

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SIERRA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
81059 HIGHWAY 70 BECKWOURTH, CA 96129
Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

This meeting will also be available via Zoom Teleconferencing:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87847235864?pwd=YWFYaTErR1BUTjA3cHFiOHUvRTcydz09>

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

Chairman Grandi called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

Directors present: Grandi, Roberti, Goicoechea, Ramelli, Roen, Kilmurray, Ceresola

Directors absent: none

Also present: Kai Lunaria, Gus Tolley, Steve Reich, Joel Barnard, Laura Foglia, Betsy Ezlufon, Tracey Ferguson, Drew Myers, Daniel Howe, Collin Brown

Via Zoom: Judie Talbot, Jim Thomas, Rebecca Smith, Jay Huebert

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.

Daniel Howe, from neatMon, introduced himself to the Board and shared that they will be doing installations tomorrow.

3) REPORTS

A. Meter Technician Report – Jay Huebert

Huebert took readings on October 3. He shared that monitoring well levels were consistent with last month. Total ag pumping for this past water year (October 1, 2024 to October 1, 2025) was 7,018 acre-feet. Last year's total was 7,813 acre-feet. He is still waiting for the municipal wells' pumping totals, but hopes that he will have them soon in order to present the full pumping report at next month's meeting. To avoid winter water damage, Huebert will be pulling the meter at Green Gulch in November, and there is one other meter that is rattling and needs to be repaired.

B. DWR Update – Debbie Spangler

Spangler was unable to attend the meeting.

C. GSP Facilitator Update – Judie Talbot

Judie Talbot, GSP Facilitator, shared that the Planning Committee is working on holding a TAC meeting in the beginning of 2026 to report on GSP Implementation progress.

D. LWA Team Project Update – Laura Foglia

Laura Foglia, GSP Project Manager, stated LWA's updates would be discussed on later agenda items during this meeting.

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

Jim Thomas, Project Manager for DRI, shared that panels have been placed around eight soil moisture sensors for protection. They have compiled all of the ag water use from 2021 to 2024, which will be going into the ag irrigation efficiency report they are collaborating on with Stetson. The report will include the farm assessments and on-farm improvements that have been made. Stetson and DRI will need irrigators' pumping data for the report, but won't publish on a well-by-well basis. The Board directed staff to provide the pumping data to Stetson with the condition that individual data is not to be published.

Steve Reich, Principal of Stetson Engineers, discussed the possibility of a Lake Davis water transfer by using water from Frenchman Lake, which would result in ~300 acre-feet annually. The Board directed Reich to first discuss options and plans with the Last Chance Creek Water District.

4) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS

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

- 1. Sierra County - Dual nest monitoring well (Griffin)**
- 2. Sierra County - Dual nest monitoring well (Easley)**

Director Roen made a motion to approve the two well applications for dual nest monitoring wells, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

B. Security Agreement between the SVGMD and Sub-Grantees

Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director, reported that the agreement was taken back to Counsel after last month's edits and received his approval. GSP consultants will start working with irrigators to complete the agreements.

Director Roen made a motion to approve Agricultural Equipment Agreement as presented, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

C. DWR Grant Amendments re: Budget and Scope of Work

DWR is accepting grant amendment proposals until October 31. The clerk and consulting teams worked together to adjust grant component amounts based on what's been spent-to-date and projected project costs.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve the DWR grant budget and language amendments and submit them to DWR, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

D. Small GSA Coalition – Betsy Elzufon

Betsy Elzufon, LWA Associate, shared that several GSAs have been working together as a group under the name Small GSA Coalition. The Coalition recognizes that small GSAs (defined as a GSA that pumps less than 10,000 acre-feet per year) have more of a burden than larger GSAs, so their purpose is to advocate with DWR and state legislators on policies that can affect small GSAs differently. There are 30 GSAs that qualify, but currently about 15 agencies have been participating at some level. \$3.5 million from Prop 4 funding has been allocated to small GSAs to be used for administration, reporting, and monitoring costs to help keep GSAs sustainable. They would like to divide the funds evenly among participating GSAs and make it a non-competitive process so that there aren't a lot of costs associated with applying for the funds. Elzufon and Talbot have been attending Coalition meetings for the last few months.

Sonoma Valley has been paying for the Coalition, but to keep it sustainable they have decided participating GSAs will need to split the cost. The annual amount will depend on the number of participating GSAs, but the estimate is four to six thousand dollars per year. The Prop 4 funding is available now and ends July 1, 2027, which would cover the time frame for the 5-year Periodic Evaluation to be submitted in January 2027 and the Annual Report to be submitted by April 1, 2027.

Director Roen asked what would happen if we pump over 10,000 acre-feet in a year? Elzufon responded that's an average number. Chairman Grandi asked what the Prop 4 restrictions are and what the associated costs are for the District once grant funding runs out? Elzufon said the Prop 4 restrictions are still being worked out, and that the SGMA compliance budget estimated ~\$20,000 per year. The Board directed Elzufon to send the agreement to staff to be reviewed by District Counsel and then bring it to the next meeting.

E. Sierra County Groundwater Recharge Project

1. Hauff Excavation Change Order No. 1 (Easley)

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve Hauff excavation change order No. 1 for an additional Easley structure for \$36,416.00, contingent upon available grant funds, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

2. Hauff Excavation Change Order No. 2 (Potter)

Director Roen made a motion to approve Hauff excavation change order No. 2 to move and expand the proposed Potter structure for \$13,638.83, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

3. Hauff Excavation Change Order No. 3 (Griffin)

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve Hauff excavation change order No. 3 for a dry well at Griffin's for \$76,197.30, with the condition that any subsequent costs must come before the Board for approval, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

4. Hauff Excavation Change Order No. 4 (Potter)

Director Ramelli made a motion to approve Hauff excavation change order No. 4 for a dry well at Potter's for \$76,197.30, with the condition that any subsequent costs must come before the Board for approval, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

F. Isaacs & Assoc. Q-40339 for \$35,208.81 for D&S Sprinkler Packages

This quote is for seven high-efficiency pivot sprinkler packages for D&S Ranch (materials only).

Director Roen made a motion to approve Isaacs & Associates' Q-40339 for \$35,208.81 plus freight, Director Goicoechea 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

G. Your H2O Pro Est. 1455 for \$49,070 for D&S Pivot Sprinkler Install (x7)

This estimate is for the installation of the seven high-efficiency pivot sprinkler packages for D&S Ranch.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve Your H2O Pro Est. 1455 for \$49,070, Director Ramelli 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

H. JW Kerns Est. TC-2509-19 for \$34,934.42 for Loyalton High wheel line

This estimate is for a wheel line at Loyalton High School (equipment and installation).

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve JW Kerns Est. TC-2509-19 for \$34,934.42, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

I. JW Kerns Quote for Bar One Field 1 irrigation efficiency pipeline/install

J. JW Kerns Quote for Bar One Field 4 irrigation efficiency pipeline/install

Joel Barnard shared that quotes for agenda items I and J were not received in time for tonight's meeting, but he estimates the combined total of the equipment and installation for this pipeline project will be ~\$175,000. In order to move ahead with the project, the Board took the following action:

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve agenda items I and J with a combined, not to exceed cost of \$175,000.00, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

K. JW Kerns Quote for D&S irrigation efficiency pipeline/install

This quote was not received in time for tonight's meeting. No Board action was taken.

L. Isaacs & Assoc. Quote for Williams in-lieu recharge pipeline

This quote is for a pipeline at Dotta Ranch, which will allow surface water to be pumped from Little Last Chance Creek (instead of using groundwater). This quote is for materials only.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to approve Isaacs & Associates Quote 40422 for \$64,047.25 plus freight, Director Roen 2nd, motion passed, all in favor.

M. Your H2O Pro Estimate for Williams in-lieu recharge pipeline installation

This quote was not received in time for tonight's meeting. No Board action was taken.

N. Isaacs & Assoc. Quote for D&S Ranch in-lieu recharge pipeline #1

This quote was not received in time for tonight's meeting. No Board action was taken.

O. Your H2O Pro Estimate for D&S in-lieu recharge pipeline#1 installation

This quote was not received in time for tonight's meeting. No Board action was taken.

P. Isaacs & Assoc. Quote for D&S Ranch in-lieu recharge pipeline #2

This quote was not received in time for tonight's meeting. No Board action was taken.

Q. Your H2O Pro Estimate for D&S in-lieu recharge pipeline #2 installation

This quote was not received in time for tonight's meeting. No Board action was taken.

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 9/15/25

B. Approve payment of bills and finance reports

- 1. UC Davis #670258 for \$2,650.18 for water quality cross-sectional analysis**
- 2. UC Davis #670259 for \$2,075.92 for water quality cross-sectional analysis**
- 3. DBS&A #0280013 for \$1,800 for DMS hosting**
- 4. Isaacs #56866 for \$39,805.86 for Grandi pipeline**
- 5. Isaacs #56870 for \$524.36 for Potter wheel line sprinklers**
- 6. Isaacs #56871 for \$2,096.84 for Macey wheel line sprinklers**
- 7. Isaacs #56872 for \$1,830.98 for Marsh wheel line sprinklers**
- 8. Isaacs #56884 for \$795.71 for Grandi sprinkler package equip.**
- 9. Isaacs #56885 for \$4,915.52 for Grandi pivot sprinkler package**
- 10. Isaacs #56886 for \$2,238.18 for Potter pivot sprinkler package**
- 11. Isaacs #56887 for \$9,670.56 for Macey pivot sprinkler packages**
- 12. neatMon #1329 for \$8,537.10 for Goicoechea moisture sensors**
- 13. neatMon #1331 for \$8,000.85 for Bar One moisture sensors**
- 14. neatMon #1342 for \$12,805.65 for D&S moisture sensors**
- 15. Your H2O Pro #6602 for \$16,500 for McHenry sand separator install**
- 16. Your H2O Pro #6749 for \$3,200 for Goodwin pivot sprinkler install**

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

6) ADJOURNMENT

Director Grandi adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk