

MINUTES OF A REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
WESTSIDE DISTRICT WATER AUTHORITY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Held February 20, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Westside District Water Authority Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WDWA GSA or Agency) was held on February 20, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. in person at the Belridge Water Storage District office located at 21908 7<sup>th</sup> Standard Road, McKittrick, CA 93251.

CALL TO ORDER )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

Chairman Goff called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

ROLL CALL )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

The following directors were present: Rob Goff, Jeremy Blackwell, Leon Elwell, Bernard Pugét, Rob Yraceburu, and Rod Stiefvater.

The following individuals were also present: Mark Gilkey, Justin Rowe, Alex Dominguez, Morgan Campbell, Brad Kroeker, Mushtaq Mohideen, Josh Dowell, and Jamie Marquez.

Abbigale Seal, Brianda Rodriguez, and Mary King were present via teleconference.

CHANGES TO AGENDA )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

There were no requests to revise the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA )  
\_\_\_\_\_)

The Chairman asked if there were any questions concerning the Consent Agenda, which items were detailed in the Board packet. On motion of Rod Steifvater, seconded by Jeremy Blackwell, and unanimously carried, the Board approved each item listed on the Consent Agenda on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff  
Jeremy Blackwell  
Leon Elwell  
Bernard Pugét  
Rod Stiefvater  
Rob Yraceburu

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

WDWA GSA Operations )  
)

**Approval of Subsidence Management Actions – Well Drilling Moratorium within Proximity**

**to Critical Infrastructure Impacted by Subsidence:** Morgan Campbell presented a draft of the “*Well Drilling Moratorium within Proximity to Critical Infrastructure Impacted by Subsidence*” management action for Board consideration. This management action would prohibit the drilling of new wells within a 5-mile-wide area surrounding Mileposts 195-215 of the California Aqueduct (“Buffer Zone”) unless explicitly approved by the Board. The Board may allow replacements if existing wells are abandoned, and proper documentation is provided. The management action would apply to all new or replacement wells drilled in the Buffer Zone. Well modifications and repairs that do not increase groundwater extraction are allowed under this management action and non-groundwater extraction wells and wells essential to human health and safety are exempt from the management action. After discussion, Jeremy Blackwell moved to approve the management action as presented after legal review, seconded by Bernard Pugét, and unanimously carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff  
Jeremy Blackwell  
Leon Elwell  
Bernard Pugét  
Rod Stiefvater  
Rob Yraceburu

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**Approval of Subsidence Management Actions – Well Extraction Reporting within Proximity**

**to Critical Infrastructure:** Morgan Campbell presented a draft copy of a proposed management action titled “*Well Extraction Reporting within Proximity to Critical Infrastructure*” to the Board for consideration. This management action would require existing wells within the Buffer Zone to report historical, current, and future annual extraction volumes to WDWA GSA. Upon discussion, Jeremy Blackwell made a motion to approve the management action as presented after legal review, seconded by Bernard Pugét, and unanimously carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff  
Jeremy Blackwell  
Leon Elwell  
Bernard Pugét  
Rod Stiefvater  
Rob Yraceburu

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**Approval of Subsidence Management Actions – Well Registration:** Morgan Campbell presented a draft copy of a proposed management action titled “*Well Registration*” to the Board for consideration. The management action requires all existing and future wells, including well replacements, modifications, and abandonments to register the following information with WDWA GSA (a) legal owner, (b) construction details, (c) pump size, (d) Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates, (e) water quality analyses, and (f) flow meter details. The management action exempts *de minimus* domestic wells and wells not used for groundwater extraction. The management action also requires WDWA GSA request annual updates on operational status of each registered well to maintain accurate records. Upon discussion, Rob Yraceburu motioned to approve the management action as presenting pending legal review, seconded by Bernard Pugét, and unanimously carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff  
Jeremy Blackwell  
Leon Elwell  
Bernard Pugét  
Rod Stiefvater  
Rob Yraceburu

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**Review of Berrenda Mesa Spreading Grounds (BSMG) Annexation Status:** Morgan Campbell reported that WDWA GSA staff continue to move forward with the Kern County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) application to annex the BMSG into Berrenda Mesa Water District (BMWD). In 1980, BMWD purchased five Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) that comprise the BMSG and attempted to annex the properties into BMWD in 1981. In 1981, Rosedale Rio Bravo Water Storage District (RRBWS) contested the annexation and LAFCo denied BMWD’s application. On February 13, 2024, RRBWS provided a letter to BMWD of no contest regarding BMWD’s current LAFCo application to annex the BMSG into BMWD. No Board action was taken.



FINANCIAL REPORTS\_ )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

**Approval of 2023 Year-End Treasurer's Report:** Mushtaq Mohideen presented the 2023 Year-End Treasurers Report. After discussion, the 2023 Year-End Treasurers Report was approved and filed on motion of Bernard Pugét, seconded by Rob Yraceburu, and unanimously carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff  
Jeremy Blackwell  
Leon Elwell  
Bernard Pugét  
Rod Stiefvater  
Rob Yraceburu

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**Ratify 2023 Year-End Warrants:** Morgan Campbell presented the 2023 Year-End Warrants for ratification. Upon discussion, the 2023 Year-End Warrants were ratified on motion of Bernard Pugét, seconded by Jeremy Blackwell, and unanimously carried on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff  
Jeremy Blackwell  
Leon Elwell  
Bernard Pugét  
Rod Stiefvater  
Rob Yraceburu

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**Approve Surety Bonds:** Justin Rowe presented the Board member surety bonding requirements for WDWA GSA. WDWA GSA is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) comprised of Belridge Water Storage District (BWS D), BMW D, and Lost Hills Water District (LHWD). JPAs, as defined by the Joint Powers Agreement, must have a bond for those designated persons who have charge of, handle, or access to any property of the entity in an amount to be fixed by the contracting parties. WDWA GSA's bylaws require that the Secretary and the Treasurer have a bond. Justin Rowe recommended WDWA GSA acquire surety bonds for WDWA GSA's Chairman (\$5,000), Treasurer (\$10,000), and Secretary (\$5,000). After discussion, the Board approved WDWA GSA staff acquiring surety bonds for WDWA GSA's Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary in the amounts of \$5,000, \$10,000, and \$5,000, respectively, on motion of Rob Yraceburu, seconded by Jeremy Blackwell and unanimously approved on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff  
Jeremy Blackwell  
Leon Elwell  
Bernard Pugét  
Rod Stiefvater  
Rob Yraceburu

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NON AGENDIZED ITEMS )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

No public participation occurred.

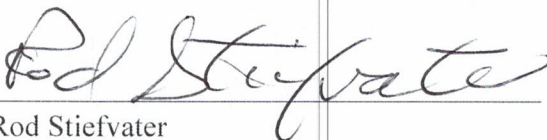
EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

The Chairman directed that the Board move into closed session at 11:28 a.m. Legal counsel advised the Board that it has authority to hold a closed session under Government Code sections 54956.9(d)(2), and 54956.9(d)(4). All persons other than the Directors, Mark Gilkey, Justin Rowe, Alex Dominguez, Morgan Campbell, Brad Kroeker, Mushtaq Mohideen, Josh Dowell, Jamie Marquez, Mary King, Brianda Rodriguez, and Abbigale Seal retired from the meeting.

Following the closed session, the meeting was again open to the public. Legal counsel advised that no reportable action was taken in the closed session.

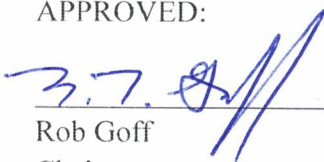
ADJOURNMENT )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.



Rod Stiefvater  
Secretary of the Board of Directors

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rob Goff  
Chairman

