

# MINUTES

# Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

## Board Members:

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

March 9, 2023

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting was called to order at approximately 2:05 pm at the Bishop City Council Chambers, Bishop, CA.

### 1. Pledge of allegiance

Scott Marcellin 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 one new member in attendance, Scott Marcellin for Inyo County and BryAnna Vaughan and Mary Roper absent.

### 4. Approval of minutes from September 15, 2022

Motion to approve the September 15, 2022, minutes by Mel Joseph, seconded by Luis Elias. The Chairperson requested a roll call vote; Luis Elias – Y, Karen Kong – Y, Scott Marcellin - Y, BryAnna Vaughan – absent, Mel Joseph – Y, Mary Roper - absent. Motion passed 4 Yes, 2 absent.

### 5. Board Member Reports

Mel Joseph provided information Earth Day presented by the Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Tribe on April 29, 2023.

### 6. OVGA Staff Reports

#### a. Financial Report

Laura Piper provided the financial report and stated the OVGA cash balance is \$281,028.68 with 1<sup>st</sup> quarter interest revenue of \$406.02; expenses were insurance \$2,440, copy charges \$44.53, advertising \$268.15, consultant costs \$1,200, and staff services costs of \$13,094.41.

#### b. Update on the Proposition 1 grant completion. Dr. Steinwand stated DWR continues to work through the approval of the invoices; the final reports were submitted to the state last April; and we are still waiting for the approximately \$70,000 retention payment.

#### c. Status of the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 audits. Dr. Steinwand stated the audits had been completed,

and there were no substantive findings. One more audit may need to be in the budget for the final grant funding.

#### **7. Direction to staff regarding the deadline in Ordinance 2022-01 for owners to register wells**

Dr. Steinwand provided a brief background on this item and the Board approved the recommendation by staff to move the registration deadline to April 1, 2024; post the form to the OVGA website; and follow up with a direct mailer.

#### **8. OVGA annual report**

Dr. Steinwand provided a staff report and provided a brief outline of the contents of the proposed annual report and a summary of the current status. The Board approved the outline Aaron submitted.

#### **9. Presentation of draft 2023-2024 budget and consideration of a final budget**

Dr. Steinwand provided a staff report and gave a brief discussion on the OVGA budget for July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and the process for approval. The Board and staff discussed this item in detail. The Board requested a six-month update via email on the status of how many well permits would be received to date at that time. The Chairperson requested a vote to approve the 2023-2024 OVGA budget; Motion passed.

#### **10. Election of OVGA Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson**

Mel Joseph recommended the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson remain as is. The Chairperson opened nominations for the Chairperson; motion by the Board to nominate Karen Kong as Chairperson, motion passed.

The Chairperson opened nominations for the Vice-Chairperson; motion by the Board to nominate BryAnna as Vice-Chairperson, motion passed.

#### **11. Schedule 2023 or 2024 meetings**

The next meeting was scheduled for March 14, 2024.

#### **10. Adjourn**

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:45 pm.