



**Special Board of  
Directors Meeting  
Thursday, December 08, 2022  
5:00 p.m.  
MINUTES**

**Directors in Attendance**

Chair Kelly Long  
Director Carole Fornoff  
Director Debbie Jackson  
Director Gordon Kimball  
Director Candice Meneghin  
Director Christina Villaseñor

**Staff in Attendance**

Anthony Emmert, executive director Alex  
Lemieux, legal counsel  
Eva Ibarra, clerk of the Board

**Public in Attendance**

Eric Elliott, UWCD  
Danielle Gallo, DBS&A  
Zachary Hanson, UWCD  
Tony Morgan, DBS&A  
Jason Sun, UWCD  
Jean Thirkettle

**1. Call to Order 5:00pm**

Director Long called the Board Meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**1A Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Jackson led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1B Directors Roll Call**

The clerk called roll. Six Directors were present (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Meneghin, Villaseñor).

**1C Public Comments**

Director Long asked if there were any public comments. None were offered.

**1D Approval of Agenda**

**Motion**

Motion to approve agenda, Director Villaseñor; Second, Director Fornoff. Roll call vote: six ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Meneghin, Villaseñor); none opposed; motion carries unanimously 6/0.

## UPDATES

### 2A Director Announcements/Board Communications: Oral Reports from the Board

**Fillmore Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update**  
Director Jackson had no updates.

**Piru Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update**  
Director Fornoff had no updates.

**Environmental Stakeholder Director Update**  
Director Meneghin had no updates.

**City of Fillmore Member Director Update**  
Director Villaseñor reported the City of Fillmore certified elections and will be swearing in new council members on Tuesday, with the mention of all the elected candidates. She also said she met with Executive Director Anthony Emmert and City staff to discuss the potential of upgrading their council chambers to include hybrid technology. Director Villaseñor stated she would keep the Board up to date with the issue.

**United Water Conservation District Member Director Update**  
Director Kimball thanked Director Villaseñor and Mr. Emmert on their efforts with navigating City Hall.

**County of Ventura Member Director Update**  
Director Long reported the County had four elected officials retire and two new Supervisors, with the mention of those elected. She also mentioned there is a big demand for housing, and the State may have an economic downturn, and less grant funds available. She said the Board of Supervisors had its State of the County address that is available online at Ventura County website.

### 2B **Executive Director Update** **Information Item**

The Executive Director provided an informational update on Agency activities since the previous Board meeting of November 17, 2022.

Mr. Emmert reported the monitoring wells project has now been completed, and that Eric Elliot will provide a presentation later in the meeting. He also said the Groundwater Sustainability Planning Grant 15th quarter concludes on December 31, 2022, with a few documents to be submitted to DWR to complete the grant deliverables. He stated that staff will then prepare progress report 15 and invoice 15 for submittal to DWR. Mr. Emmert stated that the City of Fillmore has

reserved the Council Chambers for the Agency's meetings, starting in March 2023. He also mentioned that he met with Director Villaseñor and City Manager David Rowlands, regarding the potential for upgrading the Council Chambers to facilitate hybrid meetings; the City Manager will discuss this with new City Council in January 2023; Mr. Emmert will follow-up with Mr. Rowlands after his meeting with the City Council.

Chair Long provided information to the GSA that, once completed, the Fillmore Library will include a community meeting room with hybrid capabilities that could potentially be an alternative meeting location for the Agency.

## **2C Legal Counsel Update**

### **Information Item**

Legal Counsel provided an informational update on Agency's legal issues and concerns since the Board meeting of November 17, 2022.

Mr. Alex Lemieux from Aleshire & Wynder reported he has been coordinating with County Council, Tony Morgan from DBS&A and Mr. Emmert regarding Executive Order N-7-22 and mentioned the changes that will need to take place for in-person meetings after February of 2023.

## **2D GSP Consultant Update**

### **Information Item**

Representatives from Daniel B Stephens & Associates provided an informational update on Agency's Groundwater Sustainability Planning and reporting activities since the Board meeting of November 17, 2022.

Mr. Tony Morgan from DBS&A reported current activities regarding DWR funding for SGMA, GSP reviews, water supply, well permitting, AB 2201, and DWR comments on Oxnard Plain GSPs.

Director Long said she heard feedback from legislators opposing AB 2201.

Director Meneghin said she met with Pacific Institute to evaluate climate change in the Ventura County area and potential for new water supplies and cost benefit comparisons and said she would share final scope and fee.

