

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA
Monday, December 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

Director Grandi called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM

Directors present: Grandi, Roberti, Goicoechea, Wallace

Directors absent: Goss, Roen, Ramelli

Also present: Debbie Spangler, James Swann, Jay Huebert, Greg Hinds and Kristi Jamason.

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.

Jim Swann (addressing a question that was raised at the SVGMD groundwater workshop held on December 3) shared that more native weed species are spreading into crop fields because they have more time to grow and their season has gotten longer. The weeds get started earlier than the alfalfa in the spring and grow later into the fall.

3) REPORTS

A. Meter Technician Report - Jay Huebert

Huebert gave the Directors the 2019 irrigation well pumping data. Total agricultural extraction for the year was 7,474.986 acre/feet. He will obtain the municipal well readings and report the annual pumping total within the District at the next meeting. He will also bring pumping totals from previous years.

He shared that pumping extraction is down considerably compared to recent dry years. While several active wells are still not being used, a few more were used this year than last year, which could be due to surface water access.

Huebert contact Linda Sanford and Ron Tucker about the Potter well (MW5) that began artisianing, but neither can remember that happening before.

B. SVGMD Public Workshop Held on December 3, 2019

Chairman Grandi shared that ~30 people attended the workshop. The Board is looking for ways to get higher attendance numbers at future workshops. He thanked Greg Hinds for his clear, concise presentation.

C. Plumas County Supervisor District One Vacancy

The application filing period has closed for the Supervisor District One position. Three applications were submitted by the filing deadline and will be on the ballot for the March primary. Governor Newsom has interviewed a possible candidate whom, if chosen, would fill in until the elected Supervisor's term begins in January 2021.

D. SGMA Statewide Updates – Debbie Spangler

DWR is in the process of reviewing PSP Grant applications. The tentative hope is that draft awards will be announced by the end of January.

1. Technical Support Services

Spangler gave the Directors a diagram of the new monitoring well's depths and screens of the five data loggers. Due to freezing water and coordination conflicts with the well driller, the well is still incomplete. Two of the five pipes still needs to be cleaned out. Hopefully the project (and a water quality test) will be completed by spring.

Spangler also notified the Board of available funding for projects tied to water transfers.

2. Facilitation Support Services

The application for funding to continue Tania Carlone's facilitation support services has been submitted. Spangler has done her portion of the application review and now it is being reviewed by the DWR project team.

4) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

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

There were no new well applications.

B. Meter Technician Monitoring Schedule

The Directors reviewed the direction given to Huebert at the June 2019 board meeting (*Director Ramelli made a motion to approve Huebert to monitor all of the monitoring and irrigation wells monthly from June to November, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor*).

After discussion with Huebert, the Board's amended direction is: all monitoring and irrigation wells will be monitored monthly from March to November and no monitoring will take place from December through February.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve Huebert to monitor all of the monitoring and irrigation wells monthly from March to November, Director Wallace 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

C. Ordinance 19-03 – Enacting a Large-Capacity Well Management Charge for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 large-capacity well management charge ordinance, Director Roberti 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

D. GSP Concept Document and Other Activities– Greg Hinds

Hinds' contract term ends on December 31. He reported to the Directors that he did not use all of his contracted hours and would like to complete the GSP concept document using his remaining hours once the Bachand and Associates report is finished. He has been able to review about a dozen GSPs submitted by other basins and hopes to incorporate that information into Chapter 3 (Sustainable Management Criteria). The Board directed Hinds to continue working on the concept document using his remaining hours. Hinds' also shared that Burkhard Bohm plans to finish his proposal by the end of January.

E. Updated Professional Services Agreement for Greg Hinds

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve Hinds' new contract for six months with an updated scope of work, Director Wallace 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

F. Updated Independent Contractor Agreement for the Board Clerk

The state of California passed new legislation (AB5) which provides an employment classification assessment for employees and independent contractors. David Prentice, Sierra County Counsel, has reviewed the legislation and is of the position that the District's board clerk is affected by this bill. Prentice is working on an employment agreement for the board clerk and the meter technician to be reviewed at the next board meeting.

G. Setting the Date for the January 2020 Monthly Board Meeting

The next District meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2020. The meeting will open at 5:30 PM for the Board to conduct employee evaluations in closed session. The regular meeting will begin at 6:00 PM.

5) CORRESPONDENCE LOG

E-mail Invitation from Corey McLaughlin (Kings River Conservation District): Presentation by ACWA-JPIA regarding a potential litigation pool for GSAs to be held Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 10 AM in Fresno.

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 11/18/19

B. Accept finance report/cash balance for December

C. Approve payment of bills

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

7) ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 7:57 PM.

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk