

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SIERRA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
81059 HIGHWAY 70 BECKWOURTH, CA 96129
Monday, January 18, 2021
5:30 p.m. Closed Session
6:00 p.m. Regular Session**

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
Dave Goicoechea, Director
Kevin Goss, Director
Greg Ramelli, Director
Jim Roberti, Director
Paul Roen, Director

MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS (5:30 PM)

Chairman Grandi called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM
Directors present: Grandi, Goicoechea, Ramelli, Wallace, Roen
Directors absent: Roberti, Goss
Also present: There were no others present.

2) PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION

The public may address the Board on any item on the closed session agenda before the Board adjourns to closed session. Speakers are limited to a five (5) minute presentation.

There was no public comment.

Director Roen made a motion to go into closed session at 5:33 PM, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

3) CLOSED SESSION

The Directors will move into Closed Session to discuss the following items:

1) Public Employee Evaluation of Performance (Gov. Code section 54957(b)(1).)

a. Meter Technician

b. Board Clerk

2) Conference with Labor Negotiators (Gov. Code section 54957.6.)

Unrepresented employee: Board Clerk Under Negotiation: Terms and Conditions of Employment

Closed session ended at 5:58 PM

4) RETURN TO OPEN SESSION (6:00 PM)

Director Goicoechea made a motion to go into open session at 6:03 PM, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

Directors present: Grandi, Goicoechea, Ramelli, Wallace, Roen

Directors absent: Roberti, Goss

Also present: Tracey Ferguson, Kristi Jamason, Rick Roberti, Jay Huebert, Judie Talbot, Dwight Ceresola, Jim Swann, and Greg Hinds.

Present via Zoom: Debbie Spangler, Betsy Elzufon, Tracy Schohr, Laura Foglia, Gus Tolley, and Shey Rajagopal.

5) REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

Chairman Grandi reported that during Closed Session the Board completed two employee evaluations: one for the board clerk and one for the meter technician. Grandi will meet with those employees to discuss their performance evaluations. The Board also discussed a wage increase for the board clerk. No action was taken.

6) 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 was no public comment.

7) REPORTS

A. Meter Technician Report – Jay Huebert

Huebert provided the Directors with a well summary recording a total of 12,796.46 acre feet for municipal and agricultural pumping in 2020. Overall use was up from 2019, but the total was not as high as pumping levels from other years, such as 2015 when agricultural wells pumped over 12,800 acre feet and municipal well data was not yet being included in the District's annual pumping totals.

Huebert took monitoring well readings November 29, which displayed typical levels for this time of year. The majority of wells are in recovery now that the ag wells are turned off. The Calpine well levels continue to drop in to February and then begin to recover in early spring. In order to have well readings that compare closely with SGMA's baseline January 2015 date, and because the conditions are dry enough this year to take measurements, the Board gave direction for Huebert to also take readings in January.

Director Roen made a motion to amend the agenda and move to Item 8J, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

B. Plumas County Update – Tracey Ferguson

Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director, introduced Dwight Ceresola as the newly elected Plumas County Supervisor for District One. The next Board of Supervisor's agenda will include the appointment of Supervisor Ceresola to the SVGMD Board and will name Supervisor Goss as the Board alternate.

C. DWR Statewide Update – Debbie Spangler

DWR is reviewing the GSPs submitted by critically overdrafted high- and medium-priority basins in January 2020.

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

Judie Talbot, SVGMD Outreach Facilitator, reported that the second TAC meeting was held virtually on December 7. Based on survey responses received from some of the TAC members, LWA has started working on draft materials for the groundwater quality and subsidence sections of the GSP.

The third TAC meeting was held virtually on January 11 and consisted of refining the Communication and Engagement Plan, recapping survey responses, and reviewing the approach to modeling and data inputs. The next TAC meeting will include a data portal tutorial, which the Board is welcome to attend. The next TAC meeting will be conducted in-person with an option to attend virtually.

Talbot shared that Tania Carlone's Facilitation Support Services task order was set to expire on December 31, 2020, but the task order had ~115 facilitation hours remaining to support the Sierra Valley GSP process. The task order is being amended to substitute Judie Talbot for Tania Carlone as the facilitator and the expiration date will be extended to January 2022. This will cover Talbot's time to attend SVGMD board meetings and to prepare and conduct three public workshops.

8) **DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS**

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

There were no new well applications.

B. Election of Chairman & Vice-Chairman for 2021

Director Roen made a motion to keep Einen Grandi as District Chairman and Don Wallace as Vice-Chairman, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

C. Appointed Directors and Terms of Office

<u>Board Position</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>
Director 1	Dwight Ceresola	Plumas County Supervisor	1/5/2025
Director 2	Paul Roen	Sierra County Supervisor	1/5/2025
Director 3	Jim Roberti	Plumas County Appointee	1/5/2025
Director 4	Don Wallace	Sierra County Appointee	1/5/2025
Director 5	Greg Ramelli	Plumas County Appointee	1/1/2023
Director 6	Dave Goicoechea	Sierra County Appointee	1/1/2023
Director 7	Einen Grandi	District Appointee/Director-at-large	1/1/2023

D. Employment Agreement for the Meter Technician

Director Roen made a motion to approve Jay Huebert's employment agreement, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

E. Employment Agreement for the Board Clerk

Director Roen made a motion to authorize Chairman Grandi to modify and approve the amended employment agreement for the board clerk, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

F. Technical Support Services – New Monitoring Well Land Use Agreement

Debbie Spangler reported that Director Roberti talked to the D&S Ranch landowners about the new monitoring well location and the SVGMD board clerk has emailed them the agreement template. A project specific agreement will come before the Board and the landowners for signatures prior to the projected start date of summer 2021.

G. Pumping Data Maps for 2017 – 2020

As the GSP will be managing regional zones rather than individual wells, the Board would like to provide LWA with pumping data categorized by sections. Geo-hydrologist Ken Schmidt submitted a cost-estimate of \$7,500.00 to the Board to prepare pumping data maps for 2017 through 2020.

Tracey Ferguson shared that the Plumas County GIS coordinator is also available to do the work and would commit to the confidentiality of the individual data. The cost-estimate is \$2,500.00 and the work would be reimbursable by the GSP grant.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to accept Plumas County's offer to create the 2017-2020 pumping data maps, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

H. Ordinance 18-01 Zone Map Amendment Proposal for the Chilcoot Subbasin

At the previous board meeting, geo-hydrologist Ken Schmidt provided a report extending the cross sections of the no-drill zone to include parts of the Chilcoot subbasin. The Board held a discussion on whether to adopt the lines Schmidt suggested or to extend them to the District's boundary lines. Director Roen suggested expanding the no-drill zone to Schmidt's suggested lines and then requiring any new large-capacity well applicants within the Chilcoot subbasin to have studies done showing the new well will not have a negative impact.

The Board gave direction to the clerk to move forward with working with County Counsel to amend Ordinance 18-01.

I. SGMA Implementation for the Sierra Valley Subbasin (5-012.01) DWR Grant Agreement Category (d): Monitoring/Assessment Request for Proposals (RFP) for Professional Services

Ferguson reported that after coordinating with the GSP team, LWA had submitted an approach to scope for Category (d) in November 2020, but David Prentice, Sierra County Counsel, has determined that this project must go out to bid due to the District's purchasing policy. The RFP will be released January 19 and will end January 29. The Board selected Chairman Grandi, Director Roen, Tracey Ferguson, and Kristi Jamason to form the interview committee.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to move forward with the Category (d) RFP process, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

J. Flow Meter Standardization and Calibration

Huebert has discussed the well rebuild work with the landowners. The magmeters have not been ordered yet, but the vanes have been delivered and he will start installing those. Debbie Spangler, DWR, shared that the District can be reimbursed through the grant for purchasing equipment like vanes and magmeters to complete the upgrades and that the Board can hire landowners as a subcontractor under a professional services agreement. The District would pay them for their materials and labor and then be reimbursed through the grant. This method would require that a professional also be hired to draw up plans for each rebuild and then sign off that the work was done correctly.

K. Larry Walker Associates GSP Update

- 1. 3-Month Schedule Outlook**
- 2. WQ and Subsidence Survey**
- 3. Input Data for Model and Data Portal**

Laura Foglia, LWA GSP Project Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board with GSP updates. The three month schedule outlook focused on water quality, subsidence, suggested monitoring network, approach to groundwater dependent ecosystems, and the water budget. She also presented input data for the data portal that includes the number of identified wells and their uses, land use, irrigation types, and water sources.

9) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

- A.** Email to the SV GSP from Warren Simison re: North Portola Mine
- B.** Earl Withycombe – Previous Sierra County Supervisor that was involved in the formation of the SVGMD. To acknowledge the 40th anniversary of the District, he is interested in sending his founding documents to the Board and providing a brief presentation at the next meeting.

10) 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 11/16/20**
- B. Accept finance report/cash balance for December**
- C. Approve payment of bills**
- D. Independent Auditor's Report for Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2018 and 2019**

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

11) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 8:21 PM.

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk