

# 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, March 9, 2022

**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
Thomas Bickauskas, Bureau of Land Management	

Attending via teleconference is Tim Itnyre, John Vallejo, Carol Thomas-Keefer, Steve Johnson and Thomas Bickauskas.

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

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Peters calls the meeting to order at 10:03 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	Aye
Vice Chair Hayman	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Rajtora	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye

\*Counsel Lemieux reports the CalMutuals JPRIMA invoice in the amount of \$12,930.00 was delivered to IWVGA Staff yesterday and requires payment by March 25 for insurance renewal. For this reason, the invoice needs to be added to today's Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Scott Hayman and seconded by Tim Itnyre to add the CalMutuals JPRIMA invoice in the amount of \$12,930.00 as agenda item 7.f.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

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

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION:**

None.

Chairman Peters calls the meeting into Closed Session at 10:06 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 10:58 a.m.

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

Meeting reconvenes into Open Session at 11:05 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 Chairman Peters
- 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 Joshua Nugent.

**7. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

None.

**8. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Approve Minutes of Board Meeting February 9, 2022
- b. Approve Minutes of Special Board Meeting February 24, 2022
- c. Shallow Well Mitigation Policy
- d. Letter of Support for City of Ridgecrest Wastewater Treatment Plant State Budget Request
- e. Approve Expenditures
- f. CalMutuals JPRIMA Invoice in the amount of \$12,930.00 for insurance renewal.



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

- i. \$78,367.77 – Stetson Engineers
- ii. \$30,216.25 – Regional Government Services – (Replenishment / Extraction)
- iii. \$17,187.50 – Capitol Core Group – (Replenishment)
- iv. \$100.00 – California Association of Mutual Water Companies – (Extraction)
- v. \$125,000.00 – Kern County Repayment – (Extraction)
- vi. \$1,680.00 – WellIntell – (Extraction)

Motion made by Scott Hayman and seconded by Stan Rajtora to approve Minutes of Board Meeting February 9, 2022, Minutes of Special Board Meeting February 24, 2022, Shallow Well Mitigation Policy, Letter of Support for City of Ridgecrest Wastewater Treatment Plant State Budget Request, and the following expenditures in the amount of \$12,500.00 to CalMutuals JPRIMA, \$78,367.77 to Stetson Engineers, \$30,216.25 to Regional Government Services, \$17,187.50 to Capitol Core Group, \$100.00 to California Mutual Association of Mutual Water Companies, \$125,000.00 to Kern County, and \$1,680.00 to WellIntell.

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. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER REPORT:**

Steve Johnson, Joseph Montoya Heather Steele 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

The Board hears public comment from Don Decker, Michael Sinott, Pat Quist Judie Decker, and Renee Westa-Lusk.

**10. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT:**

Carol Thomas-Keefer provides the Monthly Financial Reports for January and February 2022, Technical Memorandum from Capitol Core Group and update on the Communication and Engagement Plan.

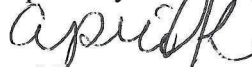
The Board hears public comment from Joshua Nugent, and Renee Westa-Lusk.

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – APRIL 13, 2022**

**12. ADJOURN:**

Chairman Peters adjourns the meeting at 12:54 p.m. on March 9, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



April Keigwin

Clerk of the Board

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority