



MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, April 16, 2020 | 1:00 PM
via Webex, due to COVID-19 Meeting Protocol

MINUTES

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE

Mike Mobley, Chair
Glenn Shephard, Treasurer
Susan Rungren, Secretary
Jim Chambers
Connor Everts

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Bryan Bondy, Executive Director
Jackie Lozano, Clerk of the Board

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Kathleen Kuepper, UWCD
John Lindquist, UWCD
Eddie Pech, DWR Basin Point of Contact and Prop. 1 Grant Manager
Ambry Tibay, UWCD

CALL TO ORDER 1:05 PM

Chair Mobley called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Rungren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

No public comments were received.

3. ROLL CALL

All directors were in attendance.

4. Brief Overview of Webex Features (mute microphone, raise hand, etc.)

Item skipped.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion

Motion to approve the agenda: Director Evert; Second, Director Rungren. Voice vote: five ayes (Chambers, Everts, Rungren, Shephard, Mobley), none opposed. Motion carried 5/0/0.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion to approve the consent calendar: Director Evert; Second, Director Rungren. Voice vote: five ayes (Chambers, Everts, Rungren, Shephard, Mobley), none opposed. Motion carried 5/0/0.

7. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 7a** Director Everts reported that he participated in a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) meeting among non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Sacramento last month. He will forward information concerning the meeting.
- 7b** Director Chambers reported that he read the Mound Basin Water Quality and Isotope Study completed by S.S. Papadopoulos & Associates.

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Executive Director Bondy reviewed the staff report for the item and provided a brief oral report on additional items not included in the staff report, including:

- Jackie Lozano of UWCD will be taking over the Clerk of the Board role from Kris Sofley.
- Legal counsel is researching one issue with contracting. Depending on results, will brief the Board at the May meeting.
- Regarding potential Department of Water Resources (DWR) Technical Support Services (TSS) for monitoring well installation, Executive Director Bondy added that he is looking into a different well location than previously discussed with the Agency and the City of Ventura. He explained that DWR is looking for “turnkey” well sites for TSS. The prior location that was previously considered is not “turnkey” due to environmental habitat considerations. Consideration is being given to the City of Ventura wastewater treatment plant. He will work with the City of Ventura to explore this further.

9. MOTION ITEMS

9a Agency Officer Appointments and Required Bond

Motion

Chair Mobley asked the Board to consider agency officer appointments for 2020. Directors Everts and Rungren suggested maintaining current appointments for the remainder of this calendar year.

Motion to continue with the current officers, Director Everts; Second, Director Chambers. Voice vote: five ayes (Chambers, Everts, Rungren, Shephard, Mobley), none opposed. Motion carried 5/0/0.

Chair Mobley moved on to discuss obtaining a bond for the Treasurer. The Board discussed briefly, focusing on whether the current bond amount was adequate. Motion to obtain a bond for the Treasurer in the amount of \$5,000, Director Chambers; Second, Director Rungren. Voice vote: five ayes (Chambers, Everts, Rungren, Shephard, Mobley), none opposed. Motion carried 5/0/0.

9b Groundwater Extraction Fee Status

Motion

Executive Director Bondy reported that, as of the prior Board meeting, there were three operators that were past due. Of the three, two have paid the extraction fees. The remaining operator with unpaid extraction fees operates three wells. The unpaid extraction fees are approximately \$16K. Accumulated penalties and interest is approximately \$3K. He explained that he and UWCD have been in communication with the operator and provided the invoices in question on March 2. The operator indicated that they moved their office in 2019 and believes that they did not receive the original invoices.

Executive Director Bondy recommended the MBGSA give them more time to respond and continue to track month-by-month. Chair Mobley asked if there was any indication that they will honor their payment, including the penalties and interest. Executive Director Bondy responded he has no feeling either way; the conversations have been with the bookkeeper who does not have authority to commit the company. Chair Mobley questioned if the operator is farming produce. Executive Director Bondy believes they grow row crops. Director Mobley stated that the operator may be having problems with the lack of demand.

Chair Mobley continued this item to the next meeting.

9c Waiver of Late Fees and Penalties for Santana Family Trust

Motion

Chair Mobley reported Santana paid their fees for the three extraction periods. There was \$1,164 in late fees and penalties. Santana received the invoices, but thought they were phony and was previously unaware of the Mound Basin GSA. They were assured that the Agency is a legitimate entity and not a scam. Santana has been very cooperative, and staff recommends waiving fees. Going forward, Santana will be paying in a timely manner.

Motion to waive late fees and penalties for Santa Family Trust, Director Everts; Second, Director Chambers. Voice vote: five ayes (Chambers, Everts, Rungren, Shephard, Mobley), none opposed. Motion carried 5/0/0.

