

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA
Monday, December 11, 2017 at 6:00 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, Roen, Ramelli, Rowson, Sanchez

Directors absent: Wallace

Also present: Kristi Jamason, David Prentice, Jay Huebert, Brandon Pangman, Greg Hinds, Gary Williams, and Dan Greenwood.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY – limited to 5 minutes per speaker

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District Board of Directors at this time.

There was no public comment.

3) REPORTS

A. 2013 Minutes

The 2013 minutes are missing, both electronically and in printed form. Director Roen will go through his filing boxes to see if he has copies.

B. JPA Amendment and Renewal

David Prentice will meet with Craig Settlemire before the next District meeting to go over the JPA amendment and renewal.

C. Technician report - Jay Huebert

1. Meter Repairs/Purchases

Huebert handed out the monitoring wells report for December (on file), which shows water levels are continuing to recover. Most readings are showing higher levels than the wells have had in several years and the big wells are recovering quickly. A few wells (e.g. the golf course and up above Beckwourth) have dropping levels, but that is normal for those this time of year. The second report Huebert handed out was the ag well summary for the year. Many of the wells were pumped at lower levels than previous years and several were not pumped at all.

There are four meters whose registers measure the number of gallons pumped, not the total acre feet: a 6” meter at LHS, a 10” meter at Mike Grashuis’, and two 12” meters at Goodwin’s. Technoflo can change the register for \$300 on each meter.

Gary Williams will contact Huebert next spring for a 10” meter to go on McCuen’s new well.

Huebert asked the Directors about taking meter readings on wells off of Maddalena Road. Director Rowson suggested that Huebert take law enforcement with him as an escort when he needs to collect readings in that area.

Director Roberti is going to talk to DS Ranch to come up with a solution to their well that pumps water in two directions.

4) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

A. Plumas/Sierra County Permit Application Review

There were no well permit applications to review. One application was approved this month for a domestic well in Chilcoot.

B. Inactive Wells Committee

Directors Grandi, Roberti, and Roen form the committee, but asked for input from the Board about how inactive wells should be identified. Roen would like an ordinance stating well owners need to claim their wells as active or inactive. The incentive for owners to communicate with the Board will be that unclaimed wells will no longer be allowed to pump. Greg Hinds suggested including language that informs owners future pumping restrictions may be imposed.

Kristi Jamason recommended the Board create a formula showing how much water can be pumped to maintain sustainable groundwater levels. Then, if active wells are not pumping beyond that limit, some would be able to use their inactive wells again. Prentice proposed owners wanting to begin using their inactive wells again should reapply with the County for a permit to begin pumping. He also said the committee first needs to define inactive wells before setting up any policies. Once the definition is set, the Board will need to give owners time to claim their wells, an ordinance will be drafted, a hearing will be held for public comment, and then the Board can adopt the ordinance.

Director Sanchez said getting a list of all the wells located within the District would give the Board a good idea of the pumping potential. Greg Hinds suggested three categories: active, inactive that keep activation rights (these would have the potential to be used in the future), and inactive that will remain inactive (essentially, these are abandoned).

The inactive wells committee will meet with Prentice after the Board of Supervisors meeting on January 16th and then report to the District Board at the February SVGMD meeting.

C. GSP Work Proposal – Greg Hinds

Hinds reported that he can spend ~10 hours/month to organize the GSP Elements. His rate as an independent contractor would be \$40/hour for his work. This would include attending each monthly District meeting with an update on the GSP's outstanding items list. The list will make sure each person has action items to work on between meetings so that plan elements are being tackled each month. Over time it will be important to formulate a timeline of action items so that big tasks are handled first.

There are two components requiring professional engineer/geologist input: a hydrological conceptual model that includes a drawing with verbal and graphical components and a water budget (IWFM model), which should help inform monitoring procedures. After GSP submission, the Water Board will recreate GSA models to make sure they are legitimate. UC Davis already built the IWFM model, so once Hinds learns how to use that model he will play with the inputs and document the outputs to

justify the District's monitoring/corrective actions should any undesirable results come up. Hinds is expecting to get his license in the spring of 2018 and is willing to do the work.

Sanchez would like to pay Hinds for his monthly updates at the District meetings. Once Hinds becomes an engineer the contract can be reviewed. Director Roberti wondered if Hinds and the District might not need to go through all of this work should DWR continue making changes, but that will not be the case unless this Basin drops down to low priority, and there's no current date for reprioritization. Jamason said that the Basin is really close to a low priority classification and has emailed Debbie Spangler asking for the numbers DWR has for the District. Leah Wills has been reaching out to UC Davis, but the model has not been given to Plumas County yet.

Hinds will create a scope of work and email it to the secretary, then bring it to the next board meeting for review.

D. GSP Required Plan Elements/Timeline Committee Appointment

Hinds will include this in his scope of work.

E. Ordinance 17-02 (Requirements for New Water Well Permits)

1. Municipalities Amendment

Jamason suggested having Ken Schmidt officially stamp the zone map. The secretary will ask him to do so. Grandi asked how municipalities should be handled. Rowson pointed out that local municipalities use a small percentage of groundwater in comparison to ag pumping. Brandon Pangman noted that it would be fair to ask for a build out percentage so the District won't need to grant unlimited pumping rights. Roen would like to see restrictions and mandates set for better water usage. Prentice will reach out to other basins to see how they are handling municipalities. He will work on the amendment language and bring it to the Board in February.

F. DWR Best Management Practice: Sustainable Management Criteria

1. SVGMD Comments

DWR has released the draft copy of the Sustainable Management Criteria for Best Management Practices for the Sustainable Management of Groundwater. Copies were emailed to the Directors before the meeting. Comments on the draft are due to DWR by January 8, 2018.

5) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

6) CONSENT CALENDAR

All items on the Consent Calendar shall be considered routine and will be enacted by one roll call vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member requests that specific items be removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action. Any item removed from the consent calendar will be considered after the regular business items.

A. Approval of The Minutes as Read/Distributed For 11/13/17

B. Accept Finance report

C. Approve payment of bills

1. Ken Schmidt - \$1,000.00 (June technical report payment #5)

2. Meter Technician (November)

a. Wages - \$650

b. Mileage - \$165

- 3. Secretary - \$850 (December)**
 - 4. Alliant – \$326.40 (Special liability payment 3 of 10)**
 - 5. Website - \$50 (monthly site fee)**
- D. Accept cash balance/financial summary - \$28,025**

Director Roen made a motion to accept the consent calendar, Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

7) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 7:32 PM.

Jenny Gant, Secretary