

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SIERRA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
81059 HIGHWAY 70 BECKWOURTH, CA 96129
Monday, May 18, 2026 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
Paul Roen, Vice-Chairman
Dwight Ceresola, Director
Dave Goicoechea, Director
Matt Kilmurray, Director
Greg Ramelli, Director
Jim Roberti, Director

MINUTES

1) CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

Director Ceresola called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM
Directors present: Ceresola, Roberti, Goicoechea, Ramelli, Kilmurray
Directors absent: Grandi and Roen
Also present: Judie Talbot
Via Zoom: Chris Hutton, Debbie Spangler, Betsy Elzufon, Tracey Ferguson, Carl Butz, Jay Huebert

Director Goicoechea made a motion for Director Ceresola to be acting Chairman for this meeting, Director Kilmurray 2nd, motion passed, roll call vote: Directors Roberti, Ceresola, Goicoechea, Ramelli, and Kilmurray all voted yes.

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.

There were no public comments.

3) REPORTS

A. Meter Technician Report – Jay Huebert

Huebert took readings on May 2. He said there were around ten wells being pumped by the first of the month, so he expects levels to start dropping next month. Between October 1, 2025 and May 1, 2026 there was 157 acre-feet pumped, which Huebert thought was pretty good for having a dry winter and pretty light spring.

He shared that the meter at Arnold Potter's was replaced with a magmeter during the upgrades a few years ago, but the first magmeter quit and the second one has already had to be reprogrammed, yet still didn't track Potter's pumping accurately last year. Huebert said the magmeter is still under warranty if the Board wants to try a third one, or the other option would be to put a McCrometer prop meter back on. The Board Directed Huebert to replace the magmeter with a new one while it's still under warranty.

Acting Chairman Ceresola directed a change to the agenda to discuss Item 4B directly after Item 3A, and then the meeting returned to the original agenda order.

B. DWR Update – Debbie Spangler

Spangler shared that DWR is currently reviewing the GSP annual reports that were submitted at the beginning of April.

C. Outreach and Engagement Update – Judie Talbot

Judie Talbot, GSP Facilitator, reported that she will be working with the Board clerk and Tracey Ferguson on the document to get the well sounders transferred to Plumas and Sierra counties and LWA can provide a presentation to the counties on how they operate. With the fair coming up in July, Talbot will have draft handouts for the Board to review at the June meeting.

D. LWA Team Project Update – Laura Foglia

Betsy Elzufon, LWA Associate, shared that a concept proposal was submitted last week for the SWEEP grant, which is a block grant for on-farm irrigation efficiency projects. Notification will be given in June if that proposal was accepted, and then a full proposal can be submitted in August. The next applications to be submitted will be for the WaterSMART and applied science grants. She also shared that some repairs need to be done at Potter's and Griffin's and that Hauff Excavation is ready to do the work, once things dry out. Director Goicoechea asked how those repairs are being funded and Elzufon responded through the CDFW grant.

E. Stetson & DRI Team Project Update – Steve Reich/Jim Thomas

Reich was unable to attend the meeting, but the Board clerk reported Stetson was still working under the Plumas grant collecting data, and currently working on two pivot conversions with high-efficiency sprinkler packages.

4) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

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

There were no new well applications.

B. SVGMD Meter Technician's Well Monitoring List: Sierra Brooks + Vontour Wells

Spangler shared that there are a couple of wells DWR has had trouble measuring consistently for the spring and fall measurements due to access issues. She asked if Huebert would be able to take the readings for the fall and spring GSP data submissions. Huebert agreed, saying one well is a municipal well in Sierra Brooks and the other is an irrigation well in Chilcoot.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve Huebert taking spring and fall measurements at the Sierra Brooks well and the Trinity Vontour irrigation well, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, roll call vote: Directors Roberti, Ceresola, Goicoechea, Ramelli, and Kilmurray all voted yes.

C. Budget Amendment to LWA's Professional Services Agreement for CDFW Grant Work

Director Goicoechea made a motion to accept the amended LWA agreement pending District Council's and CDFW's approval, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, roll call vote: Directors Roberti, Ceresola, Goicoechea, Ramelli, and Kilmurray all voted yes.

D. Resolution 26-01 – Setting a Date for a Public Hearing re: Management Charge

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve Resolution 26-01, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, roll call vote: Directors Roberti, Ceresola, Goicoechea, Ramelli, and Kilmurray all voted yes.

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 4/20/26

B. Approve payment of bills and finance reports

1. Isaacs #57299 for \$8,353.27 D&S sprinkler package

2. Isaacs #57300 for \$6,737.51 for Bar One sprinkler package

Director Ramelli made a motion to approve the consent calendar, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, roll call vote: Directors Roberti, Ceresola, Goicoechea, Ramelli, and Kilmurray all voted yes.

6) ADJOURNMENT

Director Ceresola adjourned the meeting at 6:34 PM

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk