

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA
Monday, July 15, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

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

MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Chairman Grandi called the meeting to order at 6:09 PM

Directors present: Roen, Wallace, Roberti, Goicoechea

Directors absent: Sanchez, Ramelli

Also present: Kristi Jamason, Greg Hinds, Jerry Sipes, Katie Tanner, Jay Huebert, Leah Wills, and Jim Swann.

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.

Katie Tanner shared her concern that the Board has been focused on traditional agricultural irrigation (large-capacity wells) during GSP discussions and has not taken other water users into consideration. There's a growing trend in agriculture to irrigate using methods such as aquaponics and tunnels. While these methods may not require permits, they still draw on the water table and can affect water use and quality via fertilizer contamination.

Jim Swann added that new houses outfitted with sprinklers are required to either have wells with 200+ gpm pumping capacity or a water storage system, so residential wells may need to be taken into consideration as well.

Leah Wills shared that Plumas County's new planning director will begin work tomorrow and that Supervisor Michael Sanchez has submitted his letter of resignation. His replacement will be named by Governor Newsom, but there's no time frame for the position to be filled.

3) REPORTS

A. Technician report - Jay Huebert

1. Meter Repairs/Purchases

Huebert measured levels in the groundwater monitoring wells and noted all of them are down a little compared to last month. The Tom Dotta well (MW 1d) is down 28 feet and the D&S well (W5) is down eight feet compared to last month, which is typical for this time of year.

He sent in Goicoechea's 4" meter and Roberti's 10" meter to Technoflo for repair estimates. The 4" meter will need to be completely rebuilt (\$699) and the 10" meter needs a new propeller and bearings (\$539).

Director Roen made a motion to authorize the repair of the 4" and 10" meters, Director Roberti 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

Let the minutes note Director Ramelli arrived at 6:21 p.m.

4) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

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

1. Replacement Well – Bryan Williams

Williams has submitted an application to drill a new large-capacity well to replace a failing ag well. Plumas County has a copy of the original well log, which notes a 1,900 gpm pumping capacity. The proposed location for the new well is further than 200' from the existing well, so Williams will need to submit a variance request to the Board. The application is currently in a holding pattern and will be valid for one year. No action was taken by the Board.

B. Technical Support Services Monitoring Well

Debbie Spangler was unable to attend the meeting, but emailed a TSS Draft Agreement between the District and DWR. Once the Board approves the draft, Spangler will finalize the Agreement and bring it to the August board meeting for approval and signing. If the agreement is approved next month, DWR hopes to begin drilling the new monitoring well in September.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve the draft TSS Agreement and to forward a copy to Sierra County Counsel for review, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

C. GSP Planning Grant – Kristi Jamason

Jamason shared that DWR has changed the PSP Planning Grant due date. Originally the PSP draft listed the expected submission period to be in October or November, but final grant applications are now expected to be due between August 2 and September 6, 2019. The subcommittee met last week to review the timeline, outline and grant budget proposal. Chairman Grandi asked the Board for a decision on how much the District should apply for: the amount can range from \$400,000 to \$2 million; the amount requested is not a guarantee of how much (if any) will be awarded; any money awarded will be utilized at the direction of the Board; and there will not be a penalty on funds that are not spent by the deadline. After attending the subcommittee meeting, Directors Grandi and Roberti recommended the Board apply for the \$2 million maximum. The budget will be presented at the next meeting, but currently the funds would be split into two main categories: 40% would be for GSP development and 60% would fund infrastructure projects.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to apply for \$2 million on the PSP grant, Director Wallace 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

D. GSP Concept Document and Other Activities– Greg Hinds

Hinds has received an informative email from Leah Wills regarding sustainable yield, the water budget, and the conceptual hydrogeological model. He would like to get together with Wills and Burkhard Bohm to discuss these topics and will give a report to the Directors next month. He would also like to meet with Huebert to discuss his anecdotal data describing current historic conditions. Uma Hinman will be reviewing the GSP Concept Document and providing feedback over the next several months, which will help make the concept document as useful as possible when the Plan writer is hired.

E. Snow Survey

Chairman Grandi asked if collecting snow survey data would be valuable to the District. Director Roen said that DWR conducts local snow surveying around the Valley and the information is available online, so the District will not need to set up its own monitoring system.

F. Joint Powers Agreement

The JPA has been updated and approved of by the Board of Supervisors of Plumas and Sierra Counties. The term of this agreement shall be ten years from the date of adoption and shall supersede any and all prior agreements.

Director Roen made a motion to approve the JPA that has been signed by both Counties, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

G. Resolution to Request Collection of Charges on Tax Roll

Director Roberti made a motion to approve, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, Directors Grandi, Roberti, Wallace, Goicoechea, Ramelli and Roen in favor. Director Sanchez was absent for the vote.

5) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

Director Michael Sanchez has submitted a letter of resignation to the Board. Plumas County Supervisor Kevin Goss will be the interim Director until a new Supervisor is chosen to fill Sanchez' seat.

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 6/17/19

B. Accept finance report/cash balance for July

C. Approve payment of bills

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

7) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 7:06 PM.

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk