

# MINUTES

# Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

## Board Members:

INDIAN CREEK-WESTRIDGE CSD	Luis Elias	BIG PINE CSD	BryAnna Vaughan
COUNTY OF MONO	Rhonda Duggan	LONE PINE PAIUTE SHOSHONE TRIBE	Mel Joseph
CITY OF BISHOP	Karen Kong	OWENS VALLEY COMMITTEE	Mary Roper
COUNTY OF INYO	Dan Tothoroh		

August 12, 2021

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting was called to order at 2:08 p.m. via videoconference.

### 1. Pledge of allegiance

The Chairperson led the pledge of allegiance.

### 2. Public Comment

Carol Ann Mitchell (TVGWMD) stated she wished to make her districts comments on your action item to create management areas as proposed: "We have strongly objected to the Tri-Valley being lumped together in a management area with Fish Slough. Even DWR has recognized Fish Slough as its own basin. Tri Valley has asked for an explanation in our meetings at which your staff and consultants have attended. There has been no concrete answer to our question and no detailed information provided. We did ask for a public meeting to explain this to our constituents but that has never happened. We regret that Tri-Valley and its Board members have sometimes been seen as enemies by the OVGA and that the opportunity to show the State of California that SGMA can improve our area may be lost. However, we want you to know that Tri-Valley loves the Owens Valley and our way of life as much as you do".

### 3. Introductions

The Board introduced themselves with Indian Creek/Westridge CSD absent and Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe leaving early with an alternate, Janice Aten in attendance.

### 4. Approval of minutes from the July 22, 2021 Board meeting

The Chairperson requested a motion to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2021 meeting. Motion to approve the minutes as amended by Dan Tothoroh, seconded by Rhonda Duggan. The Chairperson requested a roll call vote; Luis Elias – absent, Rhonda Duggan – Y, Karen Kong – Y, Dan Tothoroh - Y, BryAnna Vaughan – Y, Mel Joseph - abstain, Mary Roper – abstain . Motion passed 4 Yes, 1 absent, 2 abstentions.

Philip Anaya provided public comment and stated the following is the narrative he wished to convey in the meeting of July 22, 2021 under his comment in item 7: Philip Anaya requested under Management Actions of the Draft Sustainability Plan, could they, the OVGA Staff and Consultant, consider under Additional Activities (of the DGSP) an action of formally requesting a voluntary GSP for the Adjudicated Portion of the Basin and working for Basin wide sustainability with the LADWP. Philip Anaya also requested under Management Areas (of the DGSP), the addition of Bishop Creek for water table monitoring and the management of excess "non adjudicated" (that being flows in excess of required Chandler Degree and California Fish and Wildlife minimal flows) Bishop Creek surface flow waters for recharge of the local aquifer.

### 5. Board Member Reports

The Chairperson opened up Board Member reports and there were no reports or updates provided.

### 6. OVGA staff reports

#### a. Financial Report

Laura Piper, Inyo County Water Department provided the financial report and stated the OVGA cash balance is \$408,274.76; revenue of \$572.61 for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter interest, expense was \$2576.50 in staff services costs.

#### b. Report on Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority activities

John Vallejo stated the IWVGD met yesterday and are still working through the basin wide adjudication that was filed by

the water district which has the potential to interfere with funding from the state for some of their GSP projects including the Recycled Water Project; there are a few ongoing lawsuits regarding the fee; IWVGD are still having overdraft issues and searching for funding to import water.

- c. Michael Draper, Mono County, stated one survey was received in the past 3-4 weeks; data will start being analyzed in order to add it to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan and should have it analyzed by the end of August.

## **7. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding future management actions and associated projected costs to implement the Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

Dr. Steinwand provided an in-depth PowerPoint presentation on proposed management actions; stated it is the last component of the GSP; provided budget assumptions; and the development steps. The Board, staff and public discussed this in detail and at length. Sally Manning stated she understands this is a presentation about the budget because it needs to be in the GSP; we are snowballing towards the January deadline to submit the GSP and complete the grant work; the public hasn't really seen this plan yet; she has not seen certain comments incorporated or acknowledged; Inyo County gets a big hunk of money from LADWP for water work every year that could be spread to the OVGA for the Owens Valley portion; stated it's a conflict for the Water Director to be the OVGA Executive Director; and the Board should consider an independent coordinator once into the plan. Philip Anaya stated he made two suggestions for additional activities in the management actions and can any be added; he would like to see a proposal for some property tax per parcel assessment to support the OVGA so it's not carried by the community service districts; he stated now's the point in time to consider all of the possible management actions that the GSP is going to accomplish here in the basin; the activity that occurs in Tri-Valley is strictly agriculture, Fish Slough is strictly environmental; the wellfields all the way down through the central and south part of the Owens Valley all have distinct and specific issues that will need to be addressed in the GSP; there could potentially be eight management areas.

Dr. Steinwand relayed the GSP timeline, the 60 day comment period, revisions to the GSP and consideration at the December meeting.

Mel Joseph left the meeting at approximately 2:50 pm.

## **8. Action Item: Creation of Owens Valley Groundwater Basin Management Areas**

The Board, staff, and public discussed this item in detail; how the management areas are defined; why Tri-Valley and Fish Slough are in the same area; and why it was divided into the three basin management areas. Sally Manning stated that Tri-Valley and Fish Slough flipped flopped as far as being connected; she understand the arguments about the hydrogeological connection however she thinks the sustainability criteria would be really different for the two; rare plants and pup fish rely on a very shallow groundwater table vs an agricultural area is very different sustainability criteria; she doesn't feel there was sufficient time allowed for public comment at the stakeholder outreach meetings; and expressed her frustration. Lynn Boulton stated if we try to go after LADWP if they excessively over pump the groundwater and we've only been reporting to the DWR just on three management areas, then the average across the three management areas make it look like everything is acceptable and then there is a problem area within that, any of those three areas then we've not provided documentation to DWR that there is a problem so they are going to go along and say the adjudication is working just fine; they won't see the adjudication exceptions given to LADWP are masking a lot of problems. Emily Fox stated she hoped distinct triggers or criteria for within these management areas is actually represented in the draft GSP so that is clear. Sally Manning stated the arguments for and against seem to be the same; she doesn't see the harm in making the area's smaller and more manageable; listening to the description of what the management will consist of it sounds mostly like its monitoring and then responding to things; this is an opportunity to be more proactive as far as management; Inyo County in the LTWA has no regulatory authority over LADWP; why would we allow LADWP to pump at Owens Lake when the OVGA can have regulatory authority over them. Philip Anaya stated in 2013/14 the ditches (in west Bishop) went dry in August, wells didn't start drying up until December; he stated he sent Dr. Steinwand two websites that talk about how surface flow management works with the SGMA. John Vallejo stated the SGMA covers groundwater not surface flow management. Philip Anaya stated how about staff offering not a real specific plan but what would it look like if we separated some of the distinct areas within the Owens Valley portion as an alternative; maybe there is a hybrid that resolves the issues that have been presented.

Rhonda Duggan left the meeting at approximately 3:25 pm.

The Chairperson requested a motion to approve the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin Management Areas as presented. Motion to approve by Dan Tothoroh, seconded by Karen Kong. The Chairperson requested a roll call vote; Luis Elias – absent, Rhonda Duggan – absent, Karen Kong – Y, Dan Tothoroh - Y, BryAnna Vaughan. – Y. Motion passed 3 Yes.

## **9. Discussion regarding future agenda items**

Dr. Steinwand stated one item is to consider whether to release the GSP for public comment.

## **10. Adjourn**

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4:18 pm.

Lg BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description	SS Ref	Date	Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
GL 621601-1000	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2019/2020	JE	07/01/20	02965043	257,728.58	0.00	257,728.58
GL 621601-1000	JEB37035	AutoID: JS20722C Job: 2728031	JE	07/22/20	02728031	75,513.66	0.00	333,242.24
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: CS20722A Job: 2728577	CR	07/22/20	02728577	52,859.66	0.00	386,101.90
GL 621601-1000	JEB37069	AutoID: JS20729D Job: 2733834	JE	07/29/20	02733834	22,654.00	0.00	408,755.90
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19721A Job:2734188	OH	07/29/20	02734188	0.00	165.40	408,590.50
GL 621601-1000	INTRCBL	AutoID:WD19721B Job:2734188	OH	07/29/20	02734188	0.00	66.24	408,524.26
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: JA20806A Job: 2740435	JE	08/04/20	02740435	1,371.90	0.00	409,896.16
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: CR20805A Job: 2739981	CR	08/05/20	02739981	22,654.00	0.00	432,550.16
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19805A Job:2747387	CR	08/17/20	02747387	0.00	2,174.85	430,375.31
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:CR20818A Job: 2749131	CR	08/18/20	02749131	75,513.66	0.00	505,888.97
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19811A Job:2749832	OH	08/19/20	02749832	0.00	1,438.50	504,450.47
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OW20827C Job:2758428	OH	08/31/20	02758428	0.00	33,944.66	470,505.81
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19825A Job:2760763	OH	09/02/20	02760763	0.00	2,494.90	468,010.91
GL 621601-1000	JEB37592	AutoID:JR20C15B Job: 2787152	JE	10/15/20	02787152	0.00	3,000.00	465,010.91
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20C30A Job:2796630	OH	11/02/20	02796630	0.00	2,275.00	462,735.91
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20028B Job:2798921	OH	11/04/20	02798921	0.00	5,673.75	457,062.16
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20N12B Job:2804082	OH	11/13/20	02804082	0.00	78,259.75	378,802.41
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20N24F Job:2813653	OH	12/01/20	02813653	0.00	10,800.00	368,002.41
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20N30A Job:2813653	OH	12/01/20	02813653	0.00	36,818.00	331,184.41
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20D10F Job:2820273	OH	12/11/20	02820273	0.00	2,316.00	328,868.41
GL 621601-1000	JEB38067	AutoID: SW20D14C Job: 2821410	JE	12/14/20	02821410	0.00	9,223.69	319,644.72
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20D15A Job:2822929	JE	12/16/20	02822929	0.00	67,021.70	252,623.02
GL 621601-1000	INTEREST	AutoID: JA20C21E Job: 2826547	JE	12/21/20	02826547	1,027.13	0.00	253,650.15
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21107G Job:2837270	OH	01/12/21	02837270	0.00	37,882.50	215,767.65
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20216B Job:2862067	OH	02/23/21	02862067	0.00	2,184.00	213,583.65
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21224G Job:2864850	OH	02/26/21	02864850	0.00	31,211.50	182,372.15
GL 621601-1000	INTEREST	AutoID: JA20308Z Job: 2870655	JE	03/08/21	02870655	866.84	0.00	183,238.99
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20310A Job:2876096	OH	03/17/21	02876096	0.00	280.00	182,958.99
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:JI21317A Job: 2876914	OH	03/18/21	02876914	0.00	18,767.23	164,191.76
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21317A Job:2877120	OH	03/18/21	02877120	0.00	16,218.75	147,973.01
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21317A Job:2877120	OH	03/18/21	02877120	0.00	480.50	147,492.51
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20311B Job:2877120	OH	03/23/21	02879638	0.00	317.52	147,174.99
GL 621601-1000	JEB38924	AutoID:JI21414A Job: 2894983	JE	04/14/21	02894983	0.00	4,500.00	142,674.99
GL 621601-1000	JEB38925	AutoID:JI21414A Job: 2894983	JE	04/14/21	02894983	0.00	4,500.00	138,174.99
GL 621601-1000	INTEREST	AutoID: JA20419B Job: 2897691	JE	04/19/21	02897691	399.70	0.00	138,574.69
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21429B Job:2907061	OH	05/03/21	02907061	0.00	4,452.50	134,122.19
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD21427A Job:2907061	OH	05/03/21	02907061	0.00	4,161.00	129,961.19
GL 621601-1000	JEB39129	AutoID:JE21507D Job: 2911262	JE	05/07/21	02911262	0.00	9,941.67	120,019.52
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:TB21526J Job:2928585	OH	06/01/21	02928585	0.00	1,535.00	118,484.52
GL 621601-1000	JEB392027	AutoID:JR21715D Job: 2963401	JE	06/27/21	02963401	0.00	2,473.00	116,011.52
GL 621601-1000	JEB392028	AutoID:JR21715D Job: 2963401	JE	06/27/21	02963401	0.00	1,500.00	114,511.52
GL 621601-1000	JEB392052	AutoID:JR21722A Job: 2966811	JE	06/27/21	02966811	0.00	9,037.41	105,474.11
GL 621601-1000	ISO621B	AutoID: IS210723 Job: 2974283	JE	06/27/21	02974283	304,804.81	0.00	410,278.92
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20719A Job:2974214	OH	07/28/21	02974214	0.00	0.27	410,278.65
GL 621601-1000	INTRCBL	AutoID:JA21802D Job: 2977979	JE	08/02/21	02977979	572.61	0.00	407,702.15
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20811B Job:2991718	OH	08/18/21	02991718	0.00	3,885.57	404,389.19
*****Total *OBJT 1000		CLAIM ON CASH			DR	815,966.55	411,577.36	404,389.19
GL 621601-1160	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2019/2020	JE	07/01/20	02965043	1,371.90	0.00	1,371.90
GL 621601-1160	INTRCBL	4th QTR INTEREST RVRS	JE	08/04/20	02740435	0.00	1,371.90	0.00

SHORT  
 BUDDUNIT WITHIN OBJECT

Lg BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description	SS Ref	Date	Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
GL 621601-1160	INTRCBL	4th QTR INTEREST	JE	06/30/21	02977947	572.61	0.00	572.61
GL 621601-1160	INTRCBL	4th QTR INTEREST RVRS	JE	08/02/21	02977979	0.00	572.61	572.61
*****Total *OBJT 1160		INTEREST RECEIVABLE	DR			1,944.51	1,944.51	0.00
GL 621601-1200	GS2107100600	GOLDEN STATE RI ACCT#OWENVAL	OH	06/08/21	02935332	2,473.00	0.00	2,473.00
GL 621601-1200	2122 PREPAID	UA414926:GOLDEN STATE RISK MAN	JE	07/08/21	02957191	0.00	2,473.00	2,473.00
*****Total *OBJT 1200		PREPAID EXPENSES	DR			2,473.00	2,473.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	YREAREND	1. Balance Forward 2019/2020	JE	07/01/20	02965043	0.00	37,624.25	37,624.25
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19721A Job:2733181	OH	07/28/20	02733181	0.00	165.40	37,789.65
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19721A Job:2734188	OH	07/29/20	02734188	165.40	0.00	37,624.25
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19721B Job:2734188	OH	07/29/20	02734188	66.24	0.00	37,558.01
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19805A Job:2747387	OH	08/17/20	02747387	2,174.85	0.00	35,383.16
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19811A Job:2749832	OH	08/19/20	02749832	1,438.50	0.00	33,944.66
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OW20827C Job:2758428	OH	08/31/20	02758428	33,944.66	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19825A Job:2759412	OH	09/01/20	02759412	0.00	2,494.90	2,494.90
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19825A Job:2760763	OH	09/02/20	02760763	2,494.90	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20C30A Job:2796227	OH	10/30/20	02796227	0.00	2,275.00	2,275.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20C30A Job:2796630	OH	11/02/20	02796630	2,275.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20028B Job:2798240	OH	11/03/20	02798240	0.00	5,673.75	5,673.75
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WB20N12B Job:2798921	OH	11/04/20	02798921	5,673.75	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20N12B Job:2803602	OH	11/12/20	02803602	0.00	78,259.75	78,259.75
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20N12B Job:2804082	OH	11/13/20	02804082	78,259.75	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20N24F Job:2811282	OH	11/24/20	02811282	0.00	10,800.00	10,800.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20N30A Job:2812959	OH	11/30/20	02812959	0.00	36,818.00	47,618.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20N24F Job:2813653	OH	12/01/20	02813653	10,800.00	0.00	36,818.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20N30A Job:2813653	OH	12/01/20	02813653	36,818.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20D10F Job:2819778	OH	12/10/20	02819778	0.00	2,316.00	2,316.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20D10F Job:2820273	OH	12/11/20	02820273	2,316.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20D15A Job:2822529	OH	12/15/20	02822529	0.00	67,021.70	67,021.70
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB20D15A Job:2822929	OH	12/15/20	02822929	0.00	37,882.50	37,882.50
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21107G Job:2834074	OH	01/07/21	02834074	0.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21107G Job:2837270	OH	01/12/21	02837270	0.00	2,184.00	2,184.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20216B Job:2859888	OH	02/18/21	02859888	0.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20216B Job:2862067	OH	02/23/21	02862067	0.00	31,211.50	31,211.50
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21224G Job:2863578	OH	02/24/21	02863578	0.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21224G Job:2864850	OH	02/26/21	02864850	0.00	280.00	280.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20310A Job:2875609	OH	03/16/21	02875609	0.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20310A Job:2876096	OH	03/17/21	02876096	280.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21317A Job:2876138	OH	03/17/21	02876138	0.00	16,218.75	16,218.75
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20311B Job:2876457	OH	03/17/21	02876457	0.00	480.50	16,699.25
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21317A Job:2877120	OH	03/18/21	02877120	16,218.75	0.00	480.50
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20311B Job:2877120	OH	03/18/21	02877120	480.50	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20316A Job:2878154	OH	03/19/21	02878154	0.00	317.52	317.52
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20316A Job:2879638	OH	03/23/21	02879638	317.52	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD21427A Job:2904334	OH	04/28/21	02904334	0.00	4,161.00	4,161.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21429B Job:2905264	OH	04/29/21	02905264	0.00	4,452.50	8,613.50
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OB21429B Job:2907061	OH	05/03/21	02907061	4,452.50	0.00	4,161.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD21427A Job:2907061	OH	05/03/21	02907061	4,161.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:FB21526J Job:2925039	OH	05/26/21	02925039	0.00	1,535.00	1,535.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:FB21526J Job:2928585	OH	06/01/21	02928585	1,535.00	0.00	0.00

GLFLTR02

SELECT BUDGET UNIT: 621601

Lg BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description	SS Ref Date	Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20603A Job:2935332	OH 06/08/21	02935332	0.00	2,473.00	2,473.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20603A Job:2937411	OH 06/10/21	02937411	2,473.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20719A Job:2971183	OH 06/27/21	02971183	0.00	2,576.50	2,576.50
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20811B Job:2990910	OH 06/27/21	02990910	0.00	3,885.57	3,885.57
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20719A Job:2974214	OH 07/28/21	02974214	2,576.50	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD20811B Job:2991718	OH 08/18/21	02991718	3,885.57	0.00	3,885.57
*****Total *OBJT 2000		ACCOUNTS PAYABLE		CR	351,107.09	351,107.09	0.00
GL 621601-3000	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2019/2020	JE 07/01/20	02965043	0.00	221,476.23	221,476.23
*****Total *OBJT 3000		FUND BALANCE AVAILABLE		CR	0.00	221,476.23	221,476.23
GL 621601-4301	INTEREST	1ST QRT 20/21 INTEREST	JE 12/21/20	02826547	0.00	1,027.13	1,027.13
GL 621601-4301	INTEREST	2ND QRT 20/21 INTEREST	JE 03/08/21	02870655	0.00	866.84	1,893.97
GL 621601-4301	INTEREST	3RD QRT 20/21 INTEREST	JE 04/19/21	02897691	0.00	399.70	2,293.67
GL 621601-4301	INTRCBL	4th QTR INTEREST	JE 06/30/21	02977947	0.00	572.61	2,866.28
*****Total *OBJT 4301		INTEREST FROM TREASURY		CR	0.00	2,866.28	2,866.28
GL 621601-4498	JA20052	CR121950:I#2	JE 06/27/21	02968811	0.00	123,708.05	123,708.05
GL 621601-4498	JA20052	CR123416:I#3	JE 06/27/21	02968811	0.00	129,727.61	253,435.66
GL 621601-4498	JA20052	CR124555:I#4&5	JE 06/27/21	02968811	0.00	51,369.15	304,804.81
*****Total *OBJT 4498		STATE GRANTS		CR	0.00	304,804.81	304,804.81
GL 621601-4599	JE37035	20/21 INVO OVGA CONTRIBUTION	JE 07/22/20	02728031	0.00	75,513.66	75,513.66
GL 621601-4599	JE37069	I#3 OVGA GSP CONTRIBUTION	CR 07/22/20	02728577	0.00	52,1859.66	128,373.32
GL 621601-4599	CR119368	I#3 OVGA GSP DEVELOPMENT	JE 07/29/20	02733834	0.00	22,654.00	151,027.32
GL 621601-4599	CR119566	I#3 WESTRIDGE/INDIAN CREEK	CR 08/05/20	02739981	0.00	22,654.00	173,681.32
GL 621601-4599	CR119566	I#3 20/21 OVGA-MONO CO 2020-21	CR 08/18/20	02749131	0.00	75,513.66	249,194.98
*****Total *OBJT 4599		OTHER AGENCIES		CR	0.00	249,194.98	249,194.98
GL 621601-5129	IS0621B	IS PHOTOCOPIES Q4	JE 06/27/21	02974283	0.27	0.00	0.27
*****Total *OBJT 5129		INTERNAL COPY CHARGES (NON-IS)		DR	0.27	0.00	0.27
GL 621601-5155	GS200710060	GOLDEN STATE RI ACCT#OWENVAL	OH 09/01/20	02759412	2,494.90	0.00	2,494.90
GL 621601-5155	2122 PREPAID	UA414926:GOLDEN STATE RISK MAN	JE 07/08/21	02957191	2,473.00	0.00	4,967.90
*****Total *OBJT 5155		PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE		DR	4,967.90	0.00	4,967.90
GL 621601-5263	70243	INVO REGISTER, CUST#01110862	OH 07/28/20	02733181	165.40	0.00	165.40
GL 621601-5263	8660	THE SHEET INC INVO COUNTY WATE	OH 03/16/21	02875609	280.00	0.00	445.40
GL 621601-5263	13646	SIERRA READER INVO COUNTY WATE	OH 03/19/21	02878154	317.52	0.00	762.92
*****Total *OBJT 5263		ADVERTISING		DR	762.92	0.00	762.92
GL 621601-5265	042420	FRCHTER & COMPA 18/19 AUDIT OV	OH 10/30/20	02796227	2,275.00	0.00	2,275.00
GL 621601-5265	244576	DANIEL B STEPHE INVO CO PROJ#D	OH 11/12/20	02803602	78,259.75	0.00	80,534.75
GL 621601-5265	6607	ALPEN ARETE OVGA WEBSITE DESIG	OH 11/24/20	02811282	10,800.00	0.00	91,334.75
GL 621601-5265	245042	DANIEL B STEPHE INVO CO PROJ#D	OH 11/30/20	02812959	36,818.00	0.00	128,152.75
GL 621601-5265	111220	FECHTER & COMPA 18/19 AUDIT OV	OH 12/10/20	02819778	2,316.00	0.00	130,468.75
GL 621601-5265	243077	DANIEL B STEPHE INVO CO PROJ#D	OH 12/15/20	02822529	48,031.95	0.00	178,500.70
GL 621601-5265	243552	DANIEL B STEPHE INVO CO PROJ#D	OH 12/15/20	02822529	18,989.75	0.00	197,490.45
GL 621601-5265	245844	DANIEL B STEPHE INVO CO PROJ#D	OH 01/07/21	02834074	37,882.50	0.00	235,372.95
GL 621601-5265	246495	DANIEL B STEPHE INVO CO PROJ#D	OH 02/24/21	02863578	31,211.50	0.00	266,584.45
GL 621601-5265	246871	DANIEL B STEPHE INVO CO PROJ#D	OH 03/17/21	02876138	11,892.50	0.00	278,476.95

