



**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 4:00p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

**Directors in Attendance**

Director Carole Fornoff  
Director Debbie Jackson  
Director Gordon Kimball  
Director Candice Meneghin  
Director Albert Mendez  
Director Kelly Long (Virtual)

**Staff in Attendance**

Anthony Emmert, executive director  
Martin Koczanowicz, legal counsel  
Eva Ibarra, clerk of the board

**Public in Attendance**

Rachel Leanen, Kimball Farms-El Hogar (virtual)  
Sara Guzman, UWCD (virtual)  
Tony Morgan, DBS&A  
Patrick O'Connell, UWCD  
Zachary Plummer, UWCD  
Gus Tolley, DBS&A (virtual)  
Brian Zahn, UWCD (virtual)

**1. CALL TO ORDER 4:04p.m.**

Director Kimball called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

**1A Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Kimball led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1B Directors Roll Call**

The Clerk called the roll. 6 Directors were present: Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez, and Meneghin.

**1C Public Comments**

Director Kimball asked if there were any comments or questions from the public. None were offered.

**1D Approval of Agenda**

**Motion**

Director Kimball asked Executive Director Emmert if there were any changes to the

agenda. Mr. Emmert responded that there had been no changes to the agenda. Director Kimball then asked for a motion.

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Mendez; Second, Director Meneghin. Voice vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez, Meneghin) none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

## **2. UPDATES**

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

Oral Reports from the Board.

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

Director Jackson reported the Fillmore Pumpers Association said they will be meeting next week.

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

Director Fornoff said Piru Pumpers Association stakeholders will meet next week, and said they will be having their officer's election in June.

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

Director Meneghin said one of the environmental partners is sponsoring legislation, and mentioned there will be a Southern Steelhead Coalition-sponsored watershed tour on May 21<sup>st</sup>, regarding barrier removal with focus on Sisar Creek. She finished her update with the mention of Friends of the Santa Clara River's field efforts continuing.

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

Director Mendez had no update for the City of Fillmore.

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

Director Kimball said United Water continues with water releases from Santa Felicia Dam, recharge of the upstream basins, and diversions from Freeman for recharge. He mentioned that the Forebay area basins are full but recharging through the sides. He also mentioned budget development is ongoing and said there will be a budget workshop on May 28<sup>th</sup> at United Water's headquarters, in Oxnard. He also said there is a significant increase in pump fees due to projects (Santa Felicia Dam Safety, EBB, and Freeman Diversion), these projects all need support from pending grants and loans. Director Meneghin suggested that the federal Farm Bill should be considered as a source of funding for the projects mentioned.

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

Chair Long reported she has forwarded a letter regarding the Chiquita Canyon landfill notice of violation from November to Executive Director Emmert to share with Board members. She also mentioned the United States Forest Service is seeking input on its Saint Francis disaster trail proposal. She said the Santa Clara River Watershed – Southern Steelhead Coalition field meeting is upcoming in the month of June. She finished her update with the mention of fire season, and the critical activities taking place to reduce debris to hopefully eliminate chances of a fire.

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

The Executive Director provided an informational update on the Agencies activities since the previous Board of Directors meeting of April 18, 2024. Mr. Emmert said they received positive feedback from DWR regarding water year 2022-2023, with the mention of the Piru basin storage increase being the highest in the state, Fillmore basin was also the sixth highest in the state, and Oxnard basin managed recharge at the highest in the state, as well. He also said mailing address change and bank change is included in today's agenda for approval. He also provided an update on the budget development status, with a work plan overview item added to the agenda. He also proposed a Special Board meeting to take place on May 30<sup>th</sup> to review draft of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget, and proposed groundwater extraction fees. He finished his update with saying he will agendize a budget and fees adoption for the June 20<sup>th</sup>, Board meeting.

**2C Legal Counsel Update**  
**Information Item**

Legal Counsel had no update.

**2D GSP Consultant Update**  
**Information Item**

Representatives from Daniel B Stephens & Associates provided an informational update on the Agency's groundwater sustainability planning and reporting activities since the previous Board of Directors meeting of April 18, 2024. Mr. Tony Morgan provided slides.

**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 approved the Minutes from the Board of Directors meeting of April 18, 2024.

**3B. Approval of Warrants**

The Board approved payment of outstanding vendor invoices:

UWCD	\$41,534.14
DBS&A	31,363.00
Aleshire & Wynder LLP	2,969.60

**3C. Monthly Financial Report**

The Board received the monthly financial report for the Fillmore and Piru Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

Motion to approve consent calendar, Director Fornoff; second, Director Jackson.  
Voice call vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez, and

Meneghin); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

#### **4. INFORMATION ITEM**

##### **4A East Grove Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Area Study Information**

The Board received a presentation from University of California, Santa Barbara, Bren School Master of Science candidates on their study, *Assessing Riparian Woodland Response to Shallow Groundwater Availability*.

#### **5. MOTION ITEMS**

##### **5A Waiver of Late Fees and Interest for City of Fillmore Motion**

The Board approved waiving late fees and interest in the amount of \$1,358.93 for the City of Fillmore.

Motion to approve, Director Mendez; second, Director Jackson. Voice call vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez, and Meneghin); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

##### **5B Change of Mailing Address Motion**

The Board adopted Resolution 2024-01 authorizing changing the Agency's mailing address.

Motion to approve, Director Meneghin; second, Director Fornoff. Voice call vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez, and Meneghin); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

##### **5C Change of Banks to Citizens Business Bank Motion**

The Board adopted Resolution 2024-02 authorizing changing the Agency's bank to Citizens Business Bank.

Motion to approve, Director Jackson; second, Director Meneghin. Voice call vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez, and Meneghin); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

##### **5D Amendment to Agreement with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates for Technical Support Services to Amend and Resubmit Groundwater Sustainability Plans Motion**

The Board approved Amendment No. 6 to the Agreement No. 2019-01-18-DBSA with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc. for technical support to amend and resubmit its groundwater sustainability plans.

Motion to approve, Director Jackson; second, Director Long. Voice call vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez, and Meneghin); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

**5E Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Work Plan**

**Motion**

The Board received a presentation from staff regarding the Agency’s anticipated scope of work for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and provide comments and direction. Directors requested a 5-year work plan and will be seeking grants.

**6. FUTURE TOPICS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION**

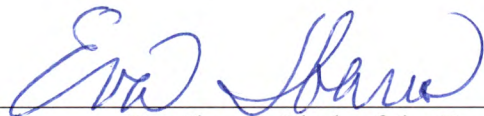
None mentioned.

**7. ADJOURNMENT 6:11 pm.**

Director Kimball adjourned the meeting at 6:11 p.m. to the next **Regular Board Meeting** on Thursday, **June 20, 2024**, or call of the Chair

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 May 16, 2024.

ATTEST:   
Gordon Kimball, Vice Chair, FPBGSA Board of Directors

ATTEST:   
Eva Ibarra, Clerk of the Board