

OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 26, 2024

The Regular Meeting of September 26, 2024, of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency was called to order at 3:00 PM in the Council Chambers, Ojai City Hall, 401 S. Ventura Street, Ojai, CA 93023.

**Attendees were:** Board Members: Richard Hajas, Emily Ayala, Bob Daddi, Peter Thielke and Andrew Whitman (arrived at 3:30). General Manager Julia Aranda and Secretary/Treasurer Cece VanDerMeer.

Also in attendance: Jordan Kear, Consultant.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chair Hajas called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. VanDerMeer called the roll.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Hajas.

3. **Director Announcements/Reports/Comments:**

Mutuals: None

Ojai Water Conservation District: None

City of Ojai: None, Arrived at 3:30

Casitas Municipal Water District: None

Community Facilities District Report: None

4. **GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS:**

Julia Aranda reported that she was supposed to have a meeting with the Ojai Board of Realtors, but it had to be rescheduled. Aranda stated that there was a DWR grant for a stream measurement gauge, and with assistance from Kear and Dudek, an application was submitted. Aranda reported that the DWR held a 10-year anniversary of SGMA webinar. Aranda stated that Casitas Municipal Water District will have a booth at Ojai Day on October 19, 2024, and she will be in attendance and will provide information on the OBGMA. Aranda reported that the Small Coalition of GMAs will be meeting in November, and she will be participating online.

5. **BASIN STATUS REPORT:**

Jordan Kear had a presentation "On the Hydrologic Edge". Kear reported the Key Well was 91.5' below ground level and there was 67,200 acre-feet in the basin.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA:**  
None

**7. CONSENT AGENDA:**

a. Daddi motioned to approve the Consent Agenda Items. Thielke seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Roll Call vote:

Ayes: Thielke, Daddi and Hajas (Ayala abstained)

Noes: None

**8. ACTION ITEMS:**

**a. Item: Well Verification, APN 024-0-141-025, 300 Longhorn Lane.**

The Board discussed Resolution No. 2024-03 authorizing the well application for 300 Longhorn Lane. Thielke motioned to approve Resolution No. 2024-03. Daddi seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Thielke, Ayala and Hajas

Noes: None

**b. Item: Financial Statements for Fiscal Years 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23.**

The Board reviewed and approved the Financial Statements for the Fiscal Years ending September 30, 2023, 2022, 2021 and 2020 prepared by Farber, Hass, Hurley, LLP. The motion was approved unanimously. Ayala motioned to approve the Financial Statements. Daddi seconded.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Thielke, Ayala, Whitman and Hajas

Noes: None

**c. Item: Establishing an Updated Process and Criteria for Administering Water Well Registration and Verification Requests.**

The Board discussed adopting Resolution 2024-04 Establishing an Updated Process and Criteria for Administering Water Well Registration and Verification Requests. Daddi motioned to approve Resolution 2024-04. Thielke seconded.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Thielke, Ayala, Whitman and Hajas.

Noes: None

**d. Item: Authorize Access Database Consulting Services.**

Aranda stated that the initial allotted funds for the Access database have been exhausted. Aranda is requesting authorization to engage J Street Consulting for Access database support in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00. Thielke motioned to approve the additional \$5,000.00. Ayala seconded.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Thielke, Ayala, Whitman and Hajas.

Noes: None

**e. Item: Reschedule October Board Meeting:**

The Board discussed moving the October 31, 2024, Board Meeting to October 24, 2024. Daddi motioned to approve the moving of the Board meeting from October 31, 2024, to October 24, 2024. Ayala seconded.

Roll Call vote:

Ayes: Daddi, Thielke, Ayala, Whitman and Hajas.

Noes: None

**9. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**a. Draft Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25:**

Aranda presented a Draft Budget, noting the GSP fee will increase to \$100.00 per quarter for FY 2024-25. The Final Budget will be presented at the next meeting.

**b. Legislative Ad-Hoc Committee Update:**

The Legislative Ad-Hoc Committee did not meet.

**c. Meter Compliance Ad-Hoc Committee Update:**

The Meter Compliance Ad-Hoc Committee did not meet.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm. The next regular scheduled meeting will be October 24, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber in Ojai City Hall, 401 S. Ventura Street, Ojai.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_