

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
SIERRA CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
81059 HIGHWAY 70 BECKWOURTH, CA 96129  
Monday, August 16, 2021 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**  
**Don Wallace, Vice-Chair**  
**Dwight Ceresola, Director**  
**Dave Goicoechea, Director**  
**Greg Ramelli, Director**  
**Jim Roberti, Director**  
**Paul Roen, Director**

**MINUTES**

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

Chairman Grandi called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM  
Directors present: Grandi, Goicoechea, Ramelli, Roen, Wallace, Roberti  
Directors absent: Ceresola  
Also present: Judie Talbot, Greg Hinds, Kristi Jamason, Dwight Smith, Tracy Schohr, Jay Huebert and Gus Tolley  
Zoom: Tracey Ferguson, Debbie Spangler, Betsy Elzufon, Ryan Aston, John Bliss, and Carl Butz.

**2) PUBLIC HEARING**

**Adoption of an Ordinance Enacting a Management Charge for Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

*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 2021-2022 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.*

The public hearing was opened at 6:06 p.m.  
There was no public comment.  
The public hearing closed at 6:07 p.m.

**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.*

There was no public comment.

**4) REPORTS**

**A. Meter Technician Report – Jay Huebert**

Huebert took monitoring well readings on July 30. He reported all of the well levels are pretty far down, but the most concerning are MW1 and W5. He expects they will be low again next month, but then they typically start to recover in the middle of September.  
Huebert took a broken meter to Technoflo and spent time with their technician learning how to program magmeters. If the District wants to return its three unused spare meters, there would be a 50% restocking fee. The Directors directed Huebert to keep the spare meters.

The property at Maddalena Holdings has been abandoned and vandalized, including the well's meter. If the property sells, the new owner will be responsible for replacing the meter. DS Ranch has one meter that needs to be rebuilt. Green Gulch has a meter with a broken totalizer but it's difficult to remove and the owner doesn't want it taken off during pumping season, so Huebert will take the pumping average for the four driest years to use for this year's total.

The mid-year pumping total to date is 9,300 acre/feet (January 1, 2021 to August 1, 2021; not including the broken Green Gulch meter).

#### **B. DWR Update – Debbie Spangler**

Spangler shared that she is gathering information about adjusting the surface water delivery date to optimize pumping. The notice of exemption for the new monitoring well is almost complete, but there is a shortage of drilling materials and workers.

#### **C. GSP Outreach: Technical Advisory Committee Update – Judie Talbot**

Judie Talbot, SVGMD Outreach Facilitator, shared that the tenth TAC meeting was held earlier today, which focused on the cost of GSP implementation and the water budget.

The Board was asked to review a table of Project and Management Actions, which is a preliminary list of ideas that could be used in the GSP. At the end of the month LWA will be releasing the GSP drafts of chapter three and chapter four (Sustainable Management Criteria and Project and Management Actions). The draft will be released to the public in October, In November and December LWA will review and revise the draft based on public comment, and the final document will be submitted by the end of January 2022. DWR's assessment will be based on the GSP meeting SGMA requirements, the likelihood of meeting sustainability, and whether any other basins trying to meet sustainability goals will be affected.

#### **D. Larry Walker Associates GSP Update – Laura Foglia**

##### **1. GSP Model Update – Gus Tolley**

Gus Tolley, hydrogeologist with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, reported that a big milestone has been met now that the model is running. The next step is to get it calibrated in order to have a more definitive model. Tolley also discussed the importance of the water budget GSP requirement, which is separated into a three subsystem approach: soil, surface water, and aquifer.

##### **2. Paying for GSP Implementation – SCI Consulting Group**

Ryan Aston presented an introduction to groundwater sustainability funding for the Sierra Valley basin by quantifying projected costs and evaluating funding options.

#### **E. McGinley & Associates GSP Update – Dwight Smith**

Dwight Smith, hydrogeologist with McGinley & Associates, has engineered meter retrofit plans ready for review and approval. To save on pipework costs, 16 of the wells can be upgraded with flange insert meters. He recommends the District orders those directly to save on contractor surcharges. Ten wells will require piping rearranging. His proposal would be for the District to get on a five year cycle for calibrating propeller meters (about eight or nine meters per year). Smith will be going out with Huebert on Saturday to survey and collect coordinates of the registered inactive wells.

### **5) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS**

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

One new application was approved for a domestic well in Beckwourth.

#### **B. Flow Meter Standardization**

Director Ramelli moved to give Directors Roen and Roberti authorization to review and approve the engineer drawings and begin the RFP process, Director Goicoechea 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor

#### **C. Inactive Wells Management Actions**

Chairman Grandi wants to put a document together for the Board to follow regarding inactive wells and activation requests.

**D. Sierra Valley Groundwater Cross-Sectional Analysis**

Tracy Schohr provided the draft water quality results to the Board. The results found low nitrates, low boron, and one case of high arsenic on the north side of the basin.

**E. Groundwater Sustainability Plan 90-Day Notice to Adopt**

Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director, notified the Board that SGMA requires GSAs to provide notice of imminent GSP adoption to the areas covered by the GSP. The public review drafts will be released on October 11 and a tentative Board adoption date of the GSP is set for December 20.

Director Goicoechea moved to approve the GSP 90-Day Notice to Adopt, Director Roen 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

**6) CORRESPONDENCE LOG**

**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 7/19/21**

**B. Accept finance report/cash balance for July (Period 13) and August (Period 1)**

**C. Approve payment of bills**

Director Roen made a motion to approve the consent calendar with the exclusion of the August Period 1 financial report, Director Goicoechea 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

**8) ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 8:31 PM

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk