

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA
Monday, April 11, 2016 6PM**

Minutes

1) CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Chairman Grandi called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

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

Also present: Kristi Jamason, Jay Hubert, Cleve Anspeth, Rick Roberti, Mike Sanchez, Phil Ohls, and Mike Grashuis.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT – limited to 5 minutes per speaker

Kristi Jamason presented the opportunity for SVGMD to become a sponsor of Community Connections, run by Plumas Rural Services. Currently there is a 2-for-1 special to join for \$50 instead of the \$100 annual sponsorship fee. Director Roen motioned to approve the creation of an emergency agenda item and become a Community Connections sponsor, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

Kristi Jamason presented the opportunity for her to receive paid work through the Prop 50 grant to do research for SVGMD. She will work with the board to create a work plan that is useful to the district and within the parameters of the grant.

Bill Powers presented his opinion after attending the last Water Summit meeting at the Sierra Valley Grange that Sierra Valley and Big Valley need to be presented as different than the Central Valley in order to have different regulations.

3) READING & APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR 3/14/2016

Director Roen made a motion to suspend the reading of the minutes until they have been edited, Director Swofford 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

4) REPORTS

A. Meter technician report

Jay Hubert presented a well monitor report, on file. The report compares well levels from the beginning of April 2016 to well levels from April 2015. The wells on the east side of the valley have recovered at a higher level than a year ago, but the wells on the west side of the valley are still trending downward. The four wells most concerning are two from D&S, one at Tom Dotta's, and one at FRLT; they're recovering, but still trending downward. This September should be a good indicator of changes made from the winter moisture.

B. Senninger vs. Techniflo meter costs

Jay Hubert presented a quote from Techniflo for two meters, copy on file. All the active wells currently have operational meters. If a meter goes down there are no spares, but purchasing new meters is on hold.

5) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

A. Prop 218 Election Process – Paul Roen

1. Meter fees

Director Roen announced that the Sierra County Counsel advises that charging a meter maintenance fee of \$200/meter/year for large irrigation wells must pass a 218 Election. Laurie Belli has volunteered to help with that process to create a draft resolution. Director Roen made a motion to schedule an ad hoc meeting to work through the process and create the resolution, Director Swofford 2nd, motion passed, all in favor. Ad hoc committee members include Director Roen, Director Ramelli, Chairman Grandi, Laurie Belli and Kristi Jamason. It needs to be complete before the fee structure is due to the county for the next property tax bills (July).

B. GSA Formation

1. Draft letter to Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager, DWR, regarding “Notice of Election to Become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Sierra Valley Basin”.

The deadline to declare SVGMA as a GSA formation is June 30, 2017. There will need to be a posted, public hearing for that. Due to irrigated acreage this zone has dropped into low priority, but that may be for just a short time if the three new ranking criteria push the district back into medium priority. The board is going to wait pursuing this until the new criteria has come out and the claimed pumping levels of this area have been contested.

C. Green Gulch meter repair reimbursement

Director Roberti has spoken with Zach Harrison and still cannot come to an agreement. The well being contested is an 8” well that is using a rebuilt meter from a previous well. Harrison is of the opinion that he paid for the meter originally, he should not have to pay for it to be rebuilt and repaired as well. Director Roberti and Jay Hubert are going to meet with Harrison to work it out and will give a report at the next meeting.

D. Vacant Director seat

1. Carl Genasci’s resignation letter

Carl Genasci’s resignation letter has been received and will be sent to the Sierra County clerk to vacate the position and fly the position on the county website and in the newspaper.

E. Change post office box location

Chairman Grandi announced that the SVGMD phone number currently does not have a residence, so any calls to that number are being forwarded to Grandi’s cell phone for \$45/month through AT&T. The annual post office box fee is due in Sierraville, but that is no longer convenient to receive mail there. Director Roen made a motion to authorize the secretary to open a post office box address in Chilcoat., Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor. Once that is done the address will need to be changed on the SVGMD website.

F. Authorized signatures for Departments/Auditor forms

The Auditor's Office needs an update on the Authorized Signatures form. Director Ramelli made a motion for Chairman Grandi and secretary Jenny Gant to have signature authorization, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

6. CORRESPONDENCE LOG

Kristi Jamason referred to an email that Carol Dobbas sent out asking multiple questions of Bill Stevenson, but there has not been a reply yet.

7. CASH BALANCE/PERIOD 8 RUNNING BALANCE/BILLS TO BE PAID

- A. Downey Brand balance -
- B. AFCO balance -
- C. Post Office box bill -
- D. At&T phone bill -
- E. Finance report

Kristi Jamason handed out a financials report, on file. She reported that SVGMD has a balance of \$1,800. One more tax payment is coming in from Plumas County in the next few weeks, and possibly one from Sierra County. The budget for 2016/17 is not due to the auditor's office until September 2016, but it should probably be done by the end of the fiscal year in July. Director Roen made a motion for Chairman Grandi and Director Swofford to go to the auditor's office about going into a deficit and spending options, Director Roberti 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

CLOSED SESSION

A. Volunteers

Directors decided not to have a closed session, but an open discussion and approval to have Jenny Gant step in as volunteer secretary. Approved by unanimous consent.

8. ADJOURNMENT 7:15 pm

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Jenny Gant, Secretary