BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023 – 2:00 P.M.

BOARD ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

Attendees: Ron Kicinski, Don Zdeba, Jason Lillion, Renée Morquecho, and Ty Staheli

1. **Call to Order**
    The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

2. **Committee/Public Comments**
    None.

3. **Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)**
    Director Griffin was not present to report on the July 12th IWVGA Board meeting.

4. **LADWP Aqueduct Water Release**
    Releases within the Indian Wells Valley ceased July 18th. Based on release rates reported by LADWP personnel it is estimated a total of 10,085.6 acre-feet was released into the basin. Although at times the leading edge of the flow extended north of Inyokern Road, there was never any threat to infrastructure on the Navy base. Staff can now focus on planning for more efficient means to capture future releases to maximize recharge of the aquifer.

5. **Potential Impact of Recycled Water on District's Need for Imported Water**
    Nothing new to report this month. The Board has expressed interest in continuing discussions with the City concerning recycled water. Acquiring access to recycled water could result in a credit against the District's requirement for an imported water supply to meet its needs. No meetings have taken place. It should be noted Krieger & Stewart has been working with the Water Resources Manager, Stetson Engineers, for the past year on the Recycled Water Alternatives Study, however their role going forward is uncertain due to concerns expressed by Groundwater Authority legal counsel involving ongoing litigation.

6. **Brackish Water Study**
    Wade Major, with aquilogic, is wrapping up the final tasks that include evaluating shallow well impacts in the study area based on existing predicted drawdowns using the DRI model and compiling the draft Feasibility Study report. The final report will be shared with members of the study group for review and comment. The completion date for the study is December 30, 2023.

7. **Alternate Water Sources**

John Jansen, with Collier Geophysical, has yet to complete his final draft report on the seismic reprocessing work he has been doing. I did reach out to him this week for an update. He has received edits from Tim Parker and expects to incorporate them into his report tomorrow for Tim's approval. He also will start collecting the data in a folder to share.

a. **Exploration of sub-basins within the valley**

With regard to the El Paso sub-basin, Kreiger & Stewart and Tim Parker previously put together a drilling exploration program for monitoring and production tests wells and aquifer testing including rough costs based on evaluating existing data including AEM data collecting by SkyTEM. As part of the program the Department of Water Resources was contacted about financial support for installing monitoring wells in El Paso Area. DWR was subsequently contacted about preparing the application form for monitoring well installations and things have been at a standstill since. Tim Parker reports DWR never responded to the Southern District Office regarding providing the form to apply, the District Office indicated that a request should come from GSA and that the basin already has had a MW installed. DWR had previously indicated that District could apply directly. Tim suggests either the District reach out directly to Jack Tung with DWR's Southern District or to Paul Gosselin directly. Another option would be to request support from the Groundwater Authority of DWR drilling additional monitor wells in the El Paso Area. It should be noted on behalf of the Groundwater Authority, Stetson Engineering is preparing a Technical Memo with recommendations on exploration of the El Paso area. The intent is to present a draft Technical Memo to the Technical Advisory Committee. The study would be included in the 5-year update of the GSP.

8. **Future Agenda Items**

None.

9. **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm