

MINUTES

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

Board Members:

SIERRA HIGHLANDS EASTERN SIERRA CSD INDIAN CREEK-WESTRIDGE CSD WHEELER CREST CSD TRI VALLEY GWMD	John Camphouse Ron Stone Luis Elias Glenn Inouye Dave Doonan	COUNTY OF MONO CITY OF BISHOP COUNTY OF INYO BIG PINE CSD KEELER CSD	Fred Stump Chris Costello Dan Totheroh BryAnna Vaughan
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August 8, 2019

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. at the Bishop City Council Chambers, Bishop, CA.

1. Pledge of allegiance

The Chairman led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Public Comment

The Chairperson opened the public comment period and there was no one wishing to address the Board.

3. Introductions

The Board introduced themselves with one absence, Keeler CSD.

4. Approval of minutes from the June 13, 2019 OVGA Board meeting

The Chairperson requested a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2019 meeting as corrected. Motion to approve the corrected minutes by Ron Stone, second by Chris Costello. Motion passed 7 yes (30.36 votes) 2 abstentions (7.64 votes), 1 absent (2 votes).

5. Board Member Reports

The Chairman wished to note that in addition to pump back projects, Mono County has also been advised of two mining proposals and are accessing what can be done.

6. OVGA staff reports

- a. Financial Report
- b. Report on Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority activities
- c. OVGA Fiscal Audit Contract for 2018-2019

Laura Piper, Inyo County Water Department, provided the financial report and stated the OVGA cash balance is \$138,287.06. She stated transactions since last meeting were facility rental costs and consultant fees. Dr. Aaron Steinwand stated Indian Wells Valley continues to work with LADWP to strike a deal; their GSP is still not completed; and a contract has been completed for Fechter & Company.

7. Status of Keeler CSD participation in the OVGA

Dr. Aaron Steinwand stated there was a draft letter sent out approved by the Board last month regarding their participation on the OVGA Board. He stated they have discussed it with their Board and we should receive an official letter in the near future.

8. Workshop on the implications of DWR reprioritization of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin

Dr. Aaron Steinwand provided a PowerPoint presentation on the various options available to the Board based on the upcoming final basin priority rating from Department of Water Resources (DWR). He provided five options to the Board reviewing the advantages and disadvantages of each possible scenario. The Board expressed a concern with meeting the state deadline for the GSP with current delays; cost justification for the plan; not making a final decision regarding the future of the Board without the final basin priority rating; and discussion with their individual Boards regarding the options. The Board and staff discussed this item in detail. Mary Roper stated she is puzzled why the LADWP lands are classified as adjudicated, and is pumping around Owens Lake regulated by SGMA or the Water Agreement; Philip Anaya and Earl Wilson stated they support moving forward with the GSP. Malcolm Clark stated his support for continuance of the authority, and the development and implementation of the GSP.

Chris Costello left the meeting at 3:00pm.

The Chairperson called a break at 3:28 pm and reconvened the meeting at 3:43 pm.

9. Report on Ad Hoc Stakeholder Engagement Plan Development Working Group.

Dr. Aaron Steinwand stated the working group is on hold until DWR provides the final basin priority rating.

10. Discussion regarding future agenda items.

The Board requested that if available, have staff bring final determination from DWR; a non-binding poll on if Board remains or disbands; and Keeler CSD's official letter regarding OVGA participation.

11. Set next meeting

The next OVGA meeting was tentatively scheduled for September 12, 2019.

12. Adjourn

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4:02 pm.