

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

WATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

October 28, 2021 – 2:00 P.M.

BOARD ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

Attendees: Stan Rajtora, David Saint-Amand, Don Zdeba, Jason Lillion, and Renee Morquecho

1. Call to Order

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

2. Committee/Public Comments

Mike Sinnott has questions as to why Coso Geothermal Field and the surrounding area is not being considered as part of the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Basin, as a significant part of our recharge comes from that area. Mr. Sinnott believes that the Basin boundaries should be redrawn to include the Rose Valley (Coso Geothermal area) so that their water use and replenishment can be accounted for.

3. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority

The committee discussed the October 13th IWVGA Board Meeting and actions taken.

- Financial Issues
 - The board has voted to hire a Bond Counsel, Wulff, Hansen & Co., to research bond opportunities to fund the Replenishment Fee.
 - Regional Government Services (RGS) has chosen to use MIP as their new accounting software.
 - The 2020 Audit has still not been completed.
 - The IWVGA has adopted a new finance report format and the Committee has submitted reviews/suggestions to the General Manager.
 - This year IWVWD will have contributed over \$4.1 million in Replenishment Fees for the purchase of a Table A entitlement, however, it is still unclear on the Finance Report as to where the money has gone.
 - The Fiscal Year 2022 budget, in theory, was to be completed and adopted by the first week in November, however, it has not yet been reviewed by the committee.
- Current Activities
 - Water year 2021 annual report is due to Department of Water Resources (DWR) on April 1, 2022. It has been requested that the GA Board actually review and adopt it this year.

- Transfer of the basin model to the IWVGA custody is still on going.
- The Shallow Well Impact Program development is complete, and it was suggested that the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) review it.
- Currently there are two ongoing recycled water efforts.
 1. A Joint Statement of Work being performed by the IWVGA and the IWVWD which has been released to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for review.
 2. A Facility Overview being performed by Stetson dealing with the overall recycled water program.
- The PAC met for the second time on September 23rd, dealing mainly with the communications and engagement plan. There is a meeting scheduled for today October 28th at 5:00 pm and it appears that they will be reviewing a draft schedule.
- The TAC has not yet had any meetings, but the individual TAC members have been reviewing items for the Board and Stetson.

4. Brackish Water Study

The Brackish Water Study remains in a holding pattern until BESST is on site to sample NR-1-D and NR-2-D. Mobilization to the site will occur on Monday, November 8, with purging and sampling activities commencing on Tuesday, November 9.

Invoice No. 3, in the amount of \$75,129.87 after retention, has been approved and notice was received October 7th confirming the check has been issued. We have not received the check. In response to a follow-up email to our contact at DWR we were informed the accounting department rejected and returned it back to DWR because the amendment to the contract requesting an extension to June 30, 2022 had not been submitted to the State Controller's Office. The amendment letter should have been submitted by September. However, the accounting department did not upload the letter. Our DWR contact provided the amendment letter to accounting once again October 18th which should allow the check to be released.

5. Alternate Water Sources

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

Tim Parker has been working with Krieger & Stewart on a draft exploration program of the El Paso sub-basin. Updates, including the initial draft plan, were provided at both the September 13th and October 12th Board meetings. The team is preparing a PowerPoint for internal review prior to be presenting at the November 8th Board meeting.

6. Future Agenda Items

None.

7. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.