

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

Held December 14, 2023

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of Westside District Water Authority Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WDWA GSA or Agency) was held on December 14, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in person at the Belridge Water Storage District office located at 21908 7th Standard Road, McKittrick, CA 93251.

CALL TO ORDER)
_____)

Chairman Goff called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL)
_____)

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

The following directors attended by video conference and/or teleconference pursuant to AB 2449: Rod Stiefvater.

The following director was absent: Rob Yraceburu.

Also present were: Mark Gilkey, Justin Rowe, Alex Dominguez, Morgan Campbell, and Travis Millwee.

Also attended by video conference and/or teleconference: Jamie Marquez, Brianda Rodriguez, Alex Lecasa, Tom Watson, and Elizabeth Cervantes.

REMOTE ATTENDANCE)
_____)

Pursuant to AB 2449, Director Stiefvater notified the Board at the beginning of the meeting of his need to participate remotely due to an emergency circumstance. Director Stiefvater recently underwent surgery that affected his ability to travel to and from the meeting. On motion of Bernard Pugét, seconded by Jeremy Blackwell and unanimously carried, the Board approved Director Stiefvater's remote participation on the following roll call vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: Rob Yraceburu

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 with staff reports in the Board packet. On motion of Jeremy Blackwell, seconded by Leon Elwell, 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

NOES: None

ABSENT: Rob Yraceburu

WDWA GSA Operations)
_____)

2023 Budget Outlook: Morgan Campbell reported that in response to the increased need for technical consultant support due to the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) inadequate determination, WDWA GSA will have a projected 2023 budget shortfall of approximately \$41,500.00. Following discussion, on motion of Jeremy Blackwell, seconded by Bernard Pugét, and unanimously carried, the Board approved issuing three separate \$14,000 cash call requests to each of WDWA GSA's participating agencies (Lost Hills Water District, Berrenda Mesa Water District, and Belridge Water Storage District) for a total cash call request of \$42,000 to cover the projected 2023 budget shortfall on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Rob Goff
Jeremy Blackwell
Leon Elwell
Bernard Pugét

Rod Stiefvater

NOES: None

ABSENT: Rob Yraceburu

Update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Probationary Process: Morgan Campbell reported that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) released the “Tulare Lake Subbasin Probationary Hearing Draft Staff Report” on October 12, 2023. This report contained a staff recommendation that the Tulare Lake Subbasin be deemed in probation by the SWRCB and set Tulare Lake Subbasin’s probationary hearing date as April 16, 2024. No Board action was taken.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – NON AGENDIZED ITEMS)
_____)

No public participation occurred.

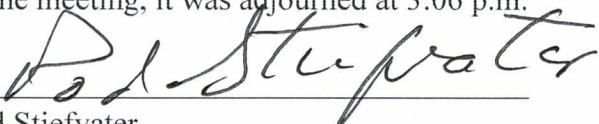
EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION)
_____)

The Chairman directed that the Board move into closed session to discuss anticipated litigation. 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, Jamie Marquez, Brianda Rodriguez, Tom Watson, and Elizabeth Cervantes 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 3:06 p.m.



Rod Stiefvater
Secretary of the Board of Directors

APPROVED:

3.7. 

Rob Goff
Chairman