

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, May 12, 2021; 10:00 a.m.

IWVGA Members Present:

Chairman Scott Hayman, City of Ridgecrest	Carol Thomas-Keefer, IWVGA General Manager
Phillip Peters, Kern County	Keith Lemieux, Legal Counsel
Stan Rajtora, IWVWD	Steve Johnson, Stetson Engineers
John Vallejo, Inyo County	Commander Peter Benson, 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, 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 Hayman at 10:06 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION:

None.

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

3. 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. Frank Bellino (BCV-21-100415)
- 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 adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

4. OPEN SESSION:

Meeting reconvenes into Open Session at 11:12 a.m.

a. Report on Closed Session:

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

b. The Pledge of Allegiance is led by Chairman Hayman

c. April Keigwin calls the following roll call:

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Board hears public comment from Don Decker and Judie Decker.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Approve Minutes of Board Meeting April 14, 2021

b. Approve Minutes of Special Board Meeting May 6, 2021

c. Approve Expenditures

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

i. \$17,768.75 – Regional Government Services – (Extraction Fee / Replenishment Fee)

ii. \$11,787.50 – Capitol Core Group – (Replenishment Fee)

iii. \$5,350.00 – WaterWise Consulting – (Prop. 1 Grant – SDAC)

iv. \$22,893.07 – California Rural Water Association (Prop. 1 – SDAC)

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by Stan Rajtora to approve Minutes of Board Meeting April 14, 2021, Minutes of Special Board Meeting May 6, 2021, and the following expenditures in the amount of \$17,768.75 to Regional Government Services, \$11,787.50 to Capitol Core Group, \$5,350.00 to WaterWise Consulting, and \$22,893.07 to California Rural Water Association.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

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

7. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER REPORT:

Steve Johnson, Joseph Montoya, and Steve Reich provide updates on the following grants/programs: Prop. 1 Grant Status, Prop. 68 Grant Status, Recycled Water Program, Navy/COSO Royalty Fund 2021 Project(s), GSP Planned Projects – Project No. 4 Shallow Well Impact Mitigation Program, GSP Planned Projects – Project No. 1 Surface Percolation Replenishment Update, and Introduction of Ordinance 01-21 – Water Conservation (presentations made available on the IWVGA website).

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

8. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT:

Carol Thomas-Keefe provides updates on the following: Monthly Financial Update, Report on IWVGA’s Water Marketer (Capitol Core Group), Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDAC) Program, and Delinquent Accounts (documents made available on the IWVGA website).

9. CLOSING COMMENTS:

Vice Chair Rajtora questions some of the numbers shown in the Annual Report concerning the El Paso area. He further expresses desire to return to in person meetings, create a critical projects list, and employ an independent general counsel, and he shares concerns for a potential need for dust mitigation.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – June 9, 2021

11. ADJOURN:

Chairman Hayman adjourns the meeting at 12:42 p.m. on May 12, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



April Keigwin

Clerk of the Board

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority