

OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 26, 2026

The Regular Meeting of February 26, 2026 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, Bob Daddi, Mike Weaver and Andrew Whitman (arrived at 3:05). General Manager Julia Aranda (via Zoom) and Secretary/Treasurer Cece VanDerMeer.

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

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 reported Lake Casitas is spilling over the spillway.

Community Facilities District Report: None

4. **GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS:**

Aranda is working with the OBGMA bookkeeper to continue to supply the auditors with their information requests. The DWR will have programming for Groundwater Awareness Week in March.

5. **BASIN STATUS REPORT:**

Jordan Kear had a presentation "Almost Super Charged Again". Kear reported the Key Well was 53.3' below ground level and there was 76,000 acre-feet in storage.

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

None

**7. CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

Roll Call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Whitman, Weaver and Hajas

Noes: None

**8. ACTION ITEMS:**

**a. Item: Well Verification – 1126 Mercer Avenue**

- Determine that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by OBGMA for the Oji Valley Groundwater Basin;
- Determine that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not decrease the likelihood of achieving any sustainability goal for the Basin as covered by the Plan; and
- Adopt Resolution No. 2026-01 Authorizing Well Verification for a Proposed New Well Located Within the Boundaries of the Agency on APN 028-0-010-070, 1126 Mercer Avenue

Daddi motioned to approve Resolution No. 2026-01. Weaver seconded.

Resolution No. 2026-01 was approved unanimously.

Roll Call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Whitman, Weaver and Hajas

Noes: None

**9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Aranda presented a list of well permit applications received as of February 26, 2026. DWR is setting aside funding from the approved Proposition 4 for the Small GSAs.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 pm. The next regular scheduled meeting will be March 26, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber in Ojai City Hall, 401 S. Ventura Street, Ojai.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_