

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SIERRA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
81059 HIGHWAY 70 BECKWOURTH, CA 96129
Monday, April 17, 2023 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 6:01 PM
Directors present: Goicoechea, Ceresola, Ramelli, Roen
Directors absent: Roberti, Wallace
Also present: Tracey Ferguson and Ben Volk
Via Zoom: Gus Tolley, Betsy Elzufon and Judie Talbot

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.

Ben Volk with J-U-B Engineers, Inc. introduced himself as a licensed well driller who had worked with McGinley & Associates on Sierra Valley GSP projects. He came to learn more about the District's RFQ.

3) REPORTS

A. Meter Technician Report – Jay Huebert

Huebert took monitoring well readings on April 13, except for the well at the Grizzly Golf course due to snow. Due to the weather, this was the first reading he was able to take this year. He reported that most of the water levels are recovering well and are higher than they have been in the past four years. Next month he plans to take early flow meter readings on some ag wells that were used over the winter.

B. GSP Planning Committee Update – Judie Talbot

Judie Talbot, SVGMD Outreach Facilitator, reported that the Planning Committee met on April 6, with agenda items focusing on implementation activities and funding. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has responded to the Sierra Valley concept proposal with follow-up questions. The Plumas Watershed Forum is likely to be inviting full grant applications after the Forum meeting in June. The committee also discussed the DWR survey sent to GSAs regarding land repurposing and fallowing.

Tracey Ferguson and the Board clerk are preparing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) ahead of potential GSP implementation funding. This would allow vendors to submit their qualifications and, if deemed sufficient, be retained as a qualified vendor to respond to yet-unspecified scopes of work. This would streamline the process for developing task orders and agreements.

C. DWR Update – Debbie Spangler

Spangler was unable to attend the meeting; no report.

D. Grant Funding Opportunities

Betsy Eluzfon, LWA associate, shared that the CDFW and Plumas Watershed Forum concept proposals have been submitted. The good news for the Plumas Watershed Forum grant is that only two applications were submitted. The Sierra Valley bid was for ~\$1.5M and the other applied for ~\$200k, so there might be enough money available to fund both proposals. Notifications will go out in June if they would like the SVGMD to submit a full proposal application. The CDFW responded to the Sierra Valley proposal with follow-up questions for more information. Those funds would be available this year. Chairman Grandi stated that that number one goal of these grants would be to get on the ground GSP implementation and recharge projects completed.

4) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

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

B. Request for Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) for Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation Activities

Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director, prepared an SOQ for professional services for GSP implementation activities. This SOQ covers all future grant opportunities, so it is not specific to any one grant. This way the Board can create a list of qualified firms to select from in the future. Teams of firms are acceptable in the SOQ, as well as individual consultants. Interested consultants have a week to submit questions and then all answers will be posted online. There is a 30 day time period for submission (May 22). Interviews may happen at the Board's discretion. A short list of qualified consultants will be selected by June 30.

Director Roen made a motion to approve the posting of the SOQ, Director Ceresola 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

C. Small-GSA Coalition

The board clerk shared that a coalition of small GSAs is looking to request a set-aside allocation of State funding for small GSAs for Fiscal Years 2023-24 and 24-25. If there is sufficient interest, the funding request will be presented to an assembly budget subcommittee on April 19. The coalition has reached out to the SVGMD requesting we contact our state assembly representative to ask for their support in this effort. The Board directed the clerk to work with the coalition informally and to submit a letter of request for support.

5) 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 3/20/23

B. Approve payment of bills

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

6) ADJOURNMENT

Director Grandi adjourned the meeting at 6:50 PM

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk