

OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 28, 2023

The Regular Meeting of September 28, 2023, of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency was called to order at 3:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Ojai City Hall, 401 S. Ventura Street, Ojai, CA 93023.

Attendees were: Board Members: Richard Hajas, Jim Finch, Bob Daddi, and Andrew Whitman. Interim General Manager Julia Aranda and Clerk of the Board/Administrator Cece VanDerMeer.

Also in attendance: Jordan Kear, Consultant, Peter Candy, Attorney.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chair Hajas called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. VanDerMeer called the roll.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Hajas.

3. **Director Announcements/Reports/Comments:**

Mutuals: None

Ojai Water Conservation District: None

City of Ojai: None

Casitas Municipal Water District: None

Community Facilities District Report: None

4. **GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS:**

Julia Aranda stated the new website is set to go live on October 13, 2013. Aranda reported she is still working on the missing meeting minutes and completing the 2017-2019 audits.

5. **BASIN STATUS REPORT:**

Jordan Kear reported that the Basin level is 80.09 feet and capacity is at 81%.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA:**

None

7. **CONSENT ITEMS:**

a. **Approve Minutes and Financial Report:**

Daddi motioned to approve the consent agenda; Whitman seconded.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Finch, Whitman, Daddi and Chair Hajas.

Noes: None

8. ACTION ITEMS:

a. CMWD-OBGMA Staffing Agreement:

The Board discussed the staffing agreement. Peter Candy discussed the agreement with CMWD's attorney. Aranda stated that with some modifications, the Staffing Agreement will be on the next CMWD's Board meeting. Finch motioned to approve; seconded by Daddi.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Finch, Whitman, Daddi and Chair Hajas.

Noes: None

9. PUBLIC HEARING:

a. Proposed Ordinance to Protect the Southwest Upper Saturated Zone (SWUSZ) From Groundwater Extraction and Depletion (Ordinance No. 12):

Hajas opened the public hearing.

The Board discussed the proposed Ordinance No. 12 to protect the Upper Saturated Zone. Daddi motioned to approve Ordinance No. 12; seconded by Whitman.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Finch, Whitman, Daddi and Chair Hajas.

Noes: None

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Fee and Wellhead Fee Cost of Service Model.

The Board discussed the GSP Fee and Wellhead Fee Cost of Service Model. GM Aranda presented a draft GSP Rate Model to implement the GSP and the necessary revenue to do so over the next five years. Attorney Candy discussed GSP fee implementation and required public notification. The Rate Model will be updated with the Board's feedback and presented at the October meeting.

b. Consider Cancellation of November 30, 2023, meeting and reschedule December meeting to December 5, 2023.

The Board decided to keep the November 30, 2023 and December 28, 2023 meeting and cancel the December 28, 2023 if necessary.

10. ADJOURNMENT-- The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 pm. The next regular scheduled meeting will be October 26, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber in Ojai City Hall, 401 S. Ventura Street, Ojai.

ATTEST: _____