

# **MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

## **NOTICE OF MEETING\***

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“Agency”) Board of Directors (“Board”) will hold a **Board Meeting** at **1:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 15, 2018** at Room 223 (Santa Cruz), Ventura City Hall, 501 Poli Street, California 93001

## **MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **AGENDA**

**Thursday, March 15, 2018**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA**

The Board will receive public comments on items not appearing on the agenda and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Agency. The Board will not enter into a detailed discussion or take any action on any items presented during public comments. Such items may only be referred to the Executive Director or other staff for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda for discussion. Persons wishing to speak on specific agenda items should do so at the time specified for those items. The presiding Chair shall limit public comments to three minutes.

**5. CONSENT ITEMS**

- a. Approve Minutes from February 15, 2018 Regular Meeting**  
(provided at meeting)

**6. ACTION ITEMS**

**a. Interim Accounting Services**

The Board will consider authorizing the Chair to enter into an agreement with United Water Conservation District to perform interim accounting services for the Agency.

**b. Report from Ad hoc Committee for Legal Services**

The Board will receive a report from the ad hoc legal services committee and may consider hiring the recommended law firm to provide legal services for the Agency.

**c. Report from Ad hoc Committee for Long-term Funding Options**

The Board will receive a report from the ad hoc committee for long-term funding options and may consider holding a public workshop on the proposed groundwater fee that could be used to fund the Mound Basin GSA.

*\* In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all possible accommodations will be made for individuals so they may attend and participate in meetings.*

**d. Basin Boundary Modification Discussion**

The Board will discuss the public workshop held on March 13, 2018 and consider establishing an ad hoc basin boundary modifications committee to work with United and FCGMA staff to prepare the necessary documents for submittal to DWR.

**7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- a. Liability Insurance Update**
- b. Conflict of Interest Code Update**
- c. Change to October meeting date/location.**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Administrative Reports relating to this agenda are available in the City of Ventura City Clerk's Office, 501 Poli St., Room 204, Ventura, during normal business hours as well as on the City of Ventura's Web Site (<https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1075/Water-Sources>). Materials related to an agenda item submitted to the Agency after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public review at the City Clerk's Office.

This agenda was posted before 3/12/18 at 1:00 p.m. on the City of Ventura City Hall Public Notices Board and on the Internet.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Ventura Water Office at (805) 652-4587 or the California Relay Service at (866) 735-2929. Notification by 3/13/18, at 12:00 p.m. will enable the Agency to make reasonable arrangements for accessibility to this meeting.

**MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

**Item No. 6(a)**

**DATE:** March 15, 2018  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Jennifer Tribo, Interim Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Interim Accounting Services

**SUMMARY**

In order for the Mound Basin GSA (“Agency”) to pay for legal, technical, and consultant services received before the appointment of a Treasurer and permanent Executive Director, the Board may consider entering into an agreement with United Water Conservation District to perform interim accounting services.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Board will consider authorizing the Chair to enter into an agreement with United Water Conservation District to perform interim accounting services for the Agency.

**BACKGROUND**

At its October 19, 2017 meeting, the Board authorized the Chair to execute an MOU with the City of Ventura (pending member agency approval) to perform interim accounting functions. At its November 16, 2017 meeting, the Board was informed that the City of Ventura was unable to perform accounting functions on behalf of the Agency. The Board discussed the possibility of United Water Conservation District providing interim accounting services and directed staff to provide additional information at the December 21, 2017 meeting. The item was deferred to February, and the Board suggested that a draft agreement be considered at the March meeting.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

Accounting services provided by United Water Conservation District would be reimbursable in kind services and the budget would be amended accordingly.

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

K. Brown \_\_\_ M.Mobley\_\_\_ G.Shephard\_\_\_ J. Chambers\_\_\_ C.Everts\_\_\_

**MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

**Item No. 6(b)**

**DATE:** March 15, 2018  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Jennifer Tribo, Interim Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Report from Ad hoc Committee for Legal Services

**SUMMARY**

The Joint Powers Agreement (“JPA Agreement”) provides that the Agency may contract with a Member or other public agency or private entity for various services. The Agency may require the services of legal counsel for routine operations or compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (“SGMA”). On December 21, 2017 the Board authorized staff to release a revised RFP for general legal services for the Agency.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Board will receive a report from the ad hoc legal services committee and may consider hiring the recommended law firm to provide legal services for the Agency.

**BACKGROUND**

The JPA Agreement provides that the Agency may contract with a Member or other public agency or private entity for various services, including without limitation, those related to the Authority’s finance, purchasing, risk management, information technology and human resources. A written agreement shall be entered between the Authority and the Member or other public agency or private entity contracting to provide such service, and that agreement shall specify the terms on which such services shall be provided, including without limitation, the compensation, if any, that shall be made for the provision of such services.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) for legal services for the Mound Basin GSA was sent to 23 law firms on January 10, 2018. The closing date for the receipt of the Proposals and Qualifications was February 9, 2018 by 5:00pm. Eight proposals were received.

On February 15, 2018, the Board established an ad hoc legal services committee (Mobley and Chambers) to review applications, interview finalists, and make a recommendation to the Board. The ad hoc committee interviewed three law firms on February 2, 2018 and March 5, 2018. The ad hoc committee will make a recommendation to hire one of the firms interviewed.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

The fiscal impact associated with this item is dependent on the firm selected. The approved budget includes \$15,000 for legal services.

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

K. Brown \_\_\_ M. Mobley\_\_\_ G. Shephard\_\_\_ J. Chambers\_\_\_ C. Everts\_\_\_

**MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

**Item No. 6(c)**

**DATE:** March 15, 2018  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Jennifer Tribo, Interim Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Report from Ad hoc Committee for Long-term Funding Options

**SUMMARY**

On December 21, 2017, the Board established an ad hoc committee to develop a framework for Agency funding options. Directors Mobley and Brown were selected to serve on the committee.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Board will receive a report from the ad hoc committee for long-term funding options and may consider holding a public workshop on the proposed groundwater fee that could be used to fund the Mound Basin GSA.

**BACKGROUND**

At its November 16, 2017 meeting, the Board discussed funding options for the Mound Basin GSA under SGMA. On December 21, 2017, the Board established an ad hoc committee for long-term funding options. The ad hoc committee met on March 12, 2017. The ad hoc committee will present a recommendation to the Board.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

Depending on the direction of the Board, there could be a fiscal impact associated with this item.

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

K. Brown \_\_\_ M. Mobley \_\_\_ G. Shephard \_\_\_ J. Chambers \_\_\_ C. Everts \_\_\_

# **MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

## **Item No. 6(d)**

**DATE:** March 15, 2018  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**SUBJECT:** Basin Boundary Modification Discussion

### **SUMMARY**

Staff from United Water Conservation District (United) and the County of Ventura will lead the Board in a discussion of the need for pursuing basin boundary modification for the Mound basin.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Board will discuss the public workshop held on March 13, 2018 and consider establishing an ad hoc basin boundary modifications committee to work with United and FCGMA staff to prepare the necessary documents for submittal to DWR.

### **BACKGROUND**

The groundwater basins delineated by the CA DWR in Bulletin 118 and used for the establishment of the Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MBGSA) were established many years ago using relatively low resolution data. In the intervening time period, significant new hydrogeologic data have been developed and modern, high resolution geologic mapping and aerial photography provide an opportunity to refine the groundwater basins boundaries to better reflect real-world conditions.

For example, the boundaries of the Mound basin, Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) and the Santa Paula basin adjudication do not align on the eastern and southern extents of the existing DWR basin delineation. In places, portions of the Santa Paula basin as defined by DWR fall outside of the boundaries of all of the adjacent entities (“white areas” or “unmanaged areas”) and the Mound basin and Santa Paula basin adjudication areas overlap.

The County of Ventura has filed to be the GSA for the “white areas” to ensure all portions of the basins are contained within a GSA. The County’s role as the GSA for the “white areas” is meant to be a temporary situation and ultimately the County will work with nearby GSAs to transfer management responsibilities to those agencies. The basin boundary modification effort would work to eliminate the overlaps and white area(s), as well as more precisely define the areal extent of the aquifers.

The proposed basin boundary modifications shown in the attached figures have been discussed by the Santa Paula Basin Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), FCGMA Technical Advisory Group (TAG), and the Mound Basin JPA creation group (i.e., City of Ventura, County of Ventura, United Water Conservation District) and the decision by these groups on how to address these boundary issues was postponed until formation of

the Mound Basin GSA. The boundary adjustments shown in the attached figures may not be the only adjustments ultimately identified for modification.

On September 21, 2017, the Board voted to file a notice of intent with DWR of the Agency's expectation to submit a Basin Boundary Modification Application. The attached Initial Notification of Potential Basin Boundary Modification Request was submitted to DWR on October 4, 2017. At the February 15, 2018 meeting, the Board scheduled a public workshop to solicit feedback on the proposed basin boundary modifications.

**TIMELINE**

- January 1, 2018 – Submission Period opens
  - During this 6 month window, GSAs and local agencies can submit the required information to support a Basin Boundary Modification in the BBMRS on the SGMA Portal <http://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/#intro>.
- June 30, 2018 – Submission Period Closes and 30-day Public Comment Period opens
  - All information to support a boundary modification should be submitted to the BBMRS
- July 30, 2018 – Public Comment Period Closes
  - DWR begins processing boundary modification requests and public comments
- Fall 2018 – Draft Basin Boundary Modifications released
- Fall/Winter 2018 – Final Basin Boundary Modifications released

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_

K.Brown\_\_\_ M.Mobley\_\_\_ G.Shephard\_\_\_ J. Chambers\_\_\_ C.Everts\_\_\_

**MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

**Item No. 7**

**DATE:** March 15, 2018  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report

- a) Liability Insurance Update**
- b) Conflict of Interest Code Update**
- c) Change to October meeting date/location.**