

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA
Monday, February 13, 2017 at 6 p.m.**

Board of Directors
Einen Grandi, Chairman
Greg Ramelli, Director
Jim Roberti, Director
Paul Roen, Director
Tom Rowson, Director
Michael Sanchez, Director
Don Wallace, Director

MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Chairman Grandi called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

Directors present: Roberti, Wallace, Ramelli and Sanchez.

Directors absent: Rowson and Roen.

Also present: Cleve Anseth and Jay Huebert.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT – limited to 5 minutes per speaker

There were no public comments.

3) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AS READ/DISTRIBUTED FOR 1/16/17

Director Roberti made a motion to amend the January minutes to correct the listing of the Directors' term expiration dates, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

4) REPORTS

A. Burkhard Bohm Groundwater Presentation/Workshop on February 24th

The workshop planned for January 20th was postponed due to hazardous weather conditions. The new date for Bohm's presentation is Friday, February 24th at the Sierra Christian Church in Beckwourth from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

B. Large-Capacity Well Ordinance

Director Grandi will meet with Jerry Sipe and Randy Wilson in Quincy on February 14 to discuss future restrictions on large-capacity well permits. The focus will be on creating a ministerial ordinance that does not trigger the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Once the limitations have been considered, a conference call will be held with Ken Schmidt to discuss the creation of a map which will identify sub-basins and zones within the Sierra Valley Basin that are being over drafted.

C. Plumas County state reporting for parcel taxes

Bianca Harrison, Assistant Auditor/Controller at Plumas County, sent an email in January that the state of California is requiring new parcel tax reporting. Based on the reporting guidelines, SVGMD does not need to participate in this reporting as the District charges management fees, not taxes.

D. SVGMD storage of files

Director Grandi has been storing SVGMD files and can continue to do so until May or June. There may be space at the Sierraville School, so the secretary is trying to get a quote from Sierra County about available storage space and fees.

E. Technician report - Jay Huebert

Huebert will begin monitor well readings in March.

5) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

A. UC Davis Groundwater Model Report and Presentation Dates

The Directors have requested that the UC Davis team choose any Wednesday in March to hold their presentation, preferably with a 1 p.m. start time.

B. 700 Forms

The secretary received annual Conflict of Interest Forms #700 from Directors Grandi, Roberti, Wallace, Ramelli and Sanchez.

C. DWR Map Corrections

1. Plumas and Sierra Counties' GIS database files

Tito Cervantes and Michael Serna of DWR brought several maps to a meeting on January 27 to share with Chairman Grandi, Director Roberti, Director Rowson, Kristi Jamason, Carol Dobbas, and the secretary. Cervantes and Serna compiled information about the Sierra Valley Basin to create the maps, but would like help ensuring their accuracy.

Grandi informed the Board that errors were present on the maps, but noted that the District is not required to make any corrections. While landowners would be able to identify and correct the areas on the map that they own, Grandi is unsure how to get irrigators together to take on such a project. He suggested the maps be taken to the Bohm presentation and ask attending irrigators to look at the maps and make corrections if they are so willing.

Serna has offered to recreate the DWR maps within Google Earth so that land owners could view them online. Within Google Earth, different layers could be turned on or off – e.g. crops, irrigation data, well locations, etc. Dobbas suggested having parcels outlined on the maps to make it easier for landowners to quickly identify their land and to verify/correct the data. These property parcel layers are available as GIS data file layers from Plumas and Sierra Counties. Jamason has requested these files from the Counties, and while Plumas County will provide them for free, Sierra County charges \$50. Grandi will ask Director Roen about talking to Sierra County to see if that fee can be waived.

D. D&S Ranch Meter(s) on DMS 14

At January's board meeting, Jay Huebert made a report of an ag well (located at DMS 14 on D&S Ranch) that is connected to branching pipelines, with a meter on the branch that supplies adjacent pivots and no meter on the branch that sends water into the creek for downstream withdrawal. Director Roberti recently talked to Darren at D&S and he understood the problem, but with current weather he was unable to get to that location to take a look.

Huebert stated that the District does not have any new meters in stock and that DMS 47 located at Ayoob's Ranch still needs to be repaired. He has a call into Techniflo about prices for new Sea-metric and Senninger meters, and for quotes on

repairing McCrometer meters. Director Roberti suggested that the District repair the McCrometer meters that Huebert already has with the large-capacity well management charges that have been paid.

Director Grandi reminded the Board that the original idea of the large-capacity well management charge was to buy a few new meters each year to replace broken ones and to allow the District to keep some on hand. New meters are a one-size-fits-all model, so the District will not have to store extras in varying casing sizes for potential breakdowns. Director Sanchez proposed the District provide uniform, standard meters now that well owners are being charged meter fees so that irrigators are receiving the same product when old meters fail.

Director Wallace suggested Huebert ask the meter companies for references from other water districts using these new meters. The Board will wait on making a decision about putting a second meter at DMS 14 until Huebert has more information from Techniflo.

E. Brad Greenwood Meter on DMS 6

Director Grandi talked to Brad Greenwood, who called after receiving the large-capacity management charge invoice. Greenwood has a well that is not pumped, but has a meter on it to show the well flow capacity to potential buyers of the property. Huebert shared that Greenwood requested the meter that is currently on the well be repaired and put on the well, which the District paid for. It cost the District to repair it and install it, and whether or not it is being used, it is still out in the weather and aging. Grandi proposed that if someone has a well without a meter and they want to turn the well on (it is unlawful to run a large-capacity well without a meter), the District could put a meter on temporarily for a fee.

The Board decided to stay consistent with the ordinance. If a meter is on a well, there is a \$200 annual fee. If the well owner does not wish to pay the fee, the meter will be taken off of the well.

F. SVGMD Website Recommendations

Director Roberti made a motion to approve the website changes recommended by Kristi Jamason and pay \$120 to Dragonfly Webpage Design for the work, Director Sanchez 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

G. Management Charge Resolution

The date set for the public hearing to consider the imposition of a management charge for fiscal year 2017-2018 will be Monday, March 13, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the Golden West.

Director Ramelli made a motion to approve the management fee resolution, Director Wallace 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

H. GSA Formation Public Hearing

Before submitting a letter of intent to form the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Sierra Valley Basin, SVGMD will hold a public hearing about the GSA formation on Monday, March 13, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the Golden West.

Director Ramelli made a motion to hold the GSA public hearing on March 13, Director Roberti 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

The secretary will submit a public hearing notice to the local newspapers.

I. Mounted and Laminated District Map

Thanks to the generosity of Randy Wilson at the Planning Department, Plumas County has printed and mailed maps of the Sierra Valley Basin and watershed to the District at no cost. Kristi Jamason has previously recommended that the District have a map mounted and laminated for use with dry-erase markers. The secretary received a quote of \$55 from High Sierra Lamination to have two maps mounted back-to-back on foam core and laminated. The Board would also like the secretary to purchase an easel to make map presentations easier.

Director Sanchez made a motion to approve the purchase of mounting and laminating the maps and to purchase an easel, not to exceed \$100 total, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

J. Mileage Reimbursement Rates

The IRS Standard Mileage Rate in 2016 was 54 cents per mile and beginning January 1, 2017 the rate changed to 53.5 cents per mile for business miles driven. Huebert's previous mileage reimbursement rate was 55 cents per mile, which the Board has decided to continue paying.

K. Formal Hiring of the Secretary

Jenny Gant presented an employment agreement to the Board, which was modified with the Directors and changed to an independent contractor agreement. The District will hire Jenny Gant as an independent contractor to be the SVGMD secretary with a stipend of \$800 per month and business mileage reimbursement, retroactive to January 1, 2017.

Director Ramelli made a motion to approve the independent contractor agreement as amended, Director Wallace 2nd, motion passed, Directors Grandi, Wallace, Ramelli and Sanchez in favor. Director Roberti abstained from the vote.

6) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

7) CASH BALANCE/FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A. Finance report balance - \$13,622 fund balance

B. Large-capacity well management charge invoices - \$6,000 of \$12,400 received

C. Bills received for payment

1. Alliant SLIP insurance - \$377.81

2. Office supplies reimbursement - \$88.79 (ink, paper, binder case)

3. Map mounting/laminating and easel - not to exceed \$100

4. Secretary - \$1,600 (January and February stipend)

Ratification to pay all bills as presented. Director Sanchez made a motion to approve, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

8) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 7:59 PM.

Jenny Gant, Secretary