

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA
Monday, April 9, 2018 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, Rowson, Sanchez, Wallace, Ramelli, Roen

Directors absent: none

Also present: Kristi Jamason, Greg Hinds, Debbie Spangler, Dave Roberti, Tania Carlone, Katie Tanner, John Roen, Jeff Carmichael, Cleve Anseth, Carol Dobbas, David Prentice, Dave Goicoechea, Leah Wills, Andy Genasci, Linda Sanford, Leigh Anne Isgreen, and Jay Huebert.

2) PUBLIC HEARING

Adoption of an Ordinance Enacting a Management Charge for Fiscal Year 2018-2019

The Board of Directors will hear comments from the public regarding SVGMD's proposed ordinance to fix the management charge for the fiscal year 2018-2019 on all land within the District at \$.30 per acre, per year, with a total minimum charge of \$10.00 per year for all parcels or lots forty (40) acres or less, for the purposes of paying the costs of initiating, carrying on, and completing any of the powers, projects, and purposes for which the District is organized.

Jeff Carmichael commented that he disagrees with an across-the-board assessment. He does not have an ag well and does not pump any water and thinks that he should have a direct benefit from paying such a fee.

John Roen asked how much revenue these fees bring in and how many acres are charged. [Answer: ~\$62,000 from parcel fees; all landowners (except federal government) are charged]

Carol Dobbas commented that the fee structure based on acreage is unjust for those with a large amount of pasture and range land compared to those with a smaller amount of acres that pump and use the groundwater and are contributing to the problem of overdraft. She would like the Board to find a balance to charging those that irrigate (with groundwater) and those that do not.

Linda Sanford remarked that she is a surface irrigator and is already paying fees to the water master and irrigated lands. She believes these charges should stay with those that use groundwater.

Dave Goicoechea noted the same fee structure was used last year and that the Board is only charging what is needed for the District to operate. It is essential that the demands of the state are met and believes domestic wells will be included eventually. He believes residential users should be included in the fee structure.

3) 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.

4) REPORTS

A. Water Quality Testing

Kristi Jamason will try to get recommendations from Burkhard Bohm about the best well locations to conduct water quality tests. Carol Dobbas said Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) has identified four wells to be tested (two are municipal). She will get a list of the proposed wells and what they will be tested for. Debbie Spangler suggested finding out what needs to be tested for and the best locations for testing before moving forward.

B. SV Managed Groundwater Recharge Project – Kristi Jamason

Bachan and Associates are entering groundwater level data, collection locations and more into an interactive database, in part to help identify promising locations for recharge pilots. They would like to present to the Board next month.

C. Technician report - Jay Huebert

1. Meter Repairs/Purchases

Huebert conducted the spring readings at the beginning of April and had two reports for the Directors (on file). The first report compared April 2017 levels to January and April of 2018. The second report compares the fall readings (October 2017 and October 2018) to the spring readings (December 2017 and February 2018). Huebert was unable to get to take readings from the well at D&S due to flooding. Overall, the levels show improvement from the January 2015 baseline.

All of the repaired meters have been installed. Dave Goicoechea's still needs to be repaired and Huebert needs the LHS pipe measured before ordering the new meter. Director Roberti talked to Motto (D&S) about using a double flow meter, which Huebert thinks is a better option than a 14" saddle meter.

Director Roen made a motion to have D&S order and install the Seametric insertion meter, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

5) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

A. Plumas/Sierra County Well Permit Application Review (if any)

There were no well permit applications to review.

B. DWR Facilitation Support Services – Tania Carlone

Tania Carlone introduced herself to the Board as the new facilitator DWR has hired for the District for Facilitation Support Services (FSS) for SGMA. Carlone gave a presentation on her role as facilitator, the scope of her services, and FSS goals for the Sierra Valley Basin. Currently, her services are funded through December 2018.

C. Ordinance 18-01 – Establishing Requirements Pertaining to New Water Well Permits

1. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Ordinance Exemption

Director Roen made a motion to reapprove that the Board finds Ordinance 18-01 exempt from CEQA review, Director Roberti 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

Director Ramelli made a motion to waive the second reading of Ordinance 18-01 and adopt it as presented, Director Rowson 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

D. Groundwater Sustainability Plan – Greg Hinds

Hinds reported he has been reading through the UC Davis, Burkhard Bohm and Ken Schmidt reports. Hinds' recent progress includes pulling figures from those reports, completing chapter one to the extent currently feasible, progress on chapter two (setting, monitoring, summary of existing data, figures), and progress on management actions to date on chapter five. Some interesting information he read this month is that de minimus pumping means 2 acre feet/year or less (2 af/year = 1,785 gallons/day). This use in the Basin must be included in the plan.

E. Basin Boundary Modification Request – Debbie Spangler

Spangler noticed the original Basin boundary drawing was based on geologic maps, but it didn't transfer well when put over a topography map. An engineer is redrawing the boundary lines to appropriately match the mountain and valley lines. Spangler hopes it will be done by next month; then it will need to be stamped by a hydrologist, if the District wants to pursue a boundary modification to match the new boundaries. She is working with Plumas County separately in the modification request for the portion of the currently defined Basin for which the County is the Groundwater Sustainability Agency: she thinks there's a good chance of removing that sliver from the Basin.

F. DWR Technical Support Services – Debbie Spangler

DWR is holding a SGMA Assistance Workshop/webinar that will cover Technical Support Services on April 27th that the secretary will attend. The application for Technical Support Services are due soon after that. The District needs to establish a point of contact that will submit that information and answer DWR's questions. Spangler provided the Directors with a list of technical support services that are available to GSAs for their GSPs.

Jamason presented a list of suggested Technical Support Services DWR might wish to add to the list of possible items for which the District could apply for help. These include: LIDAR imaging services (to collect baseline and monitoring for subsidence); technical guidance/peer review in developing sustainability strategies and monitoring approaches (e.g. statistical models); local crop ET data validation and updates, model support and training (e.g. for ArcMap, HEC models); and economic cost/benefit analyses of proposed actions/approaches.

G. Inactive Wells Committee

Rowson drafted a letter requesting owners register any inactive wells they may own. He suggests sending them via registered mail to require a signature, which will provide proof of receipt. The Directors were asked to review the letter and give input before it is sent to David Prentice.

6) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

- A. First Annual Groundwater Sustainability Agency Summit – June 6-7 in Sacramento
- B. First Annual Western Groundwater Congress – September 25-27 in Sacramento
- C. SGMA Assistance Workshops hosted by DWR – April 23rd in Chico, April 24th in Clovis, April 25th in Ventura, April 27th Online Webcast from 12-2

7) 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 3/12/18
- B. Accept finance report – (unavailable at the time of the meeting)
- C. Approve payment of bills
 - 1. Alliant – \$326.40 (Special liability payment 7 of 10)
 - 2. Clerk - \$850 (April) + \$31.05 (ink + office supplies)
 - 3. Feather Publishing - \$73.50 (Resolution 18-01 Public Hearing)
 - 4. Greg Hinds - \$400 (GSP work 3/12 – 4/9)
 - 5. Meter Technician - \$400 (wages) + \$163.50 (mileage) (January – March)
 - 6. Mountain Messenger - \$82.50 (Resolution 18-01 Public Hearing)
 - 7. Website - \$50 (monthly site fee)
- D. Accept cash balance/financial summary - (unavailable at the time of the meeting)

Director Roen made a motion to accept the consent calendar as presented with the exception of the finance report/summary, Director Roberti 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

8) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 8:28 PM.

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk