

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA
Monday, September 16, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.**

Board of Directors
Einen Grandi, Chairman
Don Wallace, Vice-Chair
Dave Goicoechea, Director
Kevin Goss, 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 6:04 PM

Directors present: Roen, Wallace, Roberti, Goicoechea, Goss, Ramelli

Directors absent: none

Also present: Jay Huebert, Greg Hinds, Jerry Sipes, Lisa Grant, Burkhard Bohm, Gary Williams, Bryan Williams, Tania Carlone, Debbie Spangler, Katie Tanner, Mervyn Naidoo, Kevin McInerney, Jim Swann, Dan Martynn, Kristi Jamason and Joe Larmour.

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.

Director Roen made a motion to add an emergency section to the agenda (item 5A) for the Board to take action on a well permit application from Sierra County for Sierra Brooks well #3. The application was submitted late due to an emergency accident in the Sierra County office, Director Goss 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

Director Roen made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

3) REPORTS

A. Technician report - Jay Huebert

1. Meter Repairs/Purchases

The monitoring well readings Huebert took in early September show expected groundwater levels for this time of year. While the groundwater levels are down, they will start coming up again in early October when less water is being pumped. The Directors reviewed their direction from the June 17, 2019 board meeting that Huebert should take well readings from all of the monitoring and irrigation wells monthly from June to November.

4) PUBLIC HEARING

New Water Well Permits Appeal/Variance Application Requests

The Board of Directors will hear comments from the public regarding Appeal/Variance Requests under SVGMD Ordinance 18-01. Any person whose application for a permit has been revoked or denied due to the prohibited area or well spacing requirements appeal therefrom in writing to the Board. At the hearing of an appeal, any interested party may present oral or written evidence. Following the hearing, the Board shall render a decision upon the appeal and may sustain, modify, or reverse any action or decision the Board has taken. The decision of the Board shall be final.

1) Bryan Williams

Chairman Grandi opened the public hearing at 6:14 PM

Williams submitted a large capacity well application to the Board to replace a failing agriculture well. He also submitted a letter to the Directors with two variance requests. First, he would like to drill his replacement well further than Ordinance 18-01 specifies (within 200 feet of the destroyed well). Secondly, instead of destroying his failed well, Williams requested to convert it into a solar powered small capacity stock well for his livestock.

The public hearing closed at 6:18 PM

Director Roberti made a motion to approve the well application and two variance requests submitted by Bryan Williams, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

2) Maddalena Holdings, LLC.

Chairman Grandi opened the public hearing at 6:22 PM

Lisa Grant submitted a letter to the Board on behalf of Dickens Drilling and their work with Maddalena Holdings. She requested the Directors consider the well application again as this will not be a high yield well. Originally the application had been for a domestic well because the plan was to put a house on the property. However, that is put on hold after a failed piezometer test.

Mervyn Naidoo of Abdallah Law Group also submitted a letter to the Board requesting the approval of this well application. The letter stated the well will be used for a small, approved hemp grow on the property and that the estimated use will be 50 gallons per minute to irrigate the 10 acres.

The public hearing closed at 6:39 PM

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve the well application under the following conditions: only one well can be drilled on this parcel; the pumping capacity cannot exceed 99 gpm for the lifetime of the well; and the landowner will purchase a District-approved flow meter to be installed on the well and will pay the annual meter fee, Director Goss 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

5) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

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

2. Bryan Williams

3. Maddalena Holdings, LLC

Added emergency agenda item: Sierra Brooks well #3 application

This is a new community well application which qualifies for an exemption under SVGMD Ordinance 18-01 Section 6 as a community well serving as a municipality.

Director Roen made a motion to approve this application as presented and to include Ken Schmidt's findings on well impacts of this area, Director Goss 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

B. Technical Support Services – Debbie Spangler

1. Monitoring Well Project Agreement

2. GSA Land Use Permit

Spangler shared that the monitoring well is ready to be drilled if the Board is ready to sign the agreement.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve the Monitoring Well Project Agreement and the GSA Land Use Permit, Director Goss 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

C. SVGMD Monitoring Well Agreement With Roberti Ranch

The Board discussed the potential need for a separate agreement between the SVGMD and Roberti Ranch regarding the intent of the land use agreement. If County Counsel recommends having one, the board clerk will bring a new agreement to the next board meeting.

D. SGMA Statewide Updates – Debbie Spangler

Spangler had no statewide updates to report other than the planning grant application period is now open.

E. GSP Planning Grant – Kristi Jamason

Jamason shared that the planning grant opened September 9 and will close on November 1. Phil Bachand anticipates having the first draft to the GSP subcommittee by early October and the Board will be presented with a resolution to approve of the submission at the October board meeting.

F. GSP Implementation Updated Schedule of Activities – Tania Carlone

1. Stakeholder Engagement

The GSP team recommended holding another public workshop this fall, preferably after the grant application has been submitted. The meeting will update the public about the GSP work plan and concept document, Bachand's groundwater study, public involvement opportunities, and what would occur if the District is awarded the grant.

The Board set the workshop date for Thursday, November 21 from 4-6 PM at the Sierra Christian Church in Beckwourth.

G. GSP Concept Document and Other Activities– Greg Hinds

Hinds reported that he has fallen behind, but is still continuing his work on the concept document.

H. Representative for Upper Feather River Watershed IRWM

Director Roen made a motion to approve Einen Grandi as Jim Roberti's replacement on the IWRM Board as the SVGMD representative, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

I. Professional Services Agreement with Burkhard Bohm

Director Goicoechea made a motion to extend Burkhard Bohm's previous professional services agreement to January 1, 2020 with no additional funding from the original six thousand dollars, Director Goss 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

6) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

Linda-Estelí Méndez, PhD candidate University of California Davis, Center for Environmental Policy and Behavior: For participating in the SGMA Governance Survey, the SVGMD was randomly selected as a winner of a \$100 Amazon gift card.

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.

J. Approval of The Minutes as Read/Distributed For 8/19/19

K. Accept finance report/cash balance for July + August + September

L. Approve payment of bills

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

8) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 8:11 PM.

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk