

INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES Thursday, October 15, 2020; 10:00 a.m.

IWVGA Members Present:

Chairman Mick Gleason, Kern County	Don Zdeba, IWVGA General Manager
John Vallejo, Inyo County	Phillip Hall, Legal Counsel
Ron Kicinski, IWVWD	Steve Johnson, Stetson Engineers
Scott Hayman, City of Ridgecrest	Commander Peter Benson, US Navy, DoD Liaison
Thomas Bickauskas, Bureau of Land Management	April Keigwin, Clerk of the Board
Bob Page, San Bernardino County	

Attending via teleconference is Bob Page, John Vallejo, Commander Peter Benson, and Thomas Bickauskas.

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 Gleason at 10:00 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION:

None.

Chairman Gleason calls the meeting into Closed Session at 10:02 a.m.

3. CLOSED SESSION:

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4) Number of cases: (1) – Board of Directors on the advice of legal counsel is meeting to discuss potential litigation filings; the facts and circumstances of which are not yet known to the potential defendant(s) and which need not be disclosed.
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – PUBLICALLY THREATENED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)(e)(3) Number of cases: (1) – Board of Directors on the advice of legal counsel is meeting to discuss a Notice of Intention to file CEQA suit received from Mojave Pistachio but no complaint has been provided.
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – PUBLICALLY THREATENED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)(e)(3) Number of cases: (1) – Board of Directors on the advice of legal counsel is meeting to discuss public statements made by Searles Valley Minerals that it intends to file suit but no complaint has been provided.

Closed Session adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

4. OPEN SESSION:

Meeting was reconvened into open session at 11:03 a.m.

a. Report on Closed Session:

Counsel Hall reports no action was taken that would require disclosure under the Brown Act.

b. The Pledge of Allegiance is led by Scott Hayman

c. April Keigwin calls the following roll call:

Director Vallejo	Present
Director Kicinski	Present
Chairman Gleason	Present
Director Page	Present
Vice Chair Hayman	Present

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

The Board hears public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

a. Approve Minutes of Board Meeting September 17, 2020

b. Approve Expenditures

- i. \$6,565.00 – RWG Law
- ii. \$7,856.25 – Capitol Core Group
- iii. \$145.00 – Water District Jobs, General Manager (GM) Ad
- iv. \$5,640.00 – WaterWise Consulting, Inc.
- v. \$1,214.96 – Daily Independent

Don Zdeba notes Capitol Core Group invoices will be paid for by the District and credited against the Replenishment Fee to be paid by the District once implemented.

Motion made by Scott Hayman and seconded by Ron Kicinski to approve Minutes of Board Meeting September 17, 2020 and the following expenditures in the amount of \$6,565.00 to RWG Law, \$7,856.25 to Capitol Core Group, \$145.00 to Water District Jobs, \$5,640.00 to WaterWise Consulting, Inc., and \$1,214.96 to Daily Independent.

Motion unanimously carries by the following roll call vote:

Director Vallejo	Aye
Director Kicinski	Aye
Chairman Gleason	Aye
Vice Chair Hayman	Aye
Director Page	Aye

7. **METER COMPLIANCE UPDATE AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION ON CHANGES TO THE POLICY:**

Don Zdeba provides a staff report and supporting documentation (documents made available on the IWVGA website). Board requests further staff recommendation on potential changes to the Ordinance at the November meeting.

The Board hears public comment from Josh Nugent, Tom Browne, and Renee Westa-Lusk.

8. **BOARD CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 07-20 ESTABLISHING A REPORTING POLICY FOR ALL NEW GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION WELLS IN THE BASIN:**

Counsel Hall provides a staff report and Resolution 07-20 (documents made available on the IWVGA website).

The Board hears public comment from Elisabeth Esposito, and Renee Westa-Lusk.

Motion made by Scott Hayman and seconded by Ron Kicinski to approve Resolution 07-20 – Establishing a Reporting Policy for all New Groundwater Extraction Wells in the Basin.

Motion unanimously carries by the following roll call vote.

Director Vallejo	Aye
Director Kicinski	Aye

Chairman Gleason	Aye
Vice Chair Hayman	Aye
Director Page	Aye

- 9. BOARD CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION OF AN OPTIMIZED USE OF RECYCLED WATER:**
Steve Johnson and Jeff Helsley provide a staff report and presentation (documents made available on the IWVGA website).

The Board hears public comment from Josh Nugent, Judie Decker, Derek Hoffman, Tom Browne, Mike Neel, and Renee Westa-Lusk.

Director Page leaves the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

- 10. BOARD CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION ON A FOLLOWING VALUATION AND POTENTIAL FOR A TRANSFER MARKET IN THE TRANSIENT POOL:**
Steve Johnson and Jeff Helsley provide a staff report and presentation (documents made available on the IWVGA website).

The Board hears public comment from Elisabeth Esposito, Derek Hoffman, and Judie Decker.

- 11. VISION PLAN FOR 2035:**
Nothing to report.

The Board hears public comment from Mike Neel.

- 12. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER REPORT:**
Jeff Helsley provides updates on the following grants/programs: Prop. 1 Grant Status, Prop. 68 Grant Status, TDS Sampling and Testing Results, Isotopes Sampling and Testing Results, TSS Sampling and Schedule (presentations made available on the IWVGA website).

- 13. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:**
Don Zdeba provides updates on the following; Continuance of Public Hearing for Bellino, Monthly Financial Report, Report on IWVGA's Water Marketer (Capitol Core Group), Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDAC) Program, General Manager Recruitment, Delinquent Accounts, and Well Registration Update (documents made available on the IWVGA website).

The Board hears public comment from Josh Nugent.

- 14. CLOSING COMMENTS :**
Director Vallejo thanks everyone for their participation.

Director Kicinski thanks everyone for their participation and hopes the pieces begin to pull together soon.

- 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – November 19, 2020**

- 16. ADJOURN:**
Chairman Gleason adjourns the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
April Keigwin


Clerk of the Board
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority