

MINUTES OF THE YUCAIPA SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Board Meeting – July 27, 2022 - 10:30 a.m.

This workshop was held at the City of Yucaipa, 34272 Yucaipa Boulevard, Yucaipa, California.

- I. Call to Order - Chairman Mark Iverson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.
- II. Roll Call - The following representatives, as assigned by each Party, attended the meeting:

Purveyors	Present	Primary Representative	Present	Alternative Representative
South Mesa Water Company	✓	David Armstrong		George Jorritsma
South Mountain Water Company	✓	George Hanson		Rolland Moore
Western Heights Water Company	✓	Mark Iverson	✓	Tim Green
Yucaipa Valley Water District	✓	Joseph Zoba	✓	Jennifer Ares
<u>Municipals</u>				
City of Redlands	✓	John Harris		Kevin Watson
City of Yucaipa		Ray Casey	✓	Fermin Preciado
<u>Regionals</u>				
San Bernardino Valley MWD	✓	Bob Tincher	✓	Matt Howard
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	✓	Lance Eckhart	✓	Emmett Campbell
<u>Stakeholders</u>				
County of Riverside		Steve Horn		Jeff Johnson
County of San Bernardino		Bob Page		
City of Calimesa		Bonnie Johnson		

A quorum of the Board of Directors was present to start the meeting.

In addition to the Board of Directors identified above, the following members of the public were registered as attending the meeting:

- Ayman Alzraiee, United States Geological Survey
- Madeline Blua, Yucaipa Valley Water District
- Geoff Cromwell, United States Geological Survey
- Ron Duncan, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
- Sam Fuller, Consultant
- Derek Hoffman, Fennemore Law
- Scott Hudson, Oak Glen Domestic
- Mike Kostelecky, Yucaipa Valley Water District
- Yasmeen Nubani, Ortega Strategies Group
- Nyles O’Harra, Yucaipa Valley Water District

- Mia Preciado, Yucaipa Valley Water District
- Debbie Shortlidge, City of Yucaipa
- Steve Stuart, Dudek
- Mike Weil, California Department of Water Resources

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2022

David Armstrong moved to approve the board meeting minutes and George Hanson seconded the motion.

South Mesa Water Company	Yes
South Mountain Water Company	Yes
Western Heights Water Company	Yes
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Yes
City of Redlands	Yes
City of Yucaipa	Yes
San Bernardino Valley MWD	Abstain
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Yes

V. Discussion Items

A. Update on Groundwater Conditions in Yucaipa Subbasin for the 2021-2022 Water Year

Steve Stuart provided detailed information about the groundwater conditions in the Yucaipa Subbasin for the current water year. For the first three quarters of the water year, the area received 7.92 inches of precipitation, short of the annual average rainfall amount of 15.62 inches of precipitation.

Specific water conditions were provided for the North Bench Management Area, Calimesa Management Area, Western Heights Management Area, and the San Timoteo Management Area. Additional data will be provided at the next meeting.

B. Consideration of Dudek proposal to develop a well ordinance for the Yucaipa GSP Plan Area [Page 7 of 13]

Steve Stuart provided an overview of the Dudek proposal to develop a groundwater well ordinance for the Yucaipa Groundwater Basin Area. The Drought Executive Order N-7-22 requires the Groundwater Sustainability Agency to provide “written verification” that proposed groundwater wells are consistent with the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Steve Stuart discussed the following schedule that would be used to develop a well ordinance for the Yucaipa basin:

- July 27, 2022 – GSA Board Meeting – Consideration of Dudek Proposal
- September 5, 2022 – Draft Well Ordinance to Yucaipa GSA to Review
- September 26, 2022 – Comments from GSA Member Agencies
- October 3, 2022 – Response to Comments Letter to GSA
- October 10-14, 2022 – Finalize Well Ordinance
- October 26, 2022 – GSA Board Meeting – Consideration of Adopting Well Ordinance

Lance Eckhart moved to approve a contract with Dudek for a sum not to exceed \$14,890. Joseph Zoba seconded the motion.

South Mesa Water Company	Yes
South Mountain Water Company	Yes
Western Heights Water Company	Yes
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Yes
City of Redlands	Yes
City of Yucaipa	Yes
San Bernardino Valley MWD	Yes
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Yes

- C. Discussion of the City of Redlands Potentially Leaving the Yucaipa Groundwater Sustainability Agency

This item was continued to a future meeting.

- D. Discussion of legal representation for the Yucaipa GSA

Steve Stuart discussed the need to have access to an attorney for certain tasks that may be required of the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency. Matt Howard stated that Varner & Brandt would be available to provide legal support services to the Agency.

Mark Iverson moved to appoint Varner & Brandt as general counsel of the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency. Lance Eckhart seconded the motion.

South Mesa Water Company	Yes
South Mountain Water Company	Yes
Western Heights Water Company	Yes
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Yes
City of Redlands	Yes
City of Yucaipa	Yes
San Bernardino Valley MWD	Yes
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Yes

- E. Discussion of potentially applying a pumping fee for private well users that produce more than 2 AFY

Steve Stuart provided a brief overview of a policy that would provide additional accountability for private well owners in the North Bench and Calimesa Management Areas. Following a general discussion, Steve Stuart stated that he received sufficient direction to collect additional information and report back at the next board meeting.

- F. Discussion of SGMA Prop 1 funding opportunities

Matt Howard provided information about the Round 2 Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Grants available from the Department of Water Resources. This \$202.5 million grant opportunity allows for one application per basin. This item will be added to the next meeting agenda for further discussion and possible action.

- G. Discussion of USGS Proposed tasks in Yucaipa Subbasin from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Bob Tincher discussed the proposed USGS project list for FY 2022-23. A program letter will be sent to the group from SBVMWD for review and discussion at the next board meeting.

- H. USGS presentation of Yucaipa Integrated Hydrologic Model sensitivity analysis

Ayman Alzraiee and Geoff Cromwell from the United States Geological Survey provided information about the USGS model for the Yucaipa Basin. This detailed presentation also included a discussion about stream gauge stations, the fate and age of recharge water, and the viability of using the existing climate model.

- VI. Topics for Future Meetings - Suggested meeting dates are provided below and will be adjusted based on the progress of each topic.

- Development of San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency replenishment fees.
- Discussion regarding the implementation of a future pump tax
- Overview of the USGS studies in the area
- SGMA Round 2 Implementation Grant

- VII. Comments by the Board of Directors

None

VIII. Announcements

The next scheduled meeting of the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency will be on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at 10:30 am.

Future board meetings are scheduled on the following dates:

- Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 10:30 am - Board Meeting
- Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 10:30 am - Board Meeting
- Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at 10:30 am - Board Meeting
- Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 10:30 am - Board Meeting
- Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 10:30 am - Board Meeting

IX. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.