

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, September 8, 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 Benjamin Turner, US Navy, DoD Liaison
Tim Itnyre, San Bernardino County	April Keigwin, Clerk of the Board

Attending via teleconference is Tim Itnyre and John Vallejo.

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 10:07 a.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION:

The Board hears public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk.

Chairman Hayman calls the meeting into Closed Session at 10:08 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 11:15 a.m.

4. OPEN SESSION:

Meeting reconvenes into Open Session at 11:20 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 Michael Kennedy and Renee Westa-Lusk.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approve Minutes of Board Meeting August 11, 2021.
- b. Approve Expenditures
 - *To view itemized invoices please visit <https://iwvga.org/iwvga-meetings>*
 - i. \$63,149.64 – Stetson Engineers
 - ii. \$18,302.50 – Regional Government Services – (Replenishment / Extraction)
 - iii. \$23,837.50 – Capitol Core Group (July & August) – (Replenishment)

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by Scott Hayman to approve Minutes of Board Meeting August 11, 2021 and the following expenditures in the amount of \$63,149.64 to Stetson Engineers, \$18,302.50 to Regional Government Services, and \$23,837.50 to Capitol Core Group.

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, Jeff Helsley, and Heather Steele 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
 - ii. Project No. 4 – Shallow Well Impact Mitigation Program Update

The Board hears public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk and Michael Kennedy.

8. SEARLES VALLEY MINERALS FACILITIES TOUR:

Steve Johnson provides a verbal report and PowerPoint presentation describing the tour (documents made available on the IWVGA website).

The Board hears public comment from Michael Kennedy, Nick Panzer, West Katzenstein, Judie Decker, Dave Janiec.

9. STETSON STAFF TEAM RATES:

Carol Thomas-Keefer presents a staff report and supporting documentation (documents made available on the IWVGA website).

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by Stan Rajtora approving Addendum No.1 to Agreement No. 02-17 increasing Stetson rates.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

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

10. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

Carol Thomas-Keefer provides updates on the following: Monthly Financial Update, Severely Disadvantaged Communities (SDAC) Program, and Past Due Accounts. Michael McKinney of Capitol Core Group provides a Technical Memorandum and additional staff report discussing potential state funding with Department of Water Resources and State Water Resource Control Board (documents made available on the IWVGA website). Board directs Capitol Core Group to move forward in the pursuit of new state funding with the suggested changes from Director Vallejo and Commander Turner.

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

11. PAC/TAC REPORT:

PAC Chair David Janiec provides a report from the August 26, 2021 PAC Meeting (document made available on the IWVGA website).

12. CLOSING COMMENTS:

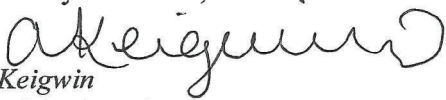
Vice Chair Rajtora thanks the public for attending the meeting and providing input. Rajtora encourages those who attend to help get more constituents involved.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 13, 2021

14. ADJOURN:

Chairman Hayman adjourns the meeting at 1:51 p.m. on September 8, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,


April Keigwin
Clerk of the Board
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority