

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SIERRA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
81059 HIGHWAY 70 BECKWOURTH, CA 96129
Monday, October 17, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

This meeting will also be available via Zoom Teleconferencing:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87847235864?pwd=YWFYATeR1BUTjA3cHFiOHUvRTcydz09>

Meeting ID:
878 4723 5864
Passcode:
647657
By Phone:
+1 (669) 900-9128

Board of Directors
Einen Grandi, Chairman
Don Wallace, Vice-Chair
Dwight Ceresola, Director
Dave Goicoechea, Director
Greg Ramelli, Director
Jim Roberti, Director
Paul Roen, Director

MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Chairman Grandi called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM
Directors present: Grandi, Goicoechea, Roberti, Ramelli, Roen, and Wallace
Directors absent: Ceresola
Also present: Dwight Smith and Tracey Ferguson
Via Zoom: Judie Talbot, Kristi Jamason, Debbie Spangler, Gus Tolley, Laura Foglia, Betsy Elzufon, John Rickman, and Carl Butz

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 were no public comments.

3) REPORTS

A. Meter Technician Report – Jay Huebert

Huebert took well readings on October 1. He was unable to attend the meeting, but reported to the clerk that most monitoring wells are up from last month, which is typical for this time of year. Most of the monitoring wells are also higher than this time last year. He will be collecting municipal pumping data and will have the water year pumping total available next month. While the pumping totals from 2011 to 2021 are all based on the calendar year (January to December), going forward the pumping totals will be reported based on the DWR definition of the water year: October 1 to September 30.

B. DWR Update – Debbie Spangler

Spangler reported that DWR will be in the Sierra Valley this week to take the fall readings. The Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Survey data hasn't been posted yet.

C. GSP Planning Committee Update – Judie Talbot

Judie Talbot, SVGMD Outreach Facilitator, stated two planning sessions were held this past month. The first was a working session on October 6 for the technical team (McGinley and LWA representatives) to discuss preliminary considerations for Projects and Management Actions (PMAs) related to increased supply. This included an overview of highlights from the draft "Review of Surface Water Management Actions & Potential Projects to Reduce Groundwater Pumping or Augment Aquifer Recharge." The second meeting was held on October 13 for the planning committee to discuss the Data Management System and reporting formats, the grant category D reports, and the Round 2 DWR GSP Implementation Grant funding application.

4) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

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

At last month's meeting the Board approved the variance request submitted by Grandi Ranch to convert a failed large capacity well into a stock well, but Grandi notified the Board that he did not go through with the conversion due to iron bacteria in the well. It was filled in with concrete instead.

B. Large-Capacity Well Inventory

Grandi shared that a large capacity well owner asked how long he can keep his well on the list of active wells if he isn't using it. The Board agreed that as long as the owner is paying the annual large capacity well management charge, there is no stipulation to remaining on the active wells list. This led to a discussion on the lack of SVGMD policies and procedures surrounding active and inactive wells. The Board will discuss further at the next meeting and will ask County Counsel for their opinion.

C. Automated Monthly Monitoring Report from Daniel B. Stephens & Associates

Kristi Jamason shared that she and others have been trying to create a new monthly well data report that includes the management objectives and criteria numbers from the District's GSP. Comparing well readings to those numbers will be more beneficial to the Board than the January 2015 measurements that have been used for the past several years.

However, there have been several obstacles inhibiting progress on the report due to the different ways the District's and DWR's measurements are reported. Gus Tolley had noticed that most of the information needed is already in the data management system that was created for the GSP. He would be able to put the software together in a way that does the calculations automatically to generate the new reports. The quote provided by DBSA would be for the firm to create the software that the board clerk would simply have to upload the meter technician's readings into each month. The software would be able to produce the two reports the Board has been receiving (month over month *and* year over year), as well as color code the report to indicate which wells are below/close to/fine in comparison to the minimal thresholds. The goal of the report is to show current groundwater levels comparable to the goals set forth in the Plan.

Director Roberti made a motion to approve the quote for the DMS reporting tool development for up to \$3,500, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

D. Green Gulch DMS 12 Meter Standardization

Grandi has been talking to Zac Harrison of Green Gulch Ranch. Harrison's concern with doing meter standardization work on DMS 12 is that it could create problems during the next pumping season due to pipe conditions. He has consented to move forward with the work and Grandi will let the contractor decide what type of pipe work will be required.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to authorize Your H2O Pro to proceed with the work on DMS 12 with a not to exceed cost of \$10,000 in labor, and also authorized the Chairman to approve the contract amendment, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

E. McGinley & Associates GSP Update – Dwight Smith

- 1. Land Subsidence Network**
- 2. GDE Monitoring Network**
- 3. Irrigation Review & LEPA Irrigation Efficiency Demonstration Program**
- 4. Surface Water Management, Recharge & Pumping Reduction Assessment**

Dwight Smith, hydrogeologist with McGinley & Associates, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the draft reports for Irrigation Efficiency & Surface Water Management and Aquifer Recharge. Topics included: GDE monitoring, subsidence monuments, the LEPA demonstration program, irrigation efficiency improvement areas, surface water management actions, potential projects to reduce groundwater pumping, and managed aquifer recharge. Smith requested that Board comments to the draft reports be submitted no later than October 31 so that final reports can be presented for approval at the November Board meeting.

F. SGMA Implementation Grant Application

Laura Foglia, LWA GSP Project Manager, gave a presentation to the Board on the SGMA Implementation Round 2 Grant. The application is due November 30, 2022 and the final awards list should be posted in the summer of 2023. Eligible projects including planning and implementation projects listed in the District's GSP. This would include things like GSP updates (monitoring, annual reports, model updates, etc.), conducting a well inventory, irrigation efficiency projects, and groundwater recharge. Letters of support from local entities also need to be included with the application.

G. Budget Transfer Request Between Funds

The Board clerk reported that reimbursements from the DWR grant have been deposited into the District's grant fund, but will need to be transferred over to the District's general fund to continue paying bills.

Director Roen motioned to move \$90,000.00 from the grant fund to general fund, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

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 9/19/22

B. Approve payment of bills

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

7) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 9:32 PM

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk