

OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 11, 2025

The Regular Meeting of December 11, 2025, 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 Mike Weaver (arrived at 3:15), General Manager Julia Aranda and Secretary/Treasurer Cece VanDerMeer.

Also in attendance: Peter Candy, Attorney (via zoom) and Jordan Kear, Consultant.

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: Hajas stated that the water connection contract with Santa Barbara County was awarded for construction.

Community Facilities District Report: None

4. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS:

Aranda informed the Board that the Form 700 will be sent to the Board members via email. Aranda stated that she is sending out requests for proposals for the two-year audit period of October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024, and October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025. Daddi questioned why the OBGMA is considered a high priority basin. Candy explained that the OBGMA was in the high priority category, due to the agricultural demand.

5. BASIN STATUS REPORT:

Jordan Kear had a presentation “Well Seasoned”. Kear reported the Key Well was 142.37’ below ground level and there was 60,000 acre-feet in the basin.

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

7. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

a. Finch motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items. Daddi seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Roll Call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Finch, Weaver and Hajas

Noes: None

8. **ACTION ITEMS:**

a. **Administer the Oath of Office to Community Facilities District Alternate, Carla Ferrante di Ruffano:**

Vandermeer administered the Oath of Office to Carla Ferrante di Ruffano.

b. **Well Verification – 1123 Mercer Avenue:**

The Board discussed adopting Resolution No. 2025-05 authorizing well verification for a proposed new well located within the boundaries of the Agency on APN 028-0-010-120/028-0-010-090, 1123 Mercer Avenue. Finch motioned to approve Resolution No. 2025-05. Weaver seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Finch, Weaver and Hajas

Noes: None

c. **Well Verification – 1218 Foothill Drive**

The Board discussed adopting Resolution No. 2025-06 authorizing well verification for a proposed new well located within the boundaries of the Agency on APN 010-0-015-025, 1218 Foothill Road, which is a bedrock well. Daddi motioned to approve Resolution No. 2025-06. Finch seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Finch, Weaver and Hajas

Noes: None

d. **Authorize the General Manager to execute the Cost Sharing Agreement for the Small Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Coalition.**

Aranda stated that the Cost Sharing Agreement for the Small Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Coalition, Memorandum of Understanding would be \$30,000.00 for the first six months; January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026.

Finch motioned to approve the Small Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Coalition Memorandum of Understanding. Daddi seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Finch, Weaver and Hajas

Noes: None

e. Authorize the General Manager to execute the Agreement between OBGMA and Casitas Municipal Water District for Three Groundwater Wells.

Daddi motioned to approve the Agreement between OBGMA and Casitas Municipal Water District for Three Groundwater Wells. Weaver seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Finch, Weaver and Hajas

Noes: None

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

a. Legislative Ad-Hoc Committee Update - None

b. Meter Compliance Ad-Hoc Committee Update - None

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:44 pm. The next regular scheduled meeting will be January 29, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber in Ojai City Hall, 401 S. Ventura Street, Ojai.

ATTEST: _____