

**SIERRA VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
SIERRA CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
81059 HIGHWAY 70 BECKWOURTH, CA 96129  
Monday, February 21, 2022 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**  
**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**

Vice-Chairman Wallace called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM  
Directors present: Goicoechea, Roen, Roberti, Wallace and Ramelli  
Directors absent: Ceresola and Grandi  
Also present: Tracey Ferguson, Chris Spencer, and Dick Spencer  
Zoom: Judie Talbot, Jay Huebert, Dwight Smith, Debbie Spangler, Gus Tolley, Betsy Elzufon, Laura Foglia, Ryan Fulton, Kristi Jamason, Tracy Schohr, John Rickman, Mike Hogan, and Carl Butz

**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 was no public comment.

**3) REPORTS**

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

No well elevations were collected this month; Huebert will collect March elevations before the next Board meeting.

**B. DWR Update – Debbie Spangler**

Spangler shared that the Sierra Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan has been submitted and is posted on the DWR website for public comment. Once that 75 day comment period is over DWR will begin the review process, although public comments can be submitted anytime during the two-year review period. Tracey Ferguson is organizing the press release to notify stakeholders and local papers of the public comment opportunity.

DWR will be collecting spring groundwater level measurements at the end of March. INSAR subsidence data was released last week; if DWR has it uploaded in time the data can be used in the Sierra Valley annual report. Regarding the second monitoring well the SVGMD has been awarded, Spangler shared that basins receiving their first monitoring wells have been prioritized. Depending on the timeline of those installations, the new one could be installed here this summer.

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

Judie Talbot, SVGMD Outreach Facilitator, shared that the planning committee met on February 3 to discuss the submission and implementation of the GSP, the Sierra Valley annual report, the Facilitation Support Services application, and grant funding opportunities. The last TAC meeting will be February 28. Director Roberti thanked Talbot and the TAC for all of their hard work and input.

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

Laura Foglia, LWA GSP Project Manager, reported the Sierra Valley GSP was successfully submitted. The next step is Plan implementation and filling in the gaps between what has already been done and what needs to be done. Spangler reminded the Board that the GSP can be amended at any time, even during DWR's review period.

## **4) DISCUSSIONS/ACTIONS**

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

There were no new well applications.

### **B. Facilitation Support Services Application – Judie Talbot**

Prior to tonight's meeting, Talbot had talked with Chairman Grandi and Director Goicoechea about an opportunity for continued FSS funding. If the Board is interested, this funding would enable Talbot to continue to provide facilitation support to the District via email, newsletters, meeting/stakeholder coordination, planning committee meetings, public workshops, etc. The proposal is for a 161.5 hour contract from April through December 2022.

Director Goicoechea made a motion to move forward with the FSS application as presented, Director Roberti 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

### **C. Annual Metered Well Pumpage Map for 2021 – Tracey Ferguson**

Tracey Ferguson, Plumas County Planning Director, provided a proposal to the Board offering Plumas County GIS services to create the pumping data map for water year 2021. This year will include both agricultural and municipal wells and will go by the water year dates of October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. The cost is not to exceed \$1,000.00

Director Goicoechea made a motion to proceed with the 2021 well pumpage map, not to exceed \$1,000, Director Ramelli 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

### **D. GSP Annual Report due April 1, 2022**

Foglia shared that LWA has created a first draft of the Sierra Valley annual report. Their goal is to streamline a template and process for the District to use each year. This year's report will be presented at the March meeting for Board approval prior to submission.

Gus Tolley, hydrogeologist with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, gave a brief PowerPoint presentation to the Board of what will be included in the annual report: general GSA information; an executive summary; maps of groundwater elevation contour maps; hydrographs of monitoring points; groundwater extractions; changes in groundwater storage; cumulative basin storage plots; groundwater pumping by water use sector; surface water used or available for recharge or in-lieu use; total water use by sector; and a description of progress towards Plan implementation. Kristi Jamason shared that the District has received data from the watermaster for Little Truckee River Diversion, Frenchman Reservoir and Lake Davis Reservoir, as well as available stream data to use in the report.

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

#### **1. Flow Meter Standardization - Meter Replacement Program**

Dwight Smith, hydrogeologist with McGinley & Associates, reported that all meters (with the exception of a replacement for DMS 12 – Director Roberti will contact Green Gulch to discuss the matter) have been ordered and delivered to H2OPro. They have ordered all of the required materials and once those arrive installations will begin. Another meter site (DMS 66 – Potter) has been identified as needing upgrades, so a 6" meter will be ordered for that location. The installation seems simple and Potter has offered to make the modifications.

## **2. Irrigation Efficiency Study**

A mailed flyer and an email notifying local irrigators of the proposed study were sent out today. Landowners must notify the District of their interest in participating by February 28. The District (via grant funding) will purchase the equipment and the landowner will provide the labor to install the LEPA system. If there is enough interest, it might be possible to provide enough funding to equip two pivots. This will be considered a demonstration project, not a research effort. It will likely take multiple years to demonstrate water savings, but Smith considered this a great year to begin gathering data.

## **3. Prioritizing Category (d) Scope with Existing Funding**

Smith coordinated with Ferguson to create Tier 1 and Tier 2 Grant Category (d) tables demonstrating proposed implementation projects and available funding. Funding for the subsidence network was left as originally budgeted. Table 1 projects are linked to GSP deliverables, while Table 2 projects are maneuverable components based on Board prioritization and remaining funds.

Director Roen made a motion to approve Table 1 tonight and to review Table 2 in a subsequent meeting, Director Goicoechea 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

## **F. Project and Management Action Prioritization and Grant Opportunities**

Foglia presented the Watershed Restoration Grant Program (CDFW Prop1/Prop 68) opportunity to the Board. This grant could provide a funding bridge between the current Prop 68 grant the District has been awarded (that ends this September) and DWR's implementation grant that has not been released yet. The proposed scope for the SVGMD would be for \$1 million to focus on project management, recharge characterization, planning for groundwater recharge projects, and groundwater dependent ecosystem monitoring network/data gaps. The application is due by March 4. If awarded, funds will be available in the fall of 2022 and can be spent through March 2026.

Director Roen made a motion to create a committee made up of Director Roberti, Director Roen and Tracy Schohr with authorization to approve the submission of the grant after Chairman Grandi's review of the application, Director Roberti 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, Directors Roen, Roberti, Ramelli, and Wallace approved; Director Goicoechea voted nay.

## **5) CORRESPONDENCE LOG**

## **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 1/10/22 and 1/17/22**

**B. Accept finance report/cash balance for January and February**

**C. Approve payment of bills**

Director Ramelli made a motion to approve the consent calendar, Director Roberti 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed, all in favor.

## **7) ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Grandi adjourned the meeting at 9:03 PM

Jenny Gant, Board Clerk