Director Fornoff asked how can the GSA compete against critical basins for grant funds? Mr. Morgan said the critically over drafted basins already received money in round one, therefore DWR will give consideration to the other basins that have not received any money. Danielle Gallo from DBS&A said it is critical that the GSA get max points in the grant application, in order to be considered. The greater the points the better, and the GSA must be clear in the language provided in grant request.

Director Kimball said there is good and clear description on the grant from Board packet.

### 3. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

#### 3A Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the Minutes from the Board Meeting of November 17, 2022.

#### 3B Approval of Warrants

The Board approved payment of outstanding vendor invoice  
BC2 \$509,689

#### 3C Monthly Financial Report

The Board received the Agency's monthly profit and loss statement and balance sheet.

#### 3D Subsequent Finding Regarding Continuation of AB 361 Exemptions to Brown Act Teleconferencing Requirements

The Board adopted Resolution 2022-14 continuing findings that the requisite conditions exist for remote teleconference meetings of the Agency's legislative bodies without compliance with Government Code section 54953(b)(3), as authorized by Government Code section 54953(e).

Director Kimball asked why the January to June groundwater receipts haven't been reported, and asked if the audit had been completed? Mr. Emmert said it is just a timing issue, but eventually they will.

Motion to approve consent items, Director Fornoff; Second, Director Jackson. Roll call vote: six ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Meneghin, Villaseñor); none opposed; motion carries unanimously 6/0.

### 4. MOTION ITEMS

#### 4A Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program SGMA Implementation Grant

##### Motion

The Board received a presentation from Daniel B. Stephens & Associates and staff on the updated scope, schedule, and budget for its application submittal to the California Department of Water Resources for a 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program SGMA Implementation grant and provide comments and direction.

Director Long asked if the agency must send the grant applications together or separately. Mrs. Gallo said they will be sending each application separately and explained how the funds splits are determined. Mr. Emmert also provided information

on how the funds are distributed.

Director Meneghin asked if the \$600,000 for Cienega will be for Fillmore GSE? Mr. Morgan said their thinking is to keep all the eggs in one basket and all the project funds in one application and will discuss this tomorrow with DWR to make sure they are on the same page, as the bulk of the parcels are in the Fillmore basin. Mr. Emmert also agreed with Mr. Morgan. Ms. Gallo explained how the funding distribution is displayed. Director Fornoff said the domestic well component is important for the disadvantage community and should be pushed. Ms. Gallo agreed and said important items will take priority. Director Meneghin thanked all that would be putting together the grant as it is not an easy task.

Director Villaseñor asked if DWR has discussed regionalism on their decision making? Mr. Morgan said he has not known of regionalism being an issue. Ms. Gallo also joined the conversation stating the goal is to fund as many projects as possible through the point system with the minimum grant being \$2 million dollars and the largest being \$20 million dollars and provided award scenarios. Mr. Morgan said they used verbiage in the grant application that DWR likes to see. Mr. Emmert also shared information on grant applicants like the Agency's.

## 5. INFORMATION ITEMS

### 5A **Monitoring Wells Project** **Information Item**

The Board received a presentation from staff on the recently completed installation of the monitoring wells adjacent to the Sespe Cienega groundwater dependent ecosystem (GDE) area at the Piru-Fillmore basins boundary and the East Grove GDE area at the Fillmore-Santa Paula basins boundary.

Director Long asked if, when drilling the well, did the drillers hit water? Associate Hydrogeologist Eric Elliott said yes, water was hit at 9 feet of drilling.

Director Kimball said he wanted the GSA to get credit for its innovation in using the new drilling technique for the shallow monitoring wells. Other agencies, including United, have witnessed the benefits of this technique. He stated that this is an opportunity for the Agency to give back to United, for all it has done for the Agency.

### **FUTURE TOPICS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION**


Press Release for Monitoring Wells Project  
Ribbon Cutting for Monitoring Wells Project  
Grant Update  
Cash Flow Analysis

**ADJOURNMENT 6:26 p.m.**

Director Kimball adjourned the Board meeting at 6:26p.m. to the next **Board Meeting** on Thursday, **January 19, 2023**, or call of the Chair.

ATTEST:   
Chair Long FPB GSA Board of Directors

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 December 8, 2022.

ATTEST:   
Eva Ibarra, Clerk of the Board