

MINUTES OF A REGULAR
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
WESTSIDE DISTRICT WATER AUTHORITY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Held May 21, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Westside District Water Authority Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WDWA GSA or Agency) was held, on May 21, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. in person at the Belridge Water Storage District office located at 21908 7th Standard Road, McKittrick, CA 93251.

1. CALL TO ORDER)
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Chairman Goff called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

ROLL CALL)
_____)

The following directors were present, constituting a quorum of the Board: Rob Goff, Leon Elwell, Rob Yraceburu, Rod Stiefvater, and Bernard Pugét.

The following director was absent: Jeremy Blackwell

Also present were: Mark Gilkey, Justin Rowe, Morgan Campbell, Jamie Marquez, Josh Dowell, and Alex Dominguez, Legal Counsel.

The following were present via teleconference: Tom Watson, Abbigale Seal, Morgan Mitchell, Mary King, Brianda Rodriguez, and Mushtaq Mohideen.

2. CHANGES TO AGENDA)
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There were no requests to revise the agenda.

3. CONSENT AGENDA)
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The Chairman asked if there were any questions concerning the Consent Agenda, which items were detailed with staff reports in the Board packet. On motion of Rob Stiefvater, seconded by Bernard Pugét, and unanimously carried, the Board approved each item listed on the Consent Agenda on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff
 Rob Yraceburu
 Rod Stiefvater
 Bernard Pugét

Leon Elwell

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jeremy Blackwell

4. FINANCIAL REPORT)
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- a. **2024 WDWA GSA Budget Correction:** Morgan Campbell presented a correction to the 2024 budget that was passed in October 2023. The 2024 WDWA GSA Budget included a line item for \$21,000 to complete an audit. When the budget was totaled, and cost shares were distributed to Berrenda Mesa Water District (BMWD), Lost Hills Water District (LHWD), and Belridge Water Storage District (BWSD), this \$21,000 line item did not end up in the total budget. As a result, BMWD, LHWD, and BWSD were each under-assessed \$7,000. The budget total has been corrected on WDWA GSA's financials and an adjustment for the BMWD, LHWD, and BWSD contributions to WDWA GSA will need to be approved by each district's board.

- b. **Undistricted Lands ("white lands") 2023 Assessment:** Morgan Campbell presented a staff recommendation for assessing undistricted lands at \$2.11/acre for 2023 SGMA regulatory coverage. Currently, 13% of WDWA GSA's acreage is considered undistricted "white lands" and expenses for attributed to this acreage for 2023 were approximately \$72,000. After discussion, Leon Elwell moved to adopt the 2023 assessment of \$2.11/acre for 2023 SGMA undistricted lands and was seconded by Rob Yraceburu. The assessment was adopted on the following unanimous vote:

AYES: Rob Goff
Rob Yraceburu
Rod Stiefvater
Bernard Pugét
Leon Elwell

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jeremy Blackwell

5. WDWA GSA OPERATIONS)
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a. **Approve final draft amendments to WDWA GSA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

(GSP): Morgan Campbell presented a staff recommendation to approve final draft amendments to WDWA GSA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and authorize its submission by the Kern County Subbasin Point of Contact to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) before May 29, 2024, for review by SWRCB staff; as well as authorize its release for public review and comment. Morgan Campbell presented the responses by the Department of Water Resources to the GSP that was submitted and deemed inadequate and what updates in the WDWA GSP will address undesirable results and DWR's concerns. After discussion, Rob Yraceburu moved to authorize the amendments and release the WDWA GSP for public comment and submission to the SWRCB. The motion was seconded by Rod Stiefvater and unanimously adopted on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff
Rob Yraceburu
Rod Stiefvater
Bernard Pugét
Leon Elwell

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jeremy Blackwell

b. **Authorize execution of amended and restated Kern County Subbasin Coordination Agreement among Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies:**

Alex Dominguez presented an update on the revisions to the Coordination Agreement that are proposed to facilitate Subbasin-wide collaboration and prevent individual GSAs from impeding coordination within the Subbasin. Leon Elwell moved to authorize the execution with the amendments and upon final approval of legal counsel, seconded by Bernard Pugét unanimously adopted on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff
Rob Yraceburu
Rod Stiefvater
Bernard Pugét
Leon Elwell

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jeremy Blackwell

- c. **Discuss and authorize updated notification to cities and county of intention to adopt new or amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan:** Alex Dominguez shared that the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires GSAs submit a 90-day Notice of Intent to adopt a new or revised GSP to all affected cities and counties prior to adoption of the GSP. Bernad Pugét moved to authorize WDWA GSA submitting a Notice of Intent to adopt a new or amended GSP to Kern County, seconded by Rob Yraceburu, and unanimously adopted on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff
Rob Yraceburu
Rod Stiefvater
Bernard Pugét
Leon Elwell

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jeremy Blackwell

- d. **Subsidence Management Actions:** Morgan Campbell presented an informational update that staff are actively working to implement the well registration management action passed by the Board on February 20, 2024. Staff are developing the process for completing the well registration via email and standard mail. No Board action was taken.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NON AGENDIZED ITEMS)
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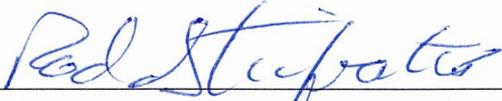
No public participation occurred.

7. EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION)
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The Chairman directed that the Board move into closed session at 11:55 a.m. Legal counsel advised the Board that it has authority to hold a closed session under Government Code sections 54956.9(d)(2), and 54956.9(d)(4). All persons other than the Directors, Mark Gilkey, Justin Rowe, Morgan Campbell, Jamie Marquez, Josh Dowell, Abbigale Seal, Morgan Mitchell, Mary King, Brianda Rodriguez, and Mushtaq Mohideen retired from the meeting. No reportable action was taken.

8. ADJOURNMENT)
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There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.



Rod Stiefvater
Secretary of the Board of Directors

APPROVED:



Rob Goff
Chairman