

OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of March 8, 2023

The Special Meeting March 8, 2023 of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency was called to order at 3:00 PM by Chair Hajas in the Council Chambers, Ojai City Hall, 401 S. Ventura Street, Ojai, CA 93023.

Attendees: Bob Daddi, Jim Finch, Andy Whitman, Peter Thielke, Chair Hajas. General Manager, John Mundy and Clerk of the Board, Roberta Barbee.

Also in attendance: Jordan Kear, Trevor Jones (Dudek)

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

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

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

Mutuals: Thielke reported Senior Canyon roads and main supply lines took major damage from the January storms. They are trying to keep their own resources and not take them from Lake Casitas.

Ojai Water Conservation District: Finch reported OWCD did meet to discuss upcoming elections and a meeting with LAFCO regarding getting the spreading grounds operable.

City of Ojai: Whitman reported the City is working on a general and growth management revision plan. They will be looking to work with OBGMA to assist with the water data.

Casitas Lake Level: Hajas reported Lake Casitas is at 53% and 125,400 acre-feet.

Community Facilities District Report: Daddi reported very few people were flooded out. Public requests to have access to real-time basin water levels like what CMWD has for Lake Casitas.

4. **GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS:** None

5. **BASIN STATUS REPORTS:** Jordan Kear presented his report, "March to Artesia-Ojai Basin conditions during record weather winter."

6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA:** None

7. **ACTION ITEMS**

a. **Proposal for GSP Support Services - Dudek**

The Board considered approving GSP support proposal by Dudek. Finch motioned to approve; Daddi seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Finch, Whitman, Thielke, Chair Hajas

Noes: None

b. Dudek Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities

Dudek provided an update on activities conducted in support of the GSP. The Board agreed to approve at the next meeting pending edits.

Finch motioned to approve; Daddi seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Finch, Whitman, Thielke, Chair Hajas

Noes: None

c. LAFCO Municipal Service Review

The General Manager provided a LAFCO comments draft document and opened it up for discussion. The Board reviewed and gave directions to bring it back to the next meeting with a list of the deficient items.

d. Well Application – Gerda Mertz

The General Manager stated this well application does not meet the requirements of the Governor’s Executive order. He recommends it be sent back to the applicant with the needed conditions to comply with the order. The Board agreed.

e. Bookkeeping Services

The Board reviewed to approve agreement with Michelle Gaston.

Daddi motioned to approve; Whitman seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Finch, Whitman, Thielke, Chair Hajas

Noes: None

f. Financial Reports for January 2023

The Board reviewed and approved the Financial Reports as presented.

Daddi motioned to accept; Whitman seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Finch, Whitman, Thielke, Chair Hajas

Noes: None

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Casitas MWD Management Support of OBGMA. Chair Hajas approached Casitas MWD General Manager, Mike Flood and asked if Julia Aranda could serve as OBGMA’s Interim General Manager. Julia agreed and a formal agreement will be presented at a later meeting.
- b. General Manager Retirement. John Mundy is set to retire as of April 1, 2023, but will be available to support the OBGMA while transitioning to new management.

9. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency is scheduled for March 30, 2023, 3:00 p.m. to be held in the Council Chambers at Ojai City Hall and by Zoom Teleconferencing

ATTEST: _____