



**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**June 18, 2020**  
**via ZOOM**

**MINUTES**

**Directors Present**

Director Kelly Long, Chair  
Director Ed McFadden, Vice Chair/Secretary/Treasurer  
Director Tim Holmgren  
Director Gordon Kimball  
Director Glen Pace  
Director Candice Meneghin

**Staff Present**

Anthony Emmert, executive director  
Scott Nave, legal counsel  
Eva Ibarra, clerk of the board

**Public Present**

Lisa Ballin, CSUS/DBS&A  
Bryan Bondy, Fillmore and Piru Pumpers Associations  
Frank Brommenschenkel  
Debbie Cervantes  
Emilio Cervantes  
Burt Handy  
Dr. Zachary Hanson, UWCD  
Rachael Laenen  
Tim Moore, DBS&A  
Tony Morgan, DBS&A  
Eddie Pech, DWR  
Kris Sofley, UWCD  
Jason Sun, UWCD  
Steve Zimmer

**Call to order 5:07p.m.**

Chair Long called the meeting to order at 5:07p.m.

**1A. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Long asked everyone to join her in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

**1B. Directors Roll Call**

Chair Long asked the Clerk to call roll. All six directors were present (Holmgren, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace)

**1C. Public Comments**

Chair Long asked if there were any public comments. None were offered.

## **1D. Approval of Agenda**

### **Motion**

Chair Long asked if there were any changes to the agenda. None were mentioned.

Motion to approve the agenda, Vice Chair McFadden; Second, Director Pace. Roll call vote: six ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

## **2. Updates**

### **2A Director Announcements/Board Communications:**

Oral Reports from the Board

#### **Fillmore Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update**

Director Kimball reported that the Pumpers held their annual meeting and provided members with a bit of an update on the GSA and encouraged members to attend the upcoming stakeholder meeting.

#### **Piru Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update**

Director Pace echoed Director Kimball's statements and added that he was hopeful that next week there will be several pumpers in attendance at the stakeholder workshop.

#### **Environmental Stakeholder Director Update**

Director Meneghin reported that she had attended the GRA GSA Summit on June 10 and 11 and that tomorrow she will be hosting a GW Dependent Ecosystem Webinar from 10-12. She added that there are over 50 people signed up to participate representing a nice spectrum of participants.

Director Meneghin also stated that she had been contacted by the Consensus Body Institute to participate in the Fox Canyon GMA Stakeholder process. She said that she thought it would be helpful to learn from that process so that she could share information regarding the process with the FPBGSA Board. She added that the meetings were being facilitated by CBI and funded by DWR along with some technical assistant funding.

#### **City of Fillmore Member Director Update**

Director Holmgren said he had nothing to report.

#### **United Water Conservation District Director Update**

Vice Chair McFadden reported that UWCD Board met last week and considered a budget for FY 2020-21. The board voted to have staff review the budget and come back with a proposal that would include no increases and assessment for pumpers. The reason for modifying the proposed budget are the constraints and challenges for assessment payers caused by the COVID-19 situation.

He said he also want to mention Lake Piru was in the path of the Lime fire. He told Mr. Emmert he had seen some spectacular pictures of the Elizabeth fire on the District's Facebook pages. Mr. Emmert said the District took advantage of Chief Water Operator John Carman's expertise, adding that Mr. Carman is not only the District's Chief Water Operator but he is a very good photographer, and the District gets the benefits of both of those talents.

### **County of Ventura Director Update**

Chair Long thanked United for the use of the water to fight the fire and added that the photos of the firefighters fighting the Lime fighter were amazing. She added that she was thankful the County can utilize those reserves in emergency situations.

Chair Long stated that Ventura County has been busy with COVID-19, and that personal services will open on Friday, followed by movie theatres on the 26th and then public wedding ceremonies. She stressed that the big thing is the use of masks, adding that if you have public offices, meetings, home businesses -- wear a mask. She reminded people that current information is on the state's website [COVID19.ca.org](https://www.covid19.ca.org) or the County's website [venturacountyreopen.org](https://www.venturacountyreopen.org)

Chair Long also reported her participation as a panelist at the GSA summit and that she spoke about the Agency's stakeholder engagement process and how well it was going and how much the board members are involved in creating the engagement with stakeholders so that everyone understands what SGMA is and why it's important. She reported that there were over 140 participants for a conference that usually is a lot larger but because of COVID, people could not convene in one spot, but it was still a good event and organizers did a great job.

With regards to the meeting tomorrow that Director Meneghin mentioned, Manny Minjares from her office and Von Sigmund an appointee from Fish and Wildlife, will both be attending. She said that they are going to have representation to make sure that we understand that process, too.

