

**MINUTES
OF
THE
GROUNDWATER COUNCIL**

August 12, 2019

Registered Guests:

Bob Martin, Bear Valley Mutual Water Company
Sam Fuller, Bear Valley Mutual Water Company
John Mura, East Valley Water District
Tom Crowley, City of Rialto
Linda Jadeski, West Valley Water District
Logan Olds, West Valley Water District
Steve Miller, San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
Cris Fealy, Fontana Union Water Company
Josh Swift, Fontana Union Water Company
Jeff Noelte, East Valley Water District
Parag Kalaria, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Miguel Guerrero, San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
Madeline Blue, Yucaipa Valley Water District
Jesus Gastelum, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Cecilia Griego, City of Redlands
Katelyn Scholte, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
Daniel Cozad, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District
Wen Huang, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Karly Gaynor, Western Municipal Water District
Jennifer Ares, Yucaipa Valley Water District
Douglas Headrick, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Bob Tincher, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Lillian Hernandez, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

The Groundwater Council meeting was called to order by Tom Crowley at 10:04 a.m. at the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District office, 380 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino.

Roll Call was taken and there was a quorum for voting purposes. The meeting proceeded with the following agenda items.

Agenda Item 1. Approval of Minutes.

1. April 8, 2019, Meeting.

Daniel Cozad moved to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2019, Groundwater Council meeting. John Mura seconded. The motion was unanimously adopted.

Agenda Item 2. New Business.

- 1. Appointment of a Member to Serve on the Active Recharge Partnership Agreement Policy Committee.** Daniel Cozad stated that in 2019 there was a partnership agreement formed between San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD) and the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District (SBWWCD) that provides for a Policy Committee. The Policy Committee is to make sure the active recharge projects that are being transferred to the SBWWCD move forward and the funds are used appropriately. It consists of a Board member from SBVMWD and a Board member from the SBWWCD and an appointee from the Groundwater Council in addition to the general managers of the two districts. The role would be to have the interest of the basin in mind. In the agreement, it is set to meet quarterly. Outside of attending the meeting and reviewing the agenda there should not be a lot of work for whoever would be willing to serve. Bob Martin volunteered for the position. Mr. Cozad requested an appointment be made to serve on the Policy Committee.

John Mura moved approval of appointing Bob Martin to represent the Groundwater Council on the Active Recharge Partnership Policy Committee. Douglas Headrick seconded. The motion was unanimously adopted.

- 2. Proposed Agreement with San Bernardino County Flood Control District for Water Spreading.** Douglas Headrick stated that the Groundwater Council (GC) was primarily established to cover the purchase of a supplemental water supply that also includes a coordination of the operations and maintenance associated with recharge of those supplies. On the east side of the valley, that is primarily taken care of by the SBWWCD but on the west side and in other areas including the east side of the valley, the flood control facilities are used for that purpose. Eighty percent of the cost is to recharge the water and approximately twenty percent of the cost is the operations and maintenance associated with the recharge of that water and that is how the budget is developed for the GC. SBVMWD signed an agreement with the San Bernardino County Flood Control District (SBCFCD) in 1972 to allow it access to their facilities when not needed for flood control purposes. That agreement was in place until a few years ago until it expired. The way that it worked was the SBCFCD would keep track of all their costs associated with operations and maintenance of water recharge that came from the State Water Project. In 2011, the

District received an invoice that covered 21 years. The cost was about \$10,000 a year. The recharge is clean water and other than the vegetation that may grow, there is not much maintenance. There are vector control costs associated with the recharge as well. SBVMWD asked the SBCFCD if they would re-negotiate a contract. At that time, the SBCFCD wanted a fee paid. The fee discussed but not finalized was \$20 per acre-foot of water. Two months ago, a draft contract was received from the SBCFCD and it included the fee discussed. Flood control comes first but when available SBVMWD could use the facilities at cost meaning operations and maintenance. The \$20 fee would be covered by the GC. The SBVMWD receives a lease payment to do the same thing. The county would like any other agency that may think they want to do recharge with non-storm water in the future, sign the agreement. After discussion, the group felt that SBVMWD and anyone else who wants to sign on to the agreement needs to move with all haste to accomplish the task. However, whether or not those charges will be added to the GC equitable allocation are yet to be determined.

- 3. **Participation Update and Consideration of Non-Parties.** Douglas Headrick stated that the GC will need to figure out a way to cover the charges from small producers that have not signed the agreement yet. The total charges this year would have been approximately \$300,000. Recognizing there will be a need to figure out a way to handle it, Mr. Headrick requested the GC send a letter to the SBVMWD Board asking them in the spirit of cooperation to cover those charges and commit as a GC that it will continue to encourage or incentivize all of the agencies to pay. This year the SBVMWD Board authorized the purchase of 34,000 acre-feet of water that is added to the GC mix and distributed throughout the District.

Agenda Item 3. Other Business.

The next regularly scheduled Groundwater Council Meeting will be on October 14, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. at San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, 380 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92408.

Agenda Item 4. Adjournment.

There being no further business, President Crowley adjourned the meeting 10:58 a.m.

APPROVAL CERTIFICATION
I hereby certify to approval of the foregoing Minutes of the Groundwater Council.
Douglas D. Headrick
Secretary
Date 12/9/19

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Hernandez
Lillian Hernandez
Board Secretary