9d Waiver of Late Fees and Penalties for Duda Farms Fresh Foods

Motion

Executive Director Bondy reported that Duda Farms paid their fees on the first two invoices, but that the third invoice did not get properly routed from their corporate office in Florida to their southern California office for payment due to an oversight. They have since paid the invoice and asked if penalties could be waived. Chair Mobley questioned if they have a local office that pays everything. Executive Director Bondy responded that invoices go to their corporate office in Florida then get routed to the office in southern California for local approval. Experience has been that it may have something to do with the coding, apparently.

Motion to waive late fees and penalties for Duda Farms Fresh Foods, Director Everts; Second, Director Rungren. Voice vote: four ayes (Everts, Rungren, Shephard, Mobley), none opposed, one abstained (Chambers). Motion carried 4/0/1.

9e GSP Monthly Update (Grant Category (d), Task 4)

Motion

Executive Director Bondy explained that he will providing written GSP updates each month, including the GSP development schedule. He then reviewed the staff report for the item and provided a brief oral report additional items not included in the staff report, including:

- GSP development has been slower than expected, due to the following: UWCD staff being occupied with other priorities, delayed receipt of the S.S. Papadopoulos & Associates Mound Basin Water Quality and Isotope Study report, and delayed receipt of the "Preliminary Hydrogeological Study—Mound Basin Groundwater Conditions and Perennial Yield Study" by Hopkins Groundwater Consulting (prepared on behalf of the City of Ventura). Executive Director Bondy will work with UWCD senior staff and management to ensure they have adequate staff to maintain the schedule and will determine what work can be moved to INTERA. Map preparation for the GSP has already been moved from UWCD to INTERA. The schedule and process for completing the GSP will be updated in May. Director Mobley commented that we do not want to get behind. John Lindquist, UWCD confirmed Executive Director Bondy's description of UWCD status. He added that UWCD will work with Executive Director

Bondy to play catch-up and will confirm with UWCD management that it is committed to providing the necessary staff resources.

- Executive Director Bondy explained that GSP Workshop No. 1, which was scheduled for May 2020, will have to be cancelled or postponed due to Covid-19. He added that it probably does not make sense to reschedule the workshop in June or July 2020 due to uncertainty about when public gatherings can resume. Executive Director Bondy recommended replacing Workshop No. 1 with an extended version of Workshop No. 2 in fall. In the meantime, the Agency could start to put content on the website such as the HCM, groundwater conditions, and perform outreach. Chair Mobley suggested moving the workshops to August; the other Directors agreed. Director Chambers suggested to restructure workshops, perhaps recording them so others can view it online. Executive Director Bondy stated that Fillmore Piru Basin GSA is also looking into something similar and he will consult with them. The Board recommends working with a vendor and get this budgeted. Director Everts thought it was a good idea to have outreach postings on the web to keep people informed and aware. Executive Director Bondy agreed to evaluate this concept further. Director Everts noted that we need to figure out how to perform outreach measures given the current pandemic. Executive Director Bondy suggested using the Agency's e-mail list, Facebook page, web page, and newsletter. Local stakeholder groups could also help get the message out. Director Rungren suggested a flyer in Ventura Water bills. Director Chambers requested 30-days' notice before workshops.

Executive Director Bondy recognized Eddie Pech, DWR, and asked if he had anything to add. Mr. Pech provided an update on the Prop. 1 Grant. Mr. Pech mentioned he is working remotely to process everything and is starting to catchup on backlog. Will be caught up soon. He also noted that there may be a delay in the July 2020 payment from DWR.

Motion to receive and file the GSP update, Director Rungren; Second, Director Chambers. Voice vote: five ayes (Chambers, Everts, Rungren, Shephard, Mobley), none opposed. Motion carried 5/0/0.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

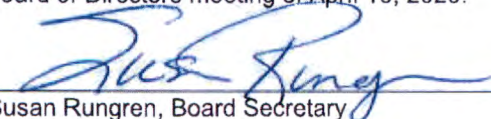
- Draft fiscal year and long-range budget for the Board.
- Work with Jackie to bring her up to speed on Webex or use Zoom for the next meeting.
- Potential review of Hopkins Groundwater Consultants' Mound Basin study, if published by May. Director Rungren suggests that Curtis Hopkins could present the results in person to the Board after release of final draft.

ADJOURNED 2:22 PM

The Board adjourned at 2:22 PM to the next **Regular Board Meeting** on Thursday, **May 21, 2020** or call of the Chair.

I certify that above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Board of Directors meeting of April 16, 2020.

ATTEST:


Susan Rungren, Board Secretary

ATTEST:


Jackie Lozano, Clerk of the Board