



Fillmore and Piru Basins
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, April 17, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Directors in Attendance

Director Carole Fornoff
Director John Garnica
Director Debbie Jackson
Director Gordon Kimball
Director Kelly Long
Director Candice Meneghin (arrived 4:30)

Staff in Attendance

Anthony Emmert, executive director
Eva Ibarra, clerk of the board
Patrick O'Connell, senior hydrogeologist
Christine Carson, legal counsel
Stephanie Cabrera, IT staff

Public in Attendance

Nyvee DeLeon, UWCD(virtual)
Matt Drunner, Stillwater Sciences
Evan Lashly, UWCD
Tony Morgan, DBS&A (virtual)
Nancy Ojeda, DWR (virtual)
Gus Tolley, DBS&A (virtual)
Brian Zahn, UWCD (virtual)

1. CALL TO ORDER

1A Pledge of Allegiance

Director Long called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

1B Directors Roll Call

The Clerk called the roll. 5 Directors were present: Fornoff, Garnica, Jackson, Kimball, and Long. Director Meneghin was absent.

1C Public Comments

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

1D Approval of Agenda

Motion

Director Long asked Executive Director Emmert if there were any changes to the agenda. Mr. Emmert responded with yes and requested motion item 4B be moved after 4D. Director Long then asked for a motion.

Motion to approve the agenda with the requested change, Director Garnica; Second, Director Kelly Long. Voice vote: 5 ayes (Fornoff, Garnica, Jackson, Kimball, and Long) none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 5/0/1.

2. UPDATES

2A Director Announcements/Board Communications:

Oral Reports from the Board.

Fillmore Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update

Nothing to report.

Piru Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update

Nothing to report.

Environmental Stakeholder Director Update

Director absent.

City of Fillmore Member Director Update

Director Garnica said the City of Fillmore has approved the new well.

United Water Conservation District Member Director Update

Director Kimball provided an update on the District's extensive CIP budget, associated revenue needs and proposed groundwater rates. He stated that the District is considering the option for a potential future bond measure to spread out the cost of the CIP budget. He also provided an update on the Freeman Diversion project.

County of Ventura Member Director Update

Director Long said the County is working on raising funds for an Arundo donax removal program for the County, primarily due to the extreme fire hazard that it creates.

2B Executive Director Update

Information Item

The Executive Director reported groundwater payments are due on April 30. He provided a status report on AB-1520 that will align groundwater data collection with the SGMA requirements. He stated that DWR staff provided helpful comments on the final grant report and Agency staff have amended the report and resubmitted to DWR for consideration. He thanked Chair Long for sharing the County of Ventura's report on the status of the Chiquita Canyon Landfill Incident

and will provide an update for the Board in the near future. He stated that he will be providing a Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Work Plan and Budget presentation at the May 2025 Board meeting. He finalized his update with a mention of a possible early June Special Board Meeting to consider the budget and groundwater fees for the next fiscal year.

2C Legal Counsel Update

Information Item

Legal Counsel provided an update on various legislative bills that could affect the Agency.

2D GSP Consultant Update

Information Item

Representatives from Daniel B Stephens & Associates provided an update on GSP activities completed, and future tasks that are scheduled to be completed.

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 March 20, 2025.

3B Approval of Warrants

The Board approved payment of outstanding vendor invoices:

DBS&A	\$13,819.00
United Water Conservation District	\$13,101.25
Stillwater Sciences	\$12,084.00
Aleshire and Wynder LLP	\$ 650.70

3C Monthly Financial Report

The Board received the monthly financial report for the Agency.

Motion to approve consent calendar, Director Jackson; Second, Director Garnica. Voice vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Garnica, Jackson, Kimball, Long and Meneghin), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

4. MOTION ITEMS

4A Biological Data Gaps East Grove GDE Initial Survey and Study Plan

Motion

The Board received a presentation from Stillwater Sciences and United Water Conservation District on the East Grove Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Initial Survey and Study Plan and provided comments and direction.

Receive and file, Director Jackson, Second, Director Garnica. Voice vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Garnica, Jackson, Kimball, Long, and Meneghin) none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

4B Domestic Well Drought Vulnerability Plan Development

Motion

The Board received a presentation from Daniel B. Stephens & Associates on the Domestic Well Drought Vulnerability Plan development and provided comments and direction.

Receive and file, Director Long, Second, Director Garnica Voice vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Garnica, Jackson, Kimball, Long, and Meneghin) none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

4C Budget Amendment

Motion

The Board approved of a mid-year budget amendment.

Motion to approve with removal of rebranding and logo cost, Director Garnica, Second, Director Jackson. Voice vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Garnica, Jackson, Kimball, Long, and Meneghin) none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

4D Website Services

Motion

The Board approved the website services with CV Strategies.

Motion to approve without rebranding and logo option, Director Garnica, Second, Director Meneghin. Voice vote: 6 ayes (Fornoff, Garnica, Jackson, Kimball, Long, and Meneghin) none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0/0.

5. FUTURE TOPICS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

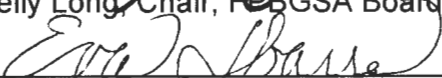
None

6. ADJOURNMENT

Director Long adjourned the meeting at 6:07pm, to the next **Board Meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2025**, 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 April 17, 2025.

ATTEST: 
Kelly Long, Chair, F&PBGSA Board of Directors

ATTEST: 
Eva Ibarra, Clerk of the Board