the preliminary criteria related to the Bunker Hill Basin, as a basin that legislature would like to assist in keeping sustainable. Mr. Cozad indicated that the Conservation District's Board of Directors will be discussing potential recommendations to make to the BTAC, the Advisory Commission on Water Policy and USAWRA on how to review and identify the optimum level of water management for the basin.
- **Basin Technical Advisory Committee** – Melody McDonald reported \$200 million in emergency funds had been released by the Governor, according to discussions at the BTAC meeting and questioned whether there is a way to fast track permitting. Mr. Kilgore indicated the funds are primarily for Central California and funding would not be received until Phase 3. Discussion ensued. Mrs. McDonald also reported the subcommittee, Project Implementation Group (PIG) has reviewed two new projects: the San Geronio Pass Agency Enhanced Recharge Project and the Riverside PUD. A consultant has been contracted to work on the outreach efforts. Mr. Cozad stated that Douglas Headrick of Valley District handed out a useful spreadsheet on how the water in the basin is being divided.
- **Seven Oaks Dam Water Quality Committee** – This item was discussed earlier in the meeting. Mr. Cozad reported that the United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) will release all water available behind the Seven Oaks Dam on April 15<sup>th</sup>. The Conservation District would like to capture all of the water possible. Forecasters have indicated that late fall to early winter there is a potential for El Nino. Mr. Aranda asked how much consistent rain would it take to get out of the drought? Mr. Cozad stated that when the Watermaster adjudicated the basin, the long term average is to be sixteen inches a year. If you take any year the basin did not average sixteen

inches in rainfall and add it to the next year, that would be the amount needed. Mr. Cozad indicated that the issue is how much water is recharged rather than how much it rains.

- **Santa Ana Sucker Task Force** – No report.
7. **Additional Items/Comments, Suggestions for Next Meeting** – Daniel Cozad announced the May 8<sup>th</sup> Association meeting had been cancelled due to member attendance at the 2014 ACWA Spring Conference. Mr. Cozad also requested an update from the BTAC Conservation Committee regarding the to the BTAC Public Outreach Program.
  8. **Next Meeting** – The next meeting is schedule for June 12, 2014, at 9:30 a.m., at the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District.
  9. **Adjourn** - The meeting adjourned at 10:14 A.M.