

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA
Monday, August 8, 2016 at 6 p.m.**

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

MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Chairman Grandi called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Directors present: Ramelli, Roberti, Roen, Rowson, Wallace, Swofford.

Also present: Kristi Jamason.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT – limited to 5 minutes per speaker

Kristi Jamason commented that today is the deadline for a survey that DWR has out about the best management practices they should be providing for groundwater services. The survey is an opportunity to prioritize practices that will help develop groundwater management scenarios. They will use the public survey to gather input and then the highest ranked practices will be put into place for the year. Jamason submitted hers before coming tonight. The regulations have also come out for the GSA formations.

3) READING & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR 06/13/16 AND 07/11/16

Director Roen made a motion to approve the minutes from both meetings, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

4) REPORTS

A. Audit report

Bound copies of the final audit from Blomberg and Griffin were handed out to the Directors and the findings were discussed. Suggestions were made for the SVGMD for future fiscal years, such as creating a District policy manual, adopting a fixed asset policy, and maintaining a revenue/receipts journal.

B. SVGMD reference binder

The audit suggested that SVGMD have a binder containing District policies. The board would like to create one binder that includes the JPA; SB1391; SGMA information; the SV basin SGMA rankings; SVGMD by-laws; a list of directors, including contact info; technical reports; fiscal year budgets; latest finance statement; conflict of interest form; Brown Act primer/FAQ; Prop 218 basic info; agendas and minutes; yearly calendar. The secretary will begin compiling this binder and will bring it to each meeting.

C. Fee Schedule/Meter Fee/218 Election – Paul Roen

Jamason called Mary Randall from DWR to ask how other groundwater districts are operating lately. She said the SGMA's are all wondering how they're going to fund themselves; most are counties and are pulling from general funds to start up. Not much was gathered from the talk, but they are aware of our situation.

Director Roen commented that Prop 218 and Prop 26 processes can be avoided if replaced by a fee schedule, so long as the costs can be applied to a structure. This is not parcel related since it's for individual services provided, which is why we can get around the Propositions. The fee schedules are something we would bill ourselves.

Chairman Grandi is going to put together a meeting with Director Roen and Tim Beals (Sierra County Director of Public Works) to discuss the creation of a fee schedule.

D. Bridge loan

The bridge loan will no longer be pursued with Plumas County.

E. Prop 50 work grant – Kristi Jamason

Jamason has been working to schedule a meeting at the end of the month with the UC Davis team working on the model. She has also been talking to Feather River Land Trust about how operation of the Decker Dam might influence groundwater recharge. The District secretary laptop is currently being backed up onto the external hard drive and has scheduled a meeting with the meter technician to get his data.

F. Budget

The approved FY17 budget was handed out to the Directors, along with a draft "bare bones" budget that cuts a majority of expenses so that the District can stay afloat this year (both on file). Director Roen would like to set up a committee creating the fee schedule, as well as have a meeting with both Plumas and Sierra Counties to discuss our operating expenses.

Director Roberti wants the board to use this bare bones budget to show the Counties that we have a plan so that they can see we're doing what we can to be sustainable. We will work with what we have right now, but it's not sustainable for future years. Chairman Grandi believes we must raise our parcel fees to be sustainable, but in order to do that we must have the Nexus Study done. Chairman Grandi formed a committee including himself, Director Rowson and Director Roen to meet with Tim Beals to form a fee schedule.

The fees that SVGMD charge have never included government owned properties, but we will be billing them this year. Plumas County provided maps so that parcel owners with only partial ownership within the District boundaries can have percentages determined for billing.

Director Rowson made a motion to proceed with the corrected parcel based management fees to Plumas County for fiscal year 2016-2017 based on the current fee rate (\$6 for 40 acres or less, \$0.15 cents/acre for parcels larger than 40 acres), Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

G. Technician report - Jay Huebert

Jay Huebert was not present at the meeting, but sent a monitoring report from July (on file). While well water levels have gone down, it's to be expected during the month of July and is consistent with past pumping levels.

5) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

A. New Director, Tom Rowson – Paul Roen to swear in

Director Rowson was officially sworn in on August 5th by Director Roen. The document will be sent in to Sierra County.

B. Rescind Management Charge Ordinance (2016-01)

There was some misunderstanding about passing the Ordinance at the June board meeting, but this was necessary in order for the Ordinance to become official by this August date so that the parcel fee amounts can be sent to Plumas County. Rescinding the ordinance will not be necessary.

C. Management Charge Ordinance (2016-02)

As the previous Ordinance was not rescinded, no new Ordinance needs to be approved.

D. Meter Fee Ordinance

The creation of a fee schedule will be discussed at the committee meeting.

E. SVGMD shapefiles

The map is too busy and needs to be edited so it's easier to read. At this point it is not ready to go on the website.

F. California Special District Alliance (CSDA) membership

With the financial standings of SVGMD, this membership will be put off until adequate and stable funding is available.

G. Tax Roll Resolution (2016-03)

Director Roen made a motion to create an emergency action item for the Tax Roll resolution (2016-03) as it must be approved and submitted to Plumas County before the next meeting takes place, Swofford 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

Director Roen made a motion to approve the tax roll resolution, Director Swofford 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

6) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

7) CASH BALANCE/FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A. Finance report

B. Revenue/Tax Distributions

- 1. Sierra County - \$624.06**
- 2. Plumas County - \$910.88**
- 3. Interest - \$6.38**

C. Bills received for payment:

- 1. Downey Brand - \$220 (current balance \$1,116.50)**
- 2. Blomberg and Griffin - \$3,950**
- 3. Meter Technician – wages: \$250 mileage: \$121**

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

8) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Jenny Gant, Secretary