[T R A N S A C T I O N L I S T I N G] 07/01/2020 - 09/02/2021 Page 4  
 SORT ORDER: OBJECT within BUDUNIT  
 SELECT BUDGET UNIT: 621601

LG BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description	SS Ref Date	Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
GL 621601-5265	247008	DANIEL B STEPHE INVO CO PROJ#D OH 03/17/21	03/17/21	02876138	4,326.25	0.00	282,803.20
GL 621601-5265	6200 0221	INYO REGISTER, ACCT#00006200 OH 03/17/21	03/17/21	02876457	480.50	0.00	283,283.70
GL 621601-5265	247611	DANIEL B STEPHE INVO CO PROJ#D OH 04/29/21	04/29/21	02905264	4,452.50	0.00	287,736.20
GL 621601-5265	248080	DANIEL B STEPHE APR21 INYO P#D OH 05/26/21	05/26/21	02925039	1,535.00	0.00	289,271.20
*****Total *OBJT 5265		PROFESSIONAL & SPECIAL SERVICE DR			289,271.20	0.00	289,271.20
GL 621601-5539	JE37592	OVGA-BOARD STAFF JUL-SEP20	JE 10/15/20	02787152	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
GL 621601-5539	202101	MONO COUNTY JUL-SEP 2020 OVGA	OH 11/03/20	02798240	5,673.75	0.00	8,673.75
GL 621601-5539	JE38067	JUL-SEPT2020 STAFF OVGA BOARD	JE 12/14/20	02821410	9,223.69	0.00	17,897.44
GL 621601-5539	202102	MONO COUNTY 10/20-12/20 MONO C	OH 02/18/21	02859888	2,184.00	0.00	20,081.44
GL 621601-5539	JE38701	OCT-DEC20 OVGA INYO STAFF	JE 03/18/21	02876914	18,767.23	0.00	38,848.67
GL 621601-5539	JE38924	Q3 20/21 OVGA LEGAL SVCS	JE 04/14/21	02894983	4,500.00	0.00	43,348.67
GL 621601-5539	JE38925	Q2 20/21 OVGA LEGAL SVCS	JE 04/14/21	02894983	4,500.00	0.00	47,848.67
GL 621601-5539	202103	MONO COUNTY JAN-MAR 2021 STAFF	OH 04/28/21	02904334	4,161.00	0.00	52,009.67
GL 621601-5539	JE39129	I#00011 JAN-MAR21 INYO STAFF	JE 05/07/21	02911262	9,941.67	0.00	61,951.34
GL 621601-5539	JA20027	APR-JUN21 OVGA-STAFF SERVICES	JE 06/27/21	02963401	1,500.00	0.00	63,451.34
GL 621601-5539	JA20028	APR-JUN21 OVGA-STAFF SERVICES	JE 06/27/21	02963401	9,037.41	0.00	72,488.75
GL 621601-5539	202104	MONO, COUNTY OF APR-JUN 2021 S	OH 06/27/21	02971183	2,576.50	0.00	75,065.25
GL 621601-5539	073121	BISHOP, CITY OF July 20-June 2	OH 06/27/21	02990910	3,885.57	0.00	78,950.82
*****Total *OBJT 5539		OTHER AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS DR			78,950.82	0.00	78,950.82
*****Total *BUDG 621601		OVGA-OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER DR-CR			1,545,444.26	1,545,444.26	0.00

\*\* G R A N D T O T A L \*\* DR-CR 1,545,444.26 1,545,444.26 0.00

**COUNTY OF INYO  
UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCES**

AS OF 06/30/2021

	Claim on Cash	Accounts Receivable	Loans Receivable	Prepaid Expenses	Accounts Payable	Loans Payable	Deferred Revenue	Computed Fund Balance	Fund Balance	
									Encumbrances	Undesignated
WDIR - WATER										
6272 OVGGA-OWENS VALLEY	410,279	573		2,473	6,462			406,863	309	406,554
WDIR Totals	410,279	573	1,140	2,473	6,462	2,140	2,200	406,863	309	406,554
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>410,279</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>2,473</b>	<b>6,462</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>2,200</b>	<b>406,863</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>406,554</b>

**COUNTY OF INYO**  
**Budget to Actuals with Encumbrances by Key/Obj**  
As Of 9/2/2021

Ledger: GL

Object	Description	Budget	Actual	Encumbrance	Balance	
<b>Key: 621601 - OVGA-OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER</b>						
<b>Revenue</b>						
4301	INTEREST FROM TREASURY	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	0.00
4498	STATE GRANTS	311,284.00	0.00	0.00	311,284.00	0.00
4599	OTHER AGENCIES	249,195.00	0.00	0.00	249,195.00	0.00
	<b>Revenue Total:</b>	<b>564,479.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>564,479.00</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>						
5129	INTERNAL COPY CHARGES	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00
5155	PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE	2,500.00	2,473.00	0.00	27.00	98.92
5263	ADVERTISING	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
5265	PROFESSIONAL & SPECIAL	314,834.00	0.00	0.00	314,834.00	0.00
5291	OFFICE, SPACE & SITE RENTAL	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00
5311	GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSE	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
5539	OTHER AGENCY	104,470.00	0.00	0.00	104,470.00	0.00
5901	CONTINGENCIES	13,290.00	0.00	0.00	13,290.00	0.00
	<b>Expenditure Total:</b>	<b>440,594.00</b>	<b>2,473.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>438,121.00</b>	
621601	<b>Key Total:</b>	<b>123,885.00</b>	<b>(2,473.00)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>126,358.00</b>	



# OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Big Pine CSD – City of Bishop – County of Inyo – County of Mono – Indian Creek-Westridge CSD  
Interested Parties: Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe - Owens Valley Committee

P.O. Box 337  
135 Jackson Street  
Independence, CA 93526

Phone: (760) 878-0001  
Fax: (760) 878-2552  
www.inyowater.org

## Staff Report

Date: September 9, 2021

Subject: Item 6b. Tri-Valley survey update

A total of 512 surveys were mailed to Tri Valley residents in May 2021. The surveys included a pre-paid self-addressed envelope for returning the survey to Mono County Community Development. Responses to some of the questions that were not simple yes or no answers are still being summarized and will be compiled for the GSP and provided to the Board in a memorandum.

A total of 41 responses were received, or 8.01%.

- |  |     |    |
|--|-----|----|
| 1. Have you viewed the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority's webpage? <a href="https://ovga.us/">https://ovga.us/</a> | YES | NO |
|--|-----|----|

**36.59% of respondents circled YES.**

- |   |     |    |
|---|-----|----|
| 2. Would you like to receive more information about the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority, or be placed on the Authority's email list? | YES | NO |
|---|-----|----|

**46.34% of respondents circled YES.**

- |  |     |    |
|--|-----|----|
| 3. Would you like Owens Valley Groundwater Authority staff to contact you directly by phone or email for a discussion about groundwater management issues? | YES | NO |
|--|-----|----|

**17.07% of respondents circled YES.**

A1. Do you have any comments about the Tri-Valley groundwater basin's physical environment, potential effects of climate change, or overall hydrology, or comments about the Tri-Valley area being identified as a management area? If so, please describe them below.

A2. Do you know the water level in your well(s)?	YES	NO
--	-----	----

**56.10% of respondents circled YES**

A3. What do you believe is the water level trend in your well (increasing, decreasing or stable), and is your well or water supply affected? If so, how?

**8 respondents identified their well level as being stable.**

**18 respondents identified their well level is decreasing.**

A4. What issues, if any, do you see pertaining to pumping and groundwater management within the Tri-Valley?

A5. Are you aware of any effects pumping has on springs or vegetation in the Tri-Valley? If so, what and where?

**YES NO**

**26.83% of respondents circled YES**

B1. Do the thresholds proposed in the table above to represent undesirable results that should be avoided? If not, how should they be modified and why?

**YES NO**

**53.65% of respondents circled YES**

C1. Do the objectives proposed in the table above represent sustainable conditions? If not, what how should they be modified and why?

**YES NO**

**26.83% of respondents circled YES**

C2. Would you like additional information to evaluate what is proposed in the tables above? If so, please provide your contact information at the beginning of this survey.

**YES NO**

**31.71% of respondents circled YES**

C3. Would you add or remove any undesirable results or objectives? If YES, what would you add or remove?

**YES NO**

**17.07% of respondents circled YES**

D1. Would you be interested in cooperating on ongoing water level monitoring?

**YES NO**

**21.95% of respondents circled YES**

# MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

P.O. Box 936  
Benton, CA 93512  
[www.tvgmd.org](http://www.tvgmd.org)

Carol Ann Mitchell, Chairperson  
Phil West, Vice-Chairperson  
Marion Dunn, Secretary  
Geri Bassett  
Richard Moss  
Matt Doonan  
Rhonda Duggan, Mono County District 2 Supervisor

August 27, 2021

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority  
c/o Aaron Steinwand  
P.O. Box 337  
Independence, CA 93526

To the Board of Directors of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority:

The Board of Directors for the Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District (“TVGMD”) writes this letter to provide comments on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan Management Actions and Projects (“GSP Matrix”) that were presented at the July 22, 2021 OVGA Board meeting.

