

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 Totheroh		

April 14, 2022

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. at the Bishop City Council Chambers, Bishop, CA.

1. Pledge of allegiance

Dan Totheroh led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Public Comment

The Chairperson opened the public comment period and there was no one wishing to address the Board.

3. Introductions

The Board introduced themselves with no alternates in attendance and 1 absence, BryAnna Vaughan, Big Pine CSD.

4. Request that OVGA adopt finding pursuant to AB 361 that: A) the Board reconsidered the circumstances of the existing State of Emergency issued on March 4, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and B) local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing, and/or the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person

The Chairperson requested a motion to approve the request that OVGA adopt finding pursuant to AB 361 that: A) the Board reconsidered the circumstances of the existing State of Emergency issued on March 4, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and B) local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing, and/or the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person. Motion to approve by Dan Totheroh, seconded by Mel Joseph. The Chairperson requested a roll call vote; Luis Elias – Y, Rhonda Duggan – Y, Karen Kong – Y, Dan Totheroh - Y, BryAnna Vaughan – absent, Mel Joseph – Y, Mary Roper - Y. Motion passed 6 Yes, 1 absent.

5. Board Member Reports

Dan Totheroh stated it's another dry year, be mindful of water usage. Mary Roper stated wind is supposed to blow in Independence again Saturday.

6. OVGA Staff Reports

a. Financial Report

Laura Piper provided the financial report and stated the OVGA cash balance is \$331,149.40. Revenue since last meeting was interest in the amount of \$449.93; expenses were \$4,200 in consultant costs, and \$16,875.78 in staff services costs.

b. Update on the Proposition 1 grant final report

Dr. Steinwand stated the last progress report was sent on April 1; the final report is in progress and is due prior to April 30, 2022.

7. Consideration of 2022-2023 OVGA budget

Dr. Steinwand provided an overview of the proposed 2022-2023 draft budget to include a contract for data base hosting by Daniel B Stephens and Associates and for an outside audit. Motion to approve the 2022-2023 budget as presented by Mel Joseph, seconded by Mary Roper. The Chairperson requested a roll call vote; Luis Elias – Y, Rhonda Duggan – Y, Karen Kong – Y, Dan Tothoroh - Y, BryAnna Vaughan – absent, Mel Joseph – Y, Mary Roper - Y. Motion passed 6 Yes, 1 absent.

8. Consider resolution to modify the OVGA GSA boundary to remove Mono County portions of the Basin

John Vallejo provided a brief background on the boundary issues; the process to follow; and timing in moving this forward. Dr. Steinwand reviewed the options of multiple GSA's (Mono Co/Tri-Valley) in the future; planned discussions with DWR; and possible coordination agreements. Motion to approve by Rhonda Duggan, seconded by Dan Tothoroh. The Chairperson requested a roll call vote; Luis Elias – Y, Rhonda Duggan – Y, Karen Kong – Y, Dan Tothoroh - Y, BryAnna Vaughan – absent, Mel Joseph – Y, Mary Roper - Y. Motion passed 6 Yes, 1 absent.

9. Discussion regarding future meeting dates and agenda items.

The next meetings were scheduled for July 14, 2022 (Bishop City Council Chambers), August 4, 2022 (Independence), March of 2023 for budget review/adoption, and officer selection.

10. Adjourn

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 2:45 pm.