

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

June 24, 2021 – 2:00 P.M.

BOARD ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

Attendees: Stan Rajtora, David Saint-Amand, Jason Lillion, and Tyrell Staheli

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Committee/Public Comments

None

3. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (IWVGA)

- a. The Committee discussed the June 9th IWVGA Board Meeting and actions taken. The majority of the updates from the last IWVGA Board Meeting on June 9th were discussed in length at the last IWVWD Board Meeting on June 14th however, two new matters have taken place since then:
 - Searles Valley Minerals has withdrawn/canceled their request for a stay on the replenishment fee.
 - Indian Wells Valley Water District has filled a Comprehensive Adjudication with the court.
- b. The Committee discussed the Navy-Coso Project List in depth at the last Water Management Committee Meeting and since then there have been no updates. This topic shall be removed from the agenda until further notice.

4. Brackish Water Study

A draft of the third project progress report will be distributed for comment to the funding partners once the current balance in the group's account is confirmed. Wade Major, with Aquilogic, is reconciling his numbers with the District's records. Once the number is confirmed and the partners have completed review of the report, it will be submitted to the Department of Water Resources along with the third invoice. The third invoice in the amount of \$99,717 is also being finalized for submittal to DWR. The total billed, including the third invoice would be \$351,894. DWR will hold back 10%, or \$35,189 of that amount for retention.

Conclusions and next steps to finalize the analysis of the aquifer test results include additional evaluation of the effect of barometric pressure, additional evaluation of effect of Meadowbrook irrigation during the test on NR-1 and NR-2, and identify the source of unknown pumping in vicinity of test that had an apparent effect on the results.

Barometric pressure had measurable but predictable response at wells. This effect likely had a negligible impact on the test results, but additional evaluation is ongoing. Possible interference from unknown well(s) was observed in both the pumping and recovery data. Responses seen at NR-1 and NR-2 may or may not be associated with pumping at Leliter 360. Evaluation of the data is continuing.

Both DWR and the Brackish Water Group have expressed a desire to collect and analyze brackish groundwater samples from both NR-1-D and NR-2-D as the additional data will result in a better understanding of the brackish water characteristics within the Study Area. The estimated costs to complete the remaining items under Task 5, including finalizing the aquifer test results, purging and collecting groundwater samples from NR-1-D and NR-2-D, overseeing that field program, analyzing the groundwater samples, and reporting on those results. The total cost of \$83,534 would result in a budget shortfall of approximately \$28,447 within the overall Task 5 budget. Once the balance remaining in the Group's account is confirmed, the shortfall could be covered by this account if the funding partners are amenable.

5. Alternate Water Sources

The Committee discussed possible future water sources and how the ideas of both brackish water and recycled water could be implemented. They also discussed how (if Possible) the State could look at these two ideas as "New Water" in the basin since that water is currently unusable and not counted at basin water at this time.

6. Future Agenda Items

The committee agreed to add the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan and the Water Shortage Contingency Plan at the next meeting if they are ready to be reviewed

7. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.