### **2B Executive Director Update Information Item**

Mr. Emmert told the Board that he had a couple of nice things to report. At the beginning of the month on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, the agency had over \$164,000 in outstanding receivables and within the last couple of weeks that has now been reduced to a little over \$86,000, which is very good. The Groundwater outstanding charges went down from a little over \$101,000 to \$71,000. He stated that there are still a few pumpers who are behind, but staff is working on some strategies to try to catch them up. The Fillmore Fish Hatchery has paid some of its outstanding invoices and still has one outstanding invoice that is a little over \$12,000, but staff will follow up with them again. He added that a few pumpers that have not paid anything, ones

that United is also having collection problems with, may need some added encouragement. He stated that he will be speaking with the Vice Chair and Treasurer McFadden regarding options. He added that most of the pumpers are paying on time. He suggested that the Board may wish to form a small committee that works on collection policy.

Chair Long said she would add that to a future agenda. Vice Chair McFadden said that he, Mr. Emmert and Erin Gorospe should get together before the next meeting to chat. Mr. Emmert said that would be a good step and they could figure out how to prepare for the whole board to discuss.

Mr. Emmert closed by saying the grant progress is moving along well and that the Agency's grant manager was participating via Zoom. He added that the Agency has recently received reimbursement payments from DWR, but that Mr. Pech said due to the timing of when the invoices were submitted, the agency should not expect those payments the next fiscal year.

**2C Legal Counsel Update  
Information Item**

Legal Counsel Scott Nave stated he had nothing to report.

**2D GSP Consultant Update  
Information Item**

Mr. Tony Morgan of Daniel B Stephens & Associates provided a presentation updating the Board on the Agency's GSP development activities since the May meeting. (see attached)

**3 CONSENT CALENDAR**

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

**3A Approval of Minutes**

The Board will consider approving the Minutes from the Board Meeting of May 21, 2020 and Special Board Meeting – Budget Workshop of June 4, 2020

**3B Approval of Warrants**

The Board will consider approving the following invoices for payment:

County of Ventura IT Services Department	\$ 40.00
Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc.	45,643.17
Olivarez Madrugá Lemeiux O'Neill LLP	1,023.50

### **3C Monthly Financial Report**

The Board will receive a monthly profit and loss statement and balance sheet for the FPBGSA from UWCD's accounting staff.

Chair Long asked if there were any comments or questions from the Board of the public. No comments were offered.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar, Vice Chair McFadden; Second, Director Pace. Roll call vote: six ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

## **4 MOTION ITEMS**

### **4A Resolution 2020-02 Adopting Proposed and Revised FY 2020-21 Budget Motion**

Mr. Emmert stated that this resolution is to adopt the budget that the Board reviewed and discussed during its recent workshop. To remind the Board and any visitors, the main change in the work plan and budget was to move most of the construction of the monitoring wells into the first quarter of the next fiscal year.

Chair Long asked if there were any comments or questions from the Board or the public. No comments or questions were offered.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2020-02 approving the adoption of the proposed and revised FY 2020-21 Budget, Director Meneghin; Second, Vice Chair McFadden. Roll call vote: six ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

Chair Long thanked everyone for their hard work and for making sure the Agency has a budget that is positive. Vice Chair McFadden also thanked everyone for all their hard work.

### **4B Payment Plan and Waiver of Interest for Trinidad Account Motion**

Mr. Emmert asked Ms. Gorospe to discuss this motion as she was more familiar with the account. Ms. Gorospe said the Trinidad family had a death in the family, and after the father died, his daughter, Jennifer Trinidad, was made aware of missed payments for the period that ended last year. Miss Trinidad is actively working to bring the account current and is asking the Board to approve a payment plan and waive the interest accrued on the account, which totals \$74.77.

Staff recommends the Board approve this request as Miss Trinidad came to the agency to ask for help in bringing the account current and staff believes that three payments over the next few months will get the family caught up and is a reasonable request.

Motion to approve the payment plan and waiver of \$74.77 in accrued interest for the Trinidad Family account, Director Kimball; Second, Director Meneghin. Roll call vote: six ayes (Holmgren, Kimball, Long, McFadden, Meneghin, Pace), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

## **5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **5A Groundwater Model Review**

#### Information Item

Dan Detmer, Dr. Jason Sun and Dr. Zach Hanson participated in presenting an update on the groundwater model and answer questions from the Board and the public. (see attached)

Mr. Detmer mentioned that the two basins were in fairly good shape and that surface water and groundwater is integrated in this area. He stated that the integration leads to challenges in modeling.

Director Meneghin asked if the model has the capacity to run scenarios with sub daily flows. Mr. Detmer said that the model did not. He said that pumping records are reported in six months periods and are then converted to monthly periods. He said that if you would want to develop a site-specific model, they might be able to do that. He stated that the pumping influences are going to be overwhelmed by the available water in these very large basins.

Director Meneghin stated that there has been concern with groundwater pumping impacting surface flow on the nearby Ventura River, and if the model does not have the capacity to run sub-daily flows, that we will need to address this potential concern and impact through another mechanism/form of analysis.

Mr. Detmer stated that by looking at recovery of individual wells where there is a production well near those basin boundaries or near the GDE areas, where we have very rapid recovery and modest draw down when the wells are operating, we know that the flux for that system is overwhelming, it's a good point that we will have to address.

Mr. Morgan stated that he does not think they will be able to use the regional model for that as they do not have that kind of discreet data on daily operation of wells and measurements of water levels and most wells.

Chair Long asked if there were any comments or questions from the Board or public.

Bryan Bondy emphasized that the scale of the model is important and there is a lot of talk about the streambed elevation and the challenges in simulating the surface water interaction. When considering the streambed elevation, remember a 2000 ft by 2000 ft model cell is averaging the groundwater elevation across that

whole 2000 by 2000 area. That is probably part of the challenge the modelers are having with the stream-groundwater interaction. It has an average over a long area and the same concept of sizes needs to be thought about. Looking at effects at a tighter scale rather than by time or space, again when everything is being averaged over 2000 feet along that stream, there are certain questions that the model, no matter how well calibrated, will not be suited to answer. Other tools may be needed for certain things.

Chair Long asked if there were any more questions or comments. None were offered.

**5B Management Areas**  
**Information Item**

Daniel B. Stephens and Associates' Tony Morgan stated the intent of this presentation (see attached) is to orient the Board on what management areas are and what DWR expects you to do with them. How the GSP might use them, and under what conditions would they be potentially useful for application in the basins. DWR provides some definitions about management areas as they relate to groundwater sustainability plans.

Chair Long asked if this provides for management areas for only one of the deadly sins or does it provide for management areas for all six of them. Mr. Morgan replied that generally it is a management area that encompasses all. Chair Long asked if it is mandatory that the agency divide its plan into management areas and Mr. Morgan replied no, you can have no management areas if you like. The flexibility is just there that if you have some strange conditions in one area that makes it difficult to have sustainability achieved without severe impact on other parts of the basin, you can divide that problem into a management area.

Director Pace said it was his understanding that as you leave Piru and head up Piru creek towards the lake that the area there doesn't yield a lot of groundwater, for example, and that might be an area where we might have a different management area. Mr. Morgan said that was a good point.

Director Kimball said he presumed that if you created a different management area you have to create a boundary and then you have a step change in management criteria and management objectives across that non-physical boundary, so you may want to think carefully about creating specific areas that you are either inside or outside, if there's a step change across where the physical conditions gradually change.

Mr. Morgan said some of these situations we are dealing with, for example Bardsdale, which has many shallower well, and other areas with deeper wells, a step change would be more evident, so we will have to be careful where we draw

the boundary and think about it seriously before we ink in where that is going to be, assuming we even want to do it. It may not be worthwhile doing it.

Vice Chair McFadden reminded the Board that they had received a warning from Mr. Bondy a few meetings ago to be very careful and judicious about making boundaries. He added that he can see a lot of potential complications such as the same property owner ending up straddling a boundary line for a single well supplying a whole property, which could be very complicated.

Chair Long asked if there are any more questions. Mr. Morgan said he wanted to clarify that based on what the Board heard from legal counsel regarding the database, the Agency is free to release the link to the database to the stakeholders now.

Chair Long asked legal counsel if that was correct and Mr. Nave said he didn't see a legal problem with sending the link out. However, he then asked if the agency has done any investigations of any extraction facilities, as data gathered during investigations should be kept from disclosure. Mr. Morgan said no, and Mr. Nave then stated that yes, the link can be sent out as it is all public information anyway. Vice Chair McFadden asked Mr. Nave if had enough time to review what's in the database to say that and Mr. Nave stated that if the information is what the agency has received on extractors or discovered on its own apart from an investigation, than yes it becomes public information. Vice Chair McFadden asked Mr. Emmert for his opinion and Mr. Emmert stated that as far as he knows, all the information that was provided for this database was either gained from UWCD's long standing record set or the County of Ventura and then asked Mr. Morgan to verify that was correct. Mr. Morgan stated for pumping that is correct. Director Kimball suggested that, given the stakeholder meeting next week, the Agency hold off on sending out the link until the Board can advise stakeholders of its database and sharing that information with the public. Director Kimball added that he thought it was a brilliant database and he would love to have it out there, and that he thinks after everyone sees it, they will agree that it is helpful. It is just building the trust.

Mr. Nave said that if you release the database information to the Directors in draft form, it can still be exempt from disclosure, but once something in final form is released to the Directors, it's immediately available to the public.

Chair Long asked if there were any more questions or comments. None were offered.

## **FUTURE TOPICS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION**

How to handle late payments-finding people who are late; Data shared for wells to be made public. Chair Long asked Director Kimball if he wanted that to be an agenda item so that people would see that and Director Kimball said yes, we will



let them know it's coming and given them an opportunity to think about it and ask about it and attend or join that meeting so they can see it so when it rolls out.

**ADJOURNMENT 6:48p.m.**

Chair Long adjourned the meeting at 6:48p.m. to the next **Regular Board Meeting** on Thursday, **July 16, 2020** or call of the Chair

ATTEST:   
Kelly Long, Chair, FPB GSA Board of Directors

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Board of Directors meeting of June 18, 2020.

ATTEST:   
Eva Ibarra, Clerk of the Board