



# February Board Meeting Minutes

Greater Yuma Port Authority.

2/27/2025 8:30 AMMST

@ San Luis City Hall

## Attendance

### Present:

Members: Arturo Durazo, Russ Jones, Chris Morris, Matias Rosales, Javier Vargas

Guests: Daniel Bazua, Buna George, Gary Magrino, Mayor Nieves Riedel, Esteban Rosales, Jenny Torres

### Absent:

Members: Alejandro Figueroa

Guests: Tony Reyes

#### I. Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Chairman Matias Rosales

#### II. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited

#### III. Consent agenda

**The following items listed under the Consent Agenda will be considered as a group and acted upon by one motion with no separate discussion, unless a Board Member so requests. In that event, the item will be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and action**

#### **Motion:**

Motion to approve consent agenda as presented

Motion passes unanimously

#### A. Meeting minutes for 01/23/25

 [Meeting Min 1.23.25.pdf](#)

#### B. Financials, ending 01/31/2025

 [check register. ending 1.31.25.pdf](#)

 [Balance sheet ending 1.31.25.pdf](#)

 [24.25 Budget.GYPA.pdf](#)

#### IV. Discussion and possible actions:

#### A. New appointments to GYPA Board

Javier Vargas, City of San Luis

 [Vargas.pdf](#)

The Honorable Councilman Javier Vargas was welcomed by the GYPA Board. Councilman Vargas has taken the seat of the Honorable Mayor Riedel for the remainder of her term.

B. Addition of Somerton to GYPA board

Dialogue with Jazmine Zamudio, Somerton Economic Development Director.

 [15. 4th Amended and Restated Bylaws - signed 02.17.17 \(1\) \(1\).pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to consult with legal regarding the addition of Somerton to GYPA and revisit the balance owed by the City of Yuma

C. AWC Program Partnership

 [AWC.pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to support AWC and their logistical program measures and submit a letter of support

Motion passes unanimously

D. Addition of staff to GYPA organization

24/25 Budget has an allowance of \$30k.  
New office needs someone to staff, part time to start  
Mon - Thurs 9am -3pm

 [24.25 Budget.GYPA.pdf](#)

**Motion:**

Motion to bring this item back to the board with a detailed job description and a salary breakdown at a future date.

V. Executive Director's report

NASCO Members + Partners,

Please see the latest news from Washington today. **It seems the IEEPA 25% tariffs on Canada and Mexico will be delayed until April 2.** We will keep you apprised as we know more.

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**Trump Comments raise hopes for tariff delay for Canada and Mexico** (Reuters)

WASHINGTON, Feb 26 (Reuters) - U.S. President Donald Trump on Wednesday raised hopes for another pause on steep new tariffs on imports from Mexico and Canada by saying they would take effect on April 2, about a month later than a deadline next week. A White House official, however, said the March 4 deadline for the tariffs on Mexican and Canadian goods remained in effect "as of this moment,"

pending Trump's review of Mexican and Canadian actions to secure their borders and halt the flow of the opioid fentanyl and migrants into the U.S.

### **Trump Says Canada, Mexico Tariffs Go Into Effect April 2**

**By Bryan Pietsch**

(Bloomberg) -- "The tariffs go on, not all of them, but a lot of them," Trump says at the White House. Previous White House acts had March for imposing 25% tariffs on Canada, Mexico. President Trump says he will move forward with most of his tariff plans. Trump criticizes the flow of fentanyl that he says comes from China and flows through Canada and Mexico.

**Trump Says Canada, Mexico Tariffs Go Into Effect April 2** President Trump gave contradictory answers about his plans to enact tariffs on Canada and Mexico during a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday. He said the tariffs would be enacted on April 2, but it's not clear if he meant to give the countries more time or was referring to a separate program. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick also speaks. (Source: Bloomberg)

[Watch video here](#)

The executive director presented on the following subject matters and engaged in dialogue with the board.

Board Member Russ Jones inquired about the region's FTZs (Foreign Trade Zones) and where GYPA and GYEDC's roles intersect. The GYPA Executive director will follow up on the processes that are in place and provide a response to the board in a future meeting.

- A. Illumination lab data project update
- B. 2025/2026 cash call letters to entities

 [Cxl cash calls.pdf](#)

Cash call cancellation letters have been issued to member entities.

- C. USDA Updates

 [USDA letter to Paul 2.25.25.docx](#)

 [Greater Yuma Port Authority Mail - POE Action Items.pdf](#)

There has been communication with USDA and the Governor's office regarding the lack of a full time entomologist at San Luis II.

- D. USMCA updates and dialogue

 [USMCA Invitation 03.10.2025.pdf](#)

- E. Rio Colorado EDC partnership

<https://riocoloradoedc.com/>

- F. Stats and reports

 [The+Binational+Customs+Agency+VF-Copy.pdf](#)

 [Tariff Impact Analysis on State Employment \(Top 15 States\) FINAL \(1\).pdf](#)

 [BTA 2025PolicyAgenda-r3.pdf](#)

VI. Chairman's report

VII. Summary of current events

Board members and Executives may discuss events attended on behalf of the Port Authority, may present a summary of current events, and update the schedule for future meetings, as appropriate. No legal action will be taken pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02 (K).

VIII. Call to the public

Call to the Public is held for public benefit to allow individuals to address issue(s) within the jurisdiction of each individually appointed member and their scope of knowledge. Board members may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute §38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to criticism, or scheduling the matter for further discussion and decision at a future date. Public comments may be made in person or submitted by email at: BGeorge@GYPA.org. The email forms of public comment will be accepted until 8:00 a.m. the morning of the scheduled meeting. All public comments will be read aloud during the board of directors meeting. If a person so chooses to address the board in person, they are allotted 3 minutes to address the Board.

Mayor Nieves Riedel was present and informed the board that stop lights will likely be placed on Ave E at County 23rd and County 24th. She notified the board as a courtesy,, considering that most of the commercial traffic utilizes the Ave E corridor.

Daniel Bazua with RL Jones, CHB was present and spoke to the board about the federal issues concerning tariff's and the impacts within select industries.

IX. Adjournment

The Board of Directors may vote to go into executive session during the noticed meeting concerning any of the agenda items mentioned above. If authorized by the requisite vote of the Directors, the executive session will be held immediately after the vote and will not be open to the public. The executive session, if held, will be at the same meeting location set forth above. The discussion may relate to personnel, public records, confidential legal advice or counsel, litigation, and real estate or other matters permitted pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 38-431.03(A)(1)-(7). The Chair or other presiding officer shall instruct the persons present at the Executive Session regarding the confidentiality requirements of the Open Meeting Laws. CERTIFICATION OF POSTING: Posted this 21st day of February 2025. GREATER YUMA PORT AUTHORITY /s/ Secretary/Treasurer, Russel Jones. Notice: The GYPA does not discriminate based on disability in admission to, access to treatment of participation in its programs or activities. People with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations by contacting the GYPA's main office line at 928-248-8546. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

**Motion:**

Motion to adjourn by the Chairman of the Board at 9:30am