

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 Wednesday, February 9, 2022; 11:00 a.m.

IWVGA Members Present:

Chairman Phillip Peters, Kern County	Carol Thomas-Keefer, IWVGA General Manager
Scott Hayman, City of Ridgecrest	Keith Lemieux, Legal Counsel
Stan Rajtora, IWVWD	Steve Johnson, Stetson Engineers
John Vallejo, Inyo County	Commander Benjamin Turner, US Navy, DoD Liaison
Tim Itnyre, San Bernardino County	April Keigwin, Clerk of the Board

Attending via teleconference is Tim Itnyre, John Vallejo, and Phillip Peters.

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

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

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chair Hayman calls the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. AB-361 FINDING:

Motion made by Stan Rajtora and seconded by Scott Hayman to make a finding that health and safety risks as stated in AB-361 are still of concern.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Peters	Absent
Vice Chair Hayman	Aye
Director Itnyre	Absent
Director Rajtora	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION:

None.

Vice Chair Hayman calls the meeting into Closed Session at 10:04 a.m.

4. CLOSED SESSION:

- CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS – (Government Code Section 54956.8) - Property: State Water Project Importation; Agency Negotiator: Capitol Core Group; Negotiating Parties: Various; Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment.
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9(b)) - Number of cases: (2)
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code Section 54956.9): IWVGA v. Inyokern CSD.

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) - Name of case: Searles Valley Minerals Inc. v. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, et. al.
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)) - Name of case: Mojave Pistachios, LLC, a California limited liability company, et.al. v. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, a California Joint Powers Authority, et. al.

Closed Session adjourns at 11:03 a.m.

5. OPEN SESSION – No earlier than 11:00 a.m.

Meeting reconvenes into Open Session at 11:09 a.m.

- a. Report on Closed Session – Counsel Lemieux reports there was no action that would require disclosure under The Brown Act.
- b. Pledge of Allegiance is led by Vice Chair Hayman
- c. Roll Call

Chairman Peters	Present
Vice Chair Hayman	Present
Director Itnyre	Present
Director Rajtora	Present
Director Vallejo	Present

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Board hears public comment from Mike Neel.

7. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Chairman Peters states he has been under the weather and out of abundance of caution he has chosen to participate remotely.

8. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approve Minutes of Board Meeting January 12, 2021
- b. Approve Expenditures

**To view itemized invoices please visit <https://iwvga.org/iwvga-meetings>*

- i. \$80,037.40 – Stetson Engineers
- ii. \$30,539.50 – Regional Government Services – (Replenishment / Extraction)
- iii. \$13,906.25 – Capitol Core Group – (Replenishment)

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by Stan Rajtora to approve Minutes of Board Meeting January 12, 2022, and the following expenditures in the amount of \$80,037.40 to Stetson Engineers, \$30,539.50 to Regional Government Services, and \$13,906.25 to Capitol Core Group.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Peters	Aye
Vice Chair Hayman	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Rajtora	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye

9. BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON PROJECT PRIORITY RANKING FOR DWR SGMA-IP GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:

Steve Johnson, Joseph Montoya and Jeff Simonetti provide presentation and application documents (documents made available on IWVGA website).

The Board hears public comment from West Katzenstein, and Renee Westa-Lusk.

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by John Vallejo to approve the project priority ranking for DWR SGMA-IP Grant Funding Application.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Peters	Aye
Vice Chair Hayman	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Rajtora	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye

10. BOARD REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF POLICY ON TEMPORARY USE:

Steve Johnson provides staff report, policy and presentation (documents made available on the IWVGA website).

The Board hears public comment from Judie Decker, and Renee Westa-Lusk.

Motion fails for lack of a second.

11. BOARD REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SHALLOW WELL MITIGATION POLICY:

Steve Johnson provides staff report, policy and presentation (documents made available on the IWVGA website). Item is moved to March Regular Board Meeting for consideration and approval in the Consent Agenda.

The Board hears public comment from Don Decker, and Renee Westa-Lusk.

12. BOARD REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES APPROVAL LETTER ON INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

Carol Thomas-Keefer and Jeff Helsley present a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Sustainability Plan Approval Report from DWR (documents made available on the IWVGA website).

13. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER REPORT:

Steve Johnson, Joseph Montoya and Jean Moran provide updates on the following grants/programs:

- a. Grant Funding
 - i. Proposition 1
 - ii. Proposition 68
- b. GSP Implementation Projects/Management Action Updates
 - i. Recycled Water Program
- c. Miscellaneous Items
 - i. Annual Report for Water Year 2021
 - ii. Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDE) Update
 - iii. Rose Valley Subflow Update

Vice Chair Hayman calls for a recess at 1:18 p.m.

Meeting readjourned at 1:25 p.m.

The Board hears public comment from Don Decker, West Katzenstein, and Judie Decker.

14. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

Carol Thomas-Keefer provides the Monthly Financial Report, update from Wulff Hansen, update on 2020 audit, and delinquent accounts (documents made available on the IWVGA website). Jeff Simonetti of Capitol Core Group provides a Technical Memorandum (document made available on the IWVGA website).

Director Vallejo leaves the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

15. PAC/TAC REPORT:

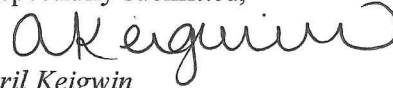
PAC Chair, David Janiec provides a report on the January 24 meeting. No TAC update at this time.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – MARCH 9, 2022

17. ADJOURN:

Vice Chair Hayman adjourns the meeting at 2:17 p.m. on February 9, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



April Keigwin

Clerk of the Board

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority