

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
GOLDEN WEST RESTAURANT, LOYALTON, CA  
Monday, October 8, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.**

Board of Directors  
Einen Grandi, Chairman  
Greg Ramelli, Director  
Jim Roberti, Director  
Paul Roen, Director  
Tom Rowson, Director  
Michael Sanchez, Director  
Don Wallace, Director

**MINUTES**

**1) CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS**

Chairman Grandi called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Directors present: Roberti, Wallace, Rowson, Ramelli, Sanchez, Roen

Directors absent: none

Also present: Kristi Jamason, Greg Hinds, Tania Carlone, David Prentice, Christy Goodman, Pat McCarthy, Burkhard Bohm, Jim Swann, and Leah Wills, Tom Fitzmeyers, Dave Goicoechea.

**2) PUBLIC HEARING**

**Adoption of an Ordinance Enacting a Management Charge for Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

The Board of Directors will hear comments from the public regarding SVGMD's proposed ordinance to fix a large-capacity well management charge for the fiscal year 2018-2019 for the purpose of paying the costs of initiating, carrying on, and completing all of the powers, projects, and purposes for which the District is organized, fixed at \$200.00 per well per year.

Opened 6:03 pm

No public comment.

Closed 6:04 pm

**3) 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.*

No public comment.

**4) REPORTS**

**A. Inactive Well Registration**

Director Rowson commented that he will meet with Jay Huebert at the end of the month to collect GPS coordinates for the registered inactive wells.

**B. SV Managed Groundwater Recharge Project**

There were no new updates.

**C. Technical Report Request for Proposal**

There were no new updates.

**D. Technician report - Jay Huebert**

**1. Meter Repairs/Purchases**

Huebert was not present for the meeting and no report was available for the Directors. He will get the readings to the clerk so that the report can be emailed to the Board.

## **5) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS**

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

#### **1. Roberti Ranch**

Roberti Ranch has submitted an application to replace a collapsed large-capacity well. Per Ordinance 18-01 (Sec. 6) replacement wells are permitted, "provided the replacement well does not exceed the engineered pumping capacity of the well that is destroyed, and provided the replacement well is drilled within two hundred (200) feet of the destroyed well."

Director Roberti was able to verify the pumping capacity of the collapsed well (1,200 gpm) with Huebert via past pumping data. Instead of destroying the old well, Roberti would like to convert it to a small capacity well and use it for stock water. He will submit a variance request to the Board at the next meeting.

Roberti noted this process has highlighted the need for the District's meter technician to begin recording data on all wells' pumping capacities for verification purposes.

Director Roen made a motion to approve the Roberti Ranch well application according to Ordinance 18-01 replacement requirements with the option to request a variance regarding his old well, Director Ramelli 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, Directors Grandi, Wallace, Rowson, Ramelli, Sanchez, and Roen in favor. Director Roberti abstained from the vote.

### **B. Ordinance 18-01 Adopting Requirements Pertaining to New Water Well Permits**

Grandi questioned why the definition of a large-capacity well used within Ordinance 18-01 includes casing size and isn't solely based on pumping capacity. Roberti agreed, noting that a house or stock well could have a casing larger than 6" but not have 100+ gpm pumping capacity. Director Rowson noted that currently the ordinance states any large-capacity well being pumped must pay the annual meter fee and that consistency within the District is important. A discussion on how to treat large-capacity wells pumping under 100 gpm will be held at the next meeting.

### **C. Joint Powers Agreement – David Prentice**

David Prentice (Sierra County Counsel) met with Craig Settlemire (Plumas County Counsel) to discuss changes to the JPA. They modified section 10.4 and corrected a few typos.

Roen made a motion to move forward with the JPA as presented, Sanchez 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

### **D. Public Trust Doctrine to Groundwater – David Prentice**

Prentice presented the Public Trust Doctrine to Groundwater to the Board. Coming from the 3rd District Court of Appeal, Plumas and Sierra Counties are covered by this doctrine. In 2001 the California Supreme Court ruled that the Public Trust Doctrine does not apply to groundwater. However, if groundwater can be connected to any navigable water, the Public Trust Doctrine indicates that whomever is in charge of a public function has a fiduciary duty to the public to maintain that resource. This applies to the SVGMD and is above SGMA. Now the GSP needs to be ratcheted up as the public trustee of this groundwater resource.

### **E. Professional Services Agreements**

#### **1. Burkhard Bohm**

Director Rowson made a motion to approve the professional services agreement with Burkhard Bohm, Director Sanchez 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

### **F. Technical Support Services**

#### **1. Monitoring Well Location**

Debbie Spangler was unable to attend this meeting, but the clerk relayed her emailed update to the Board:

*The Technical Support Service request for monitoring well installation has been received and approved; however, we await further direction from the Technical Support Services program. The Sierra Valley application is pending direction regarding the location from the board. Once we have an approved location we can work with the TSS program to the complete required project work. Due to timing we likely have the winter months to complete this work. TSS also offers downhole video of wells (without pump equipment). This may be very useful if there are inactive wells in the areas of monitoring interest that do not have good construction information available.*

Roberti talked to D&S owners Darrin Damonte and Dave Stix; both said they approve of that location. The clerk will get their written approval before proceeding.

Director Roen made a motion to approve the Caltrans gravel turnout location on Highway 70 contingent on written authorization from the land owners, Director Roberti 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

## **2. Potential Transducer Locations**

DWR has transducers available from Technical Support Services. These provide continuous monitoring to help determine long-term trends. It was previously suggested that inactive wells could be used for monitoring if approval was given by well owners. Kristi Jamason suggested having Burkhard make suggestions of the best monitoring locations once the GPS coordinates have been gathered by Rowson and Huebert.

### **G. DWR SGMA Update – Debbie Spangler**

Ian Espinoza was going to provide this update, but was unable to attend this meeting. He emailed the clerk the following information:

1. *Basin boundary modification submittals are currently under review; DWR expects to release draft modifications with 30-day public comment period in Winter of 2018.*
2. *The PRA for water master data is in progress.*
3. *The 2018 Draft PSP and Guidelines for Prop. 1 IRWM funding have been released.*
4. *We will be holding a public meeting in our Red Bluff office in November, date and time TBD. Remote access (Skype) will be available.*
5. *Grant applications due sometime in April 2019.*

### **H. Groundwater Sustainability Plan – Greg Hinds**

Hinds reported that he has reached out to Dr. Kavvas for the UCD groundwater model input files; they are trying to figure out if the District has the rights to the files based on the contract.

The Public Records Act (PRA) request (regarding the water master's weekly readings of all the creeks entering the basin) has been submitted under two different requests. The first is specific to the 2014 records and the second request is for records back to 2011, including flow data.

Hinds commented that the GSP team calls have been going well and that progress is being made to meet the communications and engagement requirements. Currently the focus is on preparing the presentation for the District's October 25 groundwater workshop. He has also met with Bohm to discuss SGMA requirements and the sections he would like to work together on. Hinds will continue to draft the GSP to the best of his ability and then have Bohm review the information before the official draft is presented to the Board for evaluation.

### **I. DWR Facilitation Support Services – Tania Carlone**

In preparation for the District's upcoming workshop, Carlone presented a draft agenda and presentation to the Directors and asked for their input and suggestions.

The Board agreed Phil Bachand and Associates should be included in the GSP team calls so that they are involved in the process and to provide a smooth transition into writing the District's planning grant proposal.

## **6) CORRESPONDENCE LOG**

- A. DWR fall groundwater level measurements will be collected the last two weeks of October.
- B. USDA grants \$4.97 million for research evaluating snowpack and water allocation. Tracy Schohr at UCCE will reach out to UNR to learn more and explore the possibility of Sierra Valley being one of their research sites.

## **7) 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 8/14/18 and 9/10/18**
- B. Accept finance report/cash balance for September and October (\$56,692)**
- C. Approve payment of bills**
  - 1. Clerk - \$850 (October)
  - 2. Office Supplies - \$52.29 (ink + SGMA workshop postcards)
  - 3. Website - \$50 (monthly site fee)
  - 4. Greg Hinds - \$595 (9/10 – 10/8)
  - 5. State Comp. Insurance Fund - \$233.52
  - 6. Legal Advertising – \$147.80
  - 7. Jay Huebert (9/1 – 10/7)
    - a. Wages - \$400
    - b. Mileage – \$98.10

Director Rowson made a motion to accept the consent calendar, Director Roen 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

**8) ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk