

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA
Monday, May 8, 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, Rowson, Sanchez, Roen

Directors absent: Ramelli

Also present: Kristi Jamason, Jay Huebert, Rick Roberti, Dave Goicoechea and Susan Wilson.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT – limited to 5 minutes per speaker

There was no public comment.

3) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AS READ/DISTRIBUTED FOR 4/10/17

Director Roen made a motion to approve the minutes for 4/10/17 as amended, Director Wallace 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

4) REPORTS

A. Ken Schmidt Technical Report and Large-Capacity Well Ordinance Map

Chairman Grandi, the secretary, and Kristi Jamason (via teleconference) met with Plumas County Directors Jerry Sipe (Environmental Health) and Randy Wilson (Planning) in Quincy on May 1st for further editing of the new well ordinance. Becky Osborn (Plumas County GIS Planner II) printed a large map that marked District boundaries as well as the Sierra Valley and Chilcoot sub-basin boundaries. This map will be mailed to Ken Schmidt, who will draw zone boundaries for the new well ordinance. Instead of including textual boundary descriptions, the ordinance will reference the map. Concurrently, Schmidt is collecting recent reports and well data for the technical report.

B. UC Davis Groundwater Model Report and Presentation follow-up

The PowerPoint slides from the UC Davis report are now up on the website. Plumas County Planning/Randy Wilson will receive the groundwater model from UC Davis. Plumas County has recently hired a new engineer that might be trained to run the model.

Grandi is interested in learning how the model can help with implementing the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Jamason urged the Board to study DWR's GSP Emergency Regulations Guide to know what needs to be included in the District's plan. Rick Roberti suggested to go slowly when working on the GSP because there may be changes to the rules, regulations, and deadlines.

C. 2013 Minutes

The 2013 minutes are missing, both electronically and in printed form. While there is a folder on the District laptop containing the 2013 Minutes, the files were saved as “shortcuts” with no reference to an existing document. Jay Huebert checked with the previous SVGMD secretary who reports she does not have copies of the minutes. The secretary suggested taking the laptop to a computer support company to try and recover the files, which the Board agreed to.

Director Roen made a motion to take the District laptop to a computer specialist to attempt to retrieve the missing files, Director Sanchez 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

D. Plumas County GSA

Plumas County’s GSA filing has been posted on the website. It’s possible DWR will remove the sliver area covered by Plumas County’s GSA from the groundwater basin boundaries during the next Basin Modification Period.

E. Data loggers and groundwater banking study - Kristi Jamason

Northern Sierra Partnership is working on securing funding to possibly cover the Groundwater Sustainability Plan Planning Grant writing, Burkhard’s pressure transducer collection, and the recharge study from Helen Dahlke.

F. GSP Planning Grant – Kristi Jamason

The Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for Groundwater Sustainability Plans and Projects planning grant program draft has been released and is open for public comment. Completed applications must be submitted during the first open filing phase between August and October 2017. DWR has \$84 million available for GSP planning and there are 127 medium/high priority basins, so it’s possible all of that money could be granted during the first phase. If a second open filing phase will take place, it’s tentatively scheduled for December 2017 through January 2018.

Uma Hinman is now unable to help with the grant so Jamason has been in contact with Colleen Shade, who wrote Plumas County’s General Plan, about writing the grant. Colleen will let us know by the beginning of next week if she can do the work. To prepare the grant proposal, it will cost the District ~\$25,000. If the Board decides to hire a grant writer, Jamason has suggested that person would work closely with the Board to help prioritize needs and action steps. The grant works as a reimbursement program unless a GSA qualifies under the status of “disadvantaged community.”

G. Basin Boundary Modification Request System

DWR’s Basin Boundary Modification Request System will open July 1st for the initial notification period to allow GSAs to hold required meetings and coordinate with DWR for modification assistance. The tentative schedule states modification requests can be submitted between January 1 and March 31, 2018

H. DWR Map Corrections

Plumas and Sierra County GIS data files have been sent to Tito Cervantes and Michael Serna (DWR). The secretary is waiting for confirmation that those files have been received and that new irrigated acreage maps will be printed for the District showing parcel boundaries. These maps are used as part of the SGMA ranking criteria for groundwater basins.

I. Technician report - Jay Huebert

Huebert passed out the well monitoring reports (on file) from the May readings. He showed the Directors a picture of cracked concrete around Dave Bradley's well, which is now starting to come apart.

Director Roen made a motion that Huebert fix the well's concrete, Director Roberti 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

Huebert asked if he should be getting the meter readings from Sierra Brooks and Loylton, but Director Rowson said those readings will only need to be collected once a year. Huebert also asked the Board if they wanted monthly readings on irrigation wells being pumped. Director Roberti suggested only doing a reading at the beginning and end of the pumping season because irrigators should be monitoring the meters and can call Huebert if there are any problems. However, Arnold Potter's meter should be checked monthly because of the way it measures pumping.

Jamason reported that the spring 2017 CASGEM reports are all online and available for viewing.

1. Meter Research

Huebert talked to Eric at Technoflo about reversing the propellers on the District's McCrometer meters in an effort to eliminate sand wearing down meter bearings. While McCrometer has meters called surface water meters that are built for that, it would be less expensive to have them add one of those propellers for \$300 (in addition to the bearings price) when the District sends in meters for repair.

Ed Hood will no longer be pumping from his wells. All three are 8" and were working when last checked. Huebert removed one of those meters so far to keep as a spare. There are currently no spare 10" meters that work and it takes about two weeks to get a meter repaired. As 10" is the most common meter size within the District, the Board would like to have one on hand so Huebert can make a repair quickly should one break during this pumping season.

Director Roberti made a motion to have a spare 10" meter repaired, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

2. Roberti Ranch existing well

There is an existing well (drilled ~1977) that has been inactive. The Roberti's are unsure whether they need to put a meter on this well before the new well ordinance is passed because regulations on existing, inactive wells are not cited within the ordinance.

Currently, these types of wells do not have to pay the \$200 large-capacity well management fee because they are not being pumped and are not metered. The Board agrees that existing, inactive wells need to be addressed in the new well ordinance. To start, the District should compile a list of all large-capacity wells, both active and inactive. During his research, Burkhard Bohm created a well inventory so the secretary will ask for a copy.

3. Sierra Pacific Industries existing well

SPI would like to begin pumping from an existing large-capacity well, so Huebert will be putting a meter on it soon.

5) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

A. Subsidence in Sierra Valley

Katy Stadter (an engineering tech II surveyor in Plumas County) forwarded vertical datum information associated with recent road projects from Ryan Prins of CALTRANS to validate/confirm the NASA 6-inch subsidence report for the Sierra Valley. Director Sanchez asked if they could justify/confirm the subsidence, but so far all they have sent were the reports. Jamason reported that DWR's 1983 report on the aquifer states that Plumas County Road Department surveyed the vertical elevation of 30 wells in the area where the Jet Propulsion Lab report indicated subsidence. Sanchez is going to go back to the Road Department to ask for the 1983 readings. Then the District can take the numbers from that original report and the new NASA subsidence report to a commercial surveyor for a quote on resurveying that area.

B. Plumas National Forest 2016 parcel fees (contesting) – Michael Sanchez

Director Sanchez has a meeting scheduled to discuss this with Matt Jedra, the new District Ranger for Plumas County.

C. Finance Committee 2017-2018 Budget

The District is approaching the end of its fiscal year, so the finance committee will need to revisit the 2017-18 budget prior to the Directors approving the new budget and resolution at the June board meeting. According to the JPA (section 9), Plumas and Sierra Counties should each provide two Supervisors to form a joint finance committee with the District to discuss financial support from both Counties. For this committee Director Roen has secured Supervisors Peter Huebner and Lee Adams from Sierra County and Director Sanchez has secured Supervisors Jeff Engle and Kevin Goss from Plumas County. The secretary will contact the Counties' clerks to schedule a meeting with the Supervisors and the District's finance committee. Sierra County already has \$4,000 allotted to the SVGMD for the next fiscal year. Sanchez is going to ask the auditor's office to put \$4,000 as a line item on Plumas County's budget for the new fiscal year.

6) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

A. Public Lands Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) hearing to focus on county payments programs

7) CASH BALANCE/FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A. Finance report – balance of \$30,738

B. Bills received for payment

- 1. Alliant SLIP insurance - \$377.81**
- 2. Public Notices - \$44.10**
- 3. Secretary**
 - a. \$800 (May)**
 - b. \$39.42 for office supplies/postage**
- 4. Ken Schmidt - \$3,365.35 (zone map and technical report work to-date)**
- 5. Unemployment Claim - \$1,621.57 (paid in April)**

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

8) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 8:19 PM.