

Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, October 25 – 6:00 p.m. City Council Chambers, Fillmore City Hall 250 Central Avenue, Fillmore, CA 93015

## **MINUTES**

# **Directors Present**

Director Kelly Long, Chair
Director Ed McFadden, Vice Chair/Secretary/Treasurer
Director Carrie Broggie
Director Gordon Kimball
Director Candice Meneghin
Director Glen Pace

# **Staff Present**

Anthony Emmert, Executive Director Steve O'Neill, Legal Counsel Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

## **Public Present**

Bryce Bannatyne, Rancho Resplandor, LLC Frank Brommenschenkel, Frank B & Associates Emilio Cervantes, Jr., Newhall Land & Farming Ryan Kristensen, GHD Rachael Laenen, Kimball Ranches/El Hogar John Lindquist, UWCD Tim Moore, DBS&A Steve Zimmer

# 1. Call to Order 6:01p.m.

Chair Long called the meeting to order at 6:01p.m.

# 2. Pledge of Allegiance

Director Pace led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance

## 3. Directors Roll Call

All Directors were in attendance (Broggie, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace)

### 4. Public Comments

Chair Long asked if there were any public comments; none were offered.

# 5. Approval of Agenda

### Motion

Chair Long asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were none. Motion to approve the agenda, Director Broggie; Second, Director Pace. Voice vote: six ayes (Broggie, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

# 6. Director Announcements/Board Communications

Director Meneghin reported that she was absent from the last Board meeting as she was in Sacramento attending the Western Groundwater Congress, produced by Groundwater Resources Association of California (GRA). She said she attended a workshop on Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDE) produced by The Nature Conservancy. She also reported meeting with representatives of the Clean Water Fund.

Directors Broggie and McFadden reported their participation in a meeting held on October 17 at the Ventura County Government Center that addressed Climate Change with two scientists who were interested especially in hearing from Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. Director Broggie said it was a good exchange of information and that she learned a lot. Chair Long added that it was a very good meeting and was discussed at the Santa Clara River Watershed Coalition meeting.

# 7. Executive Director Update

## Information Item

Mr. Emmert reported that it was an "uneventful" month, although the agency is progressing on its DWR grant. He said staff had distributed the Request for Qualifications/Proposals for potential consultants to help develop the agency's Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). Some prospective proposers had asked questions, which staff answered via the group email system. Mr. Emmert had received "a couple of" qualified proposals by the October 24 due date. He added that, later in the agenda discussion, the Board could provide direction for staff on how to proceed with the submissions.

## 8. CONSENT CALENDAR

# 8A Approval of Minutes

The Board will consider approving the Minutes from the Board Meeting of September 27, 2018.

# **8B** Approval of Warrants

The Board will consider approving invoices for the following payments: OMLO August Legal Services \$576.50

# **8C** Monthly Financial Report

The Board will receive a monthly profit and loss statement for the Agency from UWCD's accounting staff.

# 8D Notification of One Time Waiver of Late Fees and Penalties

The Board will consider approving the requested Notification of One Time Waiver of Late Fees and Penalties letter to all stakeholders in follow-up to the Board's action at the September 27, 2018 Board of Directors meeting.

Motion to approve Consent Calendar items 8A through 8D, Director Broggie; Second, Director McFadden. Voice vote: six ayes (Broggie, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

## 9. ACTION ITEMS

# 9A Approval of Proposed Agency Travel Policy for Directors and Staff Motion

Chair Long explained that this motion was postponed from the previous month's Board meeting to provide for full Board involvement in approving this policy.

Agency's legal counsel, Mr. O'Neill explained that the drafted policy incorporated the Board's intent to not be compensated on a per diem basis for extra non-board meeting activities. Page 4 addressed reimbursement and the portion that referenced compensation has been removed. There is clear direction regarding what expenses incurred by the Directors is reimbursable, and a page defining allowable expenses, travel modes, mileage reimbursement, hotel costs, per meal limits, etc. He said that it was all very clear in defining both reimbursable and non-reimbursable expenses. He said the only clarification was whether the Board wanted to provide advances for travel expenses or preferred to reimburse after the expense was incurred. He also said that the policy references and is in line with item 4.8 of the Agency's bylaws. And that while there is some redundancy, the policy is more detailed. He also said that item 4.7 in the Bylaws, regarding officer compensation, is covered in the new policy as well.

Chair Long added that the Board wanted to approve expenses in advance and that travel would be arranged by staff using a debit card against the Agency's checking account as a means of eliminating interest rates on an agency credit card and also any surprises.

Mr. O'Neill said that the policy says pre-approval of staff travel expenses only, and directed the Board's attention to the bottom of Page 1, which stated "pre approval of the Board was not required."

Director Broggie said it could be cumbersome to agendize travel and conference participation at least a month in advance in order to secure Board approval. Director Meneghin agreed, saying that delays for approval can often result in incurring higher costs for registration, hotels, airfare, etc.

Mr. O'Neill said that, along with the policy, there were sample forms provided with the staff report, requesting advance approval, reimbursement, etc. which would record the costs and come back to the board in financial reports. Director Kimball said the Board always has the option of not approving the reimbursement, too.

Director McFadden said he would like Board approval, but realizes that timing may not always work out. Chair Long added that as policy, approval is not required, but the Board should get a heads up. Director Broggie suggested that the policy state Board approval in advance, and if that isn't possible, the Executive Director can be authorized to provide approval and advise the Board Chair.

Mr. Emmert added that there is a travel and training budget to reference to ensure that that funds are available. Mr. O'Neill suggested a pre-approved meetings list could also be created.

Motion to approve the draft travel policy addressing approvals, expenses (airfare, lodging, ground transportation/car rental/mileage reimbursement, meals), expense advance and reimbursement and amended to include pre approval of the Board and, when that is not possible, the Executive Director will seek approval from the Board Chair, Director McFadden; Second, Director Broggie. Voice vote six ayes (Broggie, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

# 9B Consideration of Associations and Organizations for Board Membership

# **Motion**

Following discussion of the relative merits and costs of becoming members of different water-education and advocacy organizations, the Board felt that there was no need to rush this decision, and tabled this item for discussion at a later date.

# 9C DWR Draft Grant Agreement

#### Motion

Mr. Emmert reported that the good news was that 2 levels of review with DWR have been completed. After discussions with the DWR project engineer/grant manager, there was a severe gutting of the grant proposal details, providing for as much flexibility as possible and allowing for moving items around within the budget. He said that what is now a simple work plan in four categories will make stakeholder coordination and engagement much easier. Construction and implementation of monitoring wells can be moved back; model and GSP development, the bulk of the efforts, are also involved. He said it's been a month

since this went to DWR legal in Sacramento and that the grant package is complete and we're just waiting to hear back from DWR for final adoption.

Director McFadden asked if this was beneficial to cash flow, and Mr. Emmert said that was the major point of the grant administrator, that they were looking closely at cash flow and revenue. UWCD's John Lindquist added that the changes allow for more flexibility in terms of projects and managing cash flow challenges. He added that the draft agreement doesn't lock us in to work; however, it will require planning and vigilance to avoid cash-flow challenges as GSP development proceeds.

Mr. O'Neill said the agreement was in keeping with those of other Districts that he had viewed. Chair Long said that she appreciated the DWR trying to make it simple for everyone.

Motion to approve the revised draft California Department of Water Resources Proposition 1 Groundwater Sustainability Planning Grant Agreement scope of work, schedule and budget, Director McFadden; Second, Director Broggie. Voice vote: six ayes (Broggie, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

### 10. INFORMATION ITEMS

# 10A UWCD Scope of Work and Schedule for Groundwater Sustainability Plans Development

## **Information Item**

UWCD's John Lindquist presented an overview of the GSPs' scope of work and schedule. Director Pace asked why it takes three years to develop the GSP if so much of the historical data already exists and wondered why this process can't be expedited.

Mr. Lindquist said that the big hold ups are the UWCD model isn't finished and that there is a great level of detail required for developing an accurate water budget as defined by SGMA. He also cited management actions regarding the development of projects, public interaction and resolving potential disputes once the thresholds were established. Agencies which started the GSP development earlier are facing many unexpected issues. He added that 2021 is the deadline for initial data and that the DWR requires an update every five years. He also said that he anticipates that the Agency's GSPs will be completed in the middle of 2021, about six months in advance of the deadline, if all goes well.

Chair Long added that once the GSPs are submitted, DWR still has two years to come back to the GSA with changes. She also suggested that the Agency engage

> consultant to get the job done as quickly as it can, but cautioned that modeling requires very specialized skills and few outside of UWCD are qualified to conduct this type of modeling analysis.

> Chair Long agreed with Mr. Lindquist, stating that you need knowledge as well as skills. Mr. Lindquist also suggested that the District would work with the GSA on the stakeholder process to facilitate buy-in on the goals of the GSA. Director Kimball added that stakeholder buy-in should be garnered along the way as sections are drafted and developed, which could save time on the overall approval of the GSPs from a stakeholder perspective.

# 11. FUTURE TOPICS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

Interviews with consultants regarding Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the GSA will be conducted at the November 15, 2018 Board Meeting. Between now and then, Executive Director and ad hoc Groundwater Consultant committee (Directors McFadden and Meneghin) along with UWCD groundwater staff will review and rank the proposals to assist in recommendations to the Board. Chair Long reiterated the importance of making the process transparent and open to the public.

ADJOURNMENT 7:10p.m.

Chair Long adjourned the Board to the next Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, November 15, 2018 or call of the Chair.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Board of Directors meeting of October 25, 2018.

ATTEST: Kelly Long, Chair, FPB GSA Board of Directors



# **BOARD MEETING** October 25, 2018 @ 6:00pm

City Council Chambers, Fillmore City Hall

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# United Water Conservation District Scope and Schedule for GSP Development

Agenda Item 10A, FPBGSA Board of Directors Meeting

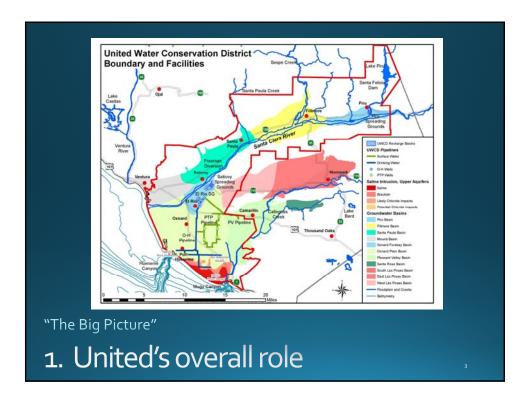
October 25, 2018





# Outline

- United's overall role ("the big picture")
- 2. Main components of a GSP
- United's planned contributions to the Fillmore and Piru basins GSPs
- 4. Schedule/timeline



# What United Is...

- A public agency authorized under the California Water Code, section 74500 et al, to:
  - conduct water resource investigations
  - acquire water rights
  - build facilities to store and recharge water
  - construct wells and pipelines for water deliveries
  - commence actions involving water rights and water use, and to prevent interference with or diminution of stream/river flows and associated natural subterranean flows
  - other activities
- Deeply invested in supporting the people, economy, and environment within our service area.

# Consistent with United's Mission, We Have:

- Collected a LOT of groundwater and surfacewater data
  - levels, quality, flows
- Made extensive progress on development of a numerical groundwater flow model for the region
  - VRGWFM
- Provided support, oversight, and/or review of every GSP being developed in our service area

# What United is **Not**...

- A consulting firm; therefore, we are not:
  - Interested in competing with private sector firms
  - Trying to use Fillmore-Piru basins as a "springboard" to get more work in other basins
  - Allowed to make a profit—or lose money—in the course of our efforts that are specifically for the benefit of the FPBGSA (or any other GSAs)

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# GSP Chapters 1 through 3

Sections with major United contributions shown in red. Sections with lesser United support shown in yellow.

## 1. Introduction

 Agency info, legal authority, costs of implementing GSP and how the GSA will meet those costs

# 2. Plan Area and Basin Setting

• Description of plan area, communications, basin setting, historical and current conditions, water budget, management areas (if needed)

# 3. Sustainable Management Criteria

• Sustainability goal, minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, undesirable results, monitoring

# GSP Chapters 4 through 6

Sections with major United contributions shown in red. Sections with lesser United support shown in yellow.

- 4. Projects and Management Actions to Achieve Sustainability Goal
  - Forecast how projects (if needed) and management actions will achieve goals
- 5. Plan Implementation
  - Estimate costs, schedule, reporting and evaluation requirements
- 6. References and Technical Studies
  - Coordination agreements, technical appendices, model documentation, comments/responses

3. United's planned contributions to the Fillmore and Piru basins GSPs

# Planned Major Contributions

- Compile and share existing groundwater and surface-water data
- Provide information on existing monitoring network, assist with evaluation of data gaps
- Prepare preliminary water budget (from existing data)
- Develop conceptual model (hydrologic and hydrostratigraphic)
- Expand numerical model up SCR Valley
  - Will provide more specifics on water budget than the conceptual model could
  - Evaluate future projects, if needed
- Prepare text, figures, maps, and tables required for portions of GSP Section 2

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# Planned Supportive Contributions

- Provide assistance and review to GSP consultant on the following:
  - Data gap analysis and recommendations for future data collection
  - Development of a plan for monitoring of sustainable management criteria
  - Development of projects and management actions (if needed)
  - Presentations for Board and public meetings/workshops
  - Review of draft GSP

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