First, TVGMD would like to raise the concern that the GSP Matrix states that “[a]ll jurisdictional issues [are] set aside for now,” but then proceeds to propose several management actions that implicate significant jurisdictional issues. Indeed, some of those proposed management actions are linked to a trigger of adoption of the GSP, which leaves very little time to address those critical jurisdictional issues. For example, on the first page<sup>1</sup> of the GSP Matrix alone, three proposed actions are triggered by “GSP adoption” and depend on the resolution of jurisdictional authority over groundwater regulation in the Tri-Valley, particularly given that the Owens Valley Basin has not yet been re-rated by the Department of Water Resources to require management actions. These are the proposals to (1) “[e]stablish supply well registration and reporting,” (2) “[i]ncrease groundwater level monitoring network” (which may depend on TVGMD approval of “new monitoring well installation”) and (3) “[r]eview new permits for water supply wells. Regulate production if necessary to ensure water levels remain within SMC.” Continuing to leave unresolved determinative jurisdictional issues will hamper any final GSP that is adopted without full consideration of them and render decisions on proposed management actions in the GSP that implicate jurisdictional issues all but theoretical.

Second, TVGMD is concerned that several of the triggers appear to be unconnected to the status of the basin. As a low-priority basin, the Owens Valley Basin is not required under SGMA to develop or implement a GSP, though it can voluntarily do so and is doing so. None of the triggers are tied in any way to the rating of the basin or the requirements of SGMA. Only two management actions proposed for the Tri-Valley area appear to acknowledge the scope of regulatory authority SGMA, indicating that “if a pumping effect is determined” the action will be necessary. First, such a contingency should be contained in the trigger for the management action, rather than the management action itself, where it is not clear if the OVGA will proceed with a management action even if a pumping effect is not determined. But,

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<sup>1</sup> As the GSP Matrix presentation did not include page numbers, TVGMD references pages beginning with the proposed matrix as the first page.

moreover, the ultimate GSP should be explicit about whether it is intended for immediate action, or whether it is connected to the basin rating under SGMA.

Third, the GSP Matrix appears to have significantly disproportionate management actions proposed for the three different management areas. In the GSP Matrix, for the Tri-Valley Management Area has fifteen actions proposed. The Owens Valley and the Owens Lake Management Areas, by contrast, have only eight and nine actions proposed, respectively. It does not appear that the disproportionate in heavy-handed management proposals can be attributed to the lack of a current groundwater model for the Tri-Valley Management Area.

Fourth, TVGMD raises that there are significant ambiguities in the GSP Matrix related to when management actions will actually be triggered. For example, where an action has more than one trigger, the GSP Matrix does not specify how the multiple triggers will need to resolve in order for the OVGA to move on a proposed management action. For example, on page 2 of the matrix, the action “[i]f efficiency gains have not addressed the declining water levels based on the model and monitoring, develop a pumping program to stabilize water levels by 2030 and attain the measurable objective by 2042,” there are two triggers identified: “SMC Minimum Threshold hit” and “Groundwater Model Completed.” The GSP Matrix does not identify how the triggers will be resolved. For example, should the SMC minimum threshold be hit, but there is no groundwater model, there is no clear direction for the OVGA to base an action. While the “Notes” for that management action indicate that it is “[d]ependent on groundwater model completion...,” it is not clear that note becomes a set part of the GSP to resolve the ambiguity.

Relatedly, the GSP Matrix does not address how and whether actions that appear based on the “Notes” to be dependent on the completion of a groundwater model for the Tri-Valley Management Area will be resolved. It should be clear in the future GSP how actions that are dependent on the completion of a groundwater model for the Tri-Valley area will be treated should a groundwater model not be completed or be completed on a longer timeline than the GSP Matrix appears to anticipate. Direction for the OVGA should be clear on when and how to take management actions that are purported to be dependent on the completion of a groundwater model.

Similarly, there is ambiguity where some of the triggers are listed as “Board Direction” only. The GSP Matrix or the ultimate GSP should make clear what criteria will constrain “Board Direction,” such as what SGMA sustainability criteria would be implicated in an OVGA decision to proceed on a management action.

Finally, TVGMD still voices its objection to the inclusion of the Fish Slough area in the Tri-Valley Management Area for the purpose of the GSP. It was represented at the OVGA meeting on August 12 that distinct management criteria will be used and set within management areas, for example to accommodate for the fact that sustainability criteria will be different for an area like Fish Slough, where there are ecological values, from the residential and agricultural values that predominate in much of the Tri-Valley areas. It is not clear from the GSP Matrix that such distinct management criteria will actually be developed and implemented, as represented. It should be made clear in the ultimate GSP what distinct management and sustainability criteria will govern these distinct areas that OVGA has chosen to group together.

Sincerely,



Emily Fox

On Behalf of the TVGMD Board of Directors