

# INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

City of Ridgecrest, Indian Wells Valley Water District, Inyo County, Kern County, San Bernardino County

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Thursday, May 16, 2019; 10:00 a.m.

### IWVGA Members Present:

Chairman Ron Kicinski, IWVWD	Don Zdeba, IWVGA General Manager
Bob Page, San Bernardino County	James Worth, Legal Counsel
Mick Gleason, Kern County	Steve Johnson, IWVGA Water Resources Manager
Commander Peter Benson, US Navy, DoD Liaison	Thomas Bickauskas, Bureau of Land Management
Scott Hayman, City of Ridgecrest	Lauren Duffy, Clerk of the Board

Attending via teleconference is John Vallejo, Inyo County

Meeting recording and public comment letters submitted are made available at:

<https://iwvga.org/iwvga-meetings/>

### 1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting is called to order by Chairman Kicinski at 9:58 a.m.

- a. The Pledge of Allegiance is led by Scott O'Neil.
- b. Lauren Duffy calls the following roll call:

Director Vallejo	<i>*Absent at time of roll call</i>
Director Hayman	Present
Chairman Kicinski	Present
Director Page	Present
Vice Chair Gleason	Present

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Shirley Kirkpatrick expresses her concerns with the Government deciding what Indian Wells Valley (IWV) residents can do with their water.

Lorry Wagner submits several letters sent to California political representatives (available online). Ms. Wagner further expresses her concerns with the deadline for the submittal of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and the path the IWVGA is taking, including how the Authority is spending money.

### 3. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approve Minutes of Board Meeting April 18, 2019
- b. Approve Expenditures
  - i. \$13,552.50 – RWG Law
  - ii. \$913.00 and \$747.00 – City of Ridgecrest
  - iii. \$11,466.26 – Capitol Core Group

Motion made by Bob Page and seconded by Mick Gleason to approve Minutes of Board Meeting on April 18, 2019, and the following expenditures: \$13,552.50 to RWG Law, \$913.00 and \$747.00 to City of Ridgecrest, and \$11,466.26 to Capitol Core Group. Motion carries by the following vote: (Ayes: Gleason, Hayman, Kicinski, Page. Nays: None. Absent: Vallejo)

#### **4. WATER REOURCES MANAGER REPORT:**

##### **a. Report/Discussion on Plan of Action and Milestones (POAM):**

Heather Steele provides a report on the POAM. Available online.

##### **b. Report on Proposition 1 Grant Status:**

Heather Steele reports the packet for Invoice #1 was submitted and approved by Department of Water Resources (DWR) on May 9, 2019. The first payment is anticipated to be received by early June. The first invoice amount is \$372,851.88. Due to DWR retaining 10% of all reimbursement payments until the end of the Proposition 1 Grant period, Staff expects a reimbursement of \$335,566.69. Staff is currently working on the packet for Invoice #2, which will include the period between October 2018 – March 2019.

##### **c. Report on Pump fee Status/Schedule:**

Ms. Steele reports, as of May 10<sup>th</sup>, there are 52 registered non-deminimis accounts and 23 accounts not registered, which are believed to be non-de-minimis. \$244,500 received to date in pumping fees.

##### **d. Severely Disadvantaged Community (SDAC) Update:**

Ms. Steele reports the Request for Proposals (RFP) for administration of the Residential and Commercial Rebate Program have been distributed and responses are due by today, Thursday, May 16, 2019. Additionally, the RFPs for the development and implementation of the Water Audit, Leak Detection and Repair Program have been distributed and responses are due by Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Stetson Engineers and staff will review the bids and provide a recommendation to the Board. In the case that there are multiple qualified bidders, staff suggests the final candidates provide presentations to the Board for an interview process and final decision at the June meeting. The Board agrees with staff recommendation regarding multiple qualified bidders.

#### **5. UPDATE ON IWVGA FINANCES:**

Mr. Zdeba provides an update on the IWVGA financial report included in the Board Packet.

*Director Vallejo joins the meeting via teleconference at 10:33 a.m.*

The ending balance, including the four (4) invoices approved at today's meeting, is \$6,775.24.

Director Vallejo suggests a "big picture, long term budget", including long-term cash flow issues, be presented by staff at a future meeting.

The Board hears comments from Joshua Nugent.

#### **6. UPDATE ON OUTREACH EFFORTS:**

Mr. Zdeba provides a report on outreach efforts, including the direction to staff at the April IWVGA meeting to provide outreach to the Domestic Well Owners. An oversized postcard has been drafted and reviewed by Chair Kicinski, Vice-Chair Gleason, Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Chair Janiec, and Jim Worth. Staff reduced the previous mailing list, used for all parcel owners and residents in the IWV, to possible well owners within the basin. The postcard will provide a link to a simplified, voluntary, Well Registration Form for de-minimis users. These forms will be made available at the Indian Wells Valley Water District's (IWVWD) office, Inyokern Community Services District, and on the IWVGA website. PackWrap provided a quote for the postcards, which totals: \$1,313.56. The IWVWD will pay the invoice for the postcards and then ask the IWVGA for reimbursement.

The Board hears comments from Sarah Zegers.

**7. BOARD QUESTIONS REGARDING POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) REPORTS:**

PAC Chairman Dave Janiec and TAC Chairman Adam Bingham report on highlights of the May 2<sup>nd</sup> PAC and TAC meetings and answer Board questions.

The Board hears comments from Bruce Boyer and Judie Decker.

**8. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**a. Report on IWVGA's Water Marketer (Capitol Core Group)**

Don Zdeba provides an overview of the Project Update Memorandum from Capitol Core Group (available online).

Jeff Simonetti, Capitol Core Group, answers Board questions.

**9. CLOSING COMMENTS:**

None.

**10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next IWVGA Regular Board Meeting will be held on June 20, 2019; at 10:00 a.m.

With no further Board or Public comments, Chairman Kicinski recessed the meeting at 11:08 a.m. for a short break.

The meeting is reconvened into Closed Session at 11:21 a.m.

**11. CLOSED SESSION:**

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - POTENTIAL LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)(e)(1)) Number of cases: One (1) Significant exposure to litigation in the opinion of the Board of Directors on the advice of legal counsel, based on: Facts and circumstances that might result in litigation against the IWVGA but which are not yet known to a potential plaintiff or plaintiffs, which facts and circumstances need not be disclosed.

No action is taken which would require disclosure under the Brown Act.

**12. ADJOURN:**

Chairman Kicinski adjourns the meeting at 12:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lauren Duffy', is written over the printed name.

Lauren Duffy  
Clerk of the Board of Directors  
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority