

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SIERRA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
81059 HIGHWAY 70 BECKWOURTH, CA 96129
Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

This meeting will also be available via Zoom Teleconferencing:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87847235864?pwd=YWFYaTErR1BUTjA3cHFiOHUvRTcydz09>

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 6:20 PM

Directors present: Grandi, Goicoechea, Ramelli, Roen, Roberti, Ceresola and Wallace

Directors absent: None

Also present: Tracey Ferguson, Judie Talbot, Kristi Jamason, Rick Roberti, Jim Swann and Dwight Smith.

Zoom: Laura Foglia, Debbie Spangler, Gus Tolley, Tracy Schohr, Jay Huebert and Betsy Elzufon.

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.

Jim Swann shared various rates people pay for water to make the point that water is a precious. He is concerned about irrigators' evaporation rates on windy days.

3) REPORTS

A. Meter Technician Report – Jay Huebert

Huebert took monitoring well readings on April 24; all of the wells' levels are above the 2015 SGMA baseline except MW4 (in Calpine) and MW1d (in Loyalton).

B. DWR Update – Debbie Spangler

Spangler reported that DWR continues to review the submitted GSPs. She attended the May 8 workshop and found it very informative and effective.

Agreements for the new monitoring well are being developed and Spangler is hopeful the project will be completed this summer, although it depends on the availability of the drilling company. DWR is working on future funding for the implementation of GSP related work.

A very important survey will be sent out soon for all GSAs to provide feedback on the grant application process and areas they anticipate needing funding for implementation.

C. GSP Outreach: Technical Advisory Committee Update – Judie Talbot

1. Public Workshops

Judie Talbot, SVGMD Outreach Facilitator, reported that the seventh TAC meeting was held on May 10. The members discussed: the comments received for the first draft of Chapters 2 and 3 for Groundwater Quality and Subsidence; the public workshops; a February webinar conducted by DWR and the Water Board; and Tribal Outreach. Further discussions were held regarding groundwater levels, groundwater-dependent ecosystems, and interconnected surface water. The next TAC meeting is scheduled for June 21, 2021.

Talbot also reported on the two public workshops held in May. Each workshop provided an overview of SGMA, the approach to develop the GSP, and the two Groundwater Sustainability Agencies followed by descriptions of the key sustainability indicators.

D. Larry Walker Associates GSP Update – Laura Foglia

1. GSP Model Revisions – Gus Tolley

Laura Foglia, LWA GSP Project Manager, gave a presentation to the Board that reviewed material presented at the latest TAC meeting, groundwater level criteria, groundwater dependent ecosystems, and interconnected surface water.

Gus Tolley, hydrogeologist with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, presented model updates to the Board based on new inputs since the last presentation in April. Updates included: changing 2,400 acres to mixed source (groundwater + surface water); better representation of surface water inflow to the valley from Little Last Chance Creek (using DWR reservoir release data); and better representation of Little Truckee River diversions (using observed flow data). There was more discussion held regarding the release of individual pumping data to LWA for model accuracy. Director Roen will talk with Sierra County Counsel and the Board will make a decision at the next meeting.

E. McGinley & Associates GSP Update – Dwight Smith

Dwight Smith, hydrogeologist with McGinley & Associates, shared that his team went out with Jay Huebert to become familiar with the local ranches operations and to get some drone footage. He is planning to go with Huebert when he takes his June well readings and will begin presenting management proposals in the next couple of months.

4) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

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

There were no new well applications.

B. Flow Meter Standardization

Huebert and some of the McGinley team visited the wells in need of standardization upgrades. They anticipate eleven will need to be rebuilt, but only a couple of those are major rebuilds. They are researching alternative repair methods that will hopefully save thousands of dollars. Huebert is thankful for McGinley's help and input and is encouraged that the project isn't quite as extensive as previously thought.

C. Pumping Data Maps 2017-2020 – Tracey Ferguson

The Plumas County GIS coordinator has been working on the pumping data maps and reviewing Ken Schmidt's previous reports to ensure the data is compiled in a comparable manner. It is currently unclear whether Schmidt reported averages or totals for each section of the map, so Ferguson will get confirmation from him before moving forward.

D. Ordinance 18-01, Exhibit A Amendment

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve the Ordinance 18-01 Exhibit A Amendment, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

E. Resolution 21-01 – Setting a Date for a Public Hearing re: Management Charge

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve Resolution 21-01, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

5) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

A. Plumas County Special District Association Board Vacancies

The PCSDA currently has six board vacancies and is in need of new board members. The board clerk will be the SVGMD representative on the PCSDA board.

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 4/19/21

B. Accept finance report/cash balance for May

C. Approve payment of bills

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

7) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 8:31 PM.

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk