

MINUTES
BORREGO SPRINGS INTERIM WATERMASTER BOARD MEETING
Conducted Virtually via GoToMeeting
Monday, November 12, 2020, 4:30 p.m.

I. Opening Procedures

- A. Chairman Duncan called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.
- B. Chairman Duncan led the meeting participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Samantha Adams (Executive Director) called roll and confirmed that all members of the Board were present. The following individuals were present at the meeting:

Directors Present	Chairman Dave Duncan – Borrego Water District
	Vice Chairman Shannon Smith – Recreational Sector
	Jim Bennett – County of San Diego
	Mike Seley – Agricultural Sector
	Mark Jorgensen – Community Rep.
Watermaster Staff Present	James M. Markman, Legal Counsel
	Samantha Adams, Executive Director, West Yost
	Andy Malone, Technical Consultant, West Yost
	Kristan Culbert, Staff Scientist, West Yost
Others Present	Kathy Dice, BWD Board Member (Board Alternate)
	Lyle Brecht, BWD Board Member
	Rebecca Falk
	Leanne Crow, County of San Diego (Board Alternate)
	Scott Morgan, DWR
	Steve Anderson, BB&K
	Michele Staples, Jackson Tidus
	Cathy Milkey
	Anita Regmi, DWR
	Rich Pinel, Roadrunner Club/ Springs Resort (Board Alternate)
	Tammy Baker
	Martha Diechler, Board Alternate – Community Rep.

- D. Approval of Agenda.

Motion: Motioned by Director Smith, seconded by Director Bennett to approve the Agenda as included in the Board meeting package. *Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).*

II. Public Correspondence

- A. Correspondence Received.

Rebecca Falk emailed questions to Executive Director Adams for the Board to discuss during the meeting, the topics were:

- Update on when the Board website will be functional and accessible by the public.
- Clarification on the TAC recommendations regarding verification process for smart meters.

- B. Public Comments. Ms. Adams called for public comments.

- Lyle Brecht commended the Board for their swift action on issuing a letter of caution regarding hemp growing in the Anza-Terwilliger Basin.
- Tammy Baker stated that she emailed questions regarding the statement of work agenda item to Executive Director Adams. Ms. Adams noted that the questions would be answered as part of the planned discussion for Agenda Item IV.C.

III. Consent Calendar

The Consent Calendar for the November 12, 2020 meeting included:

- A. Approval of Minutes for Regular Board Meeting on October 8, 2020.
Minutes from the October 8, 2020 meeting should be corrected as follows:
 - Director Bennett asked to strike the word “asked” in item IV.B of the October 8, 2020 meeting minutes, and add the words “the SGMA GSP contract”.
- B. Approval of Minutes for Regular Board Meeting on October 19, 2020.
 - Martha Diechler noted she should be listed as in attendance at this meeting.

Motion: Motioned by Director Bennett, seconded by Director Jorgensen to approve the Consent Calendar items with the noted corrections to the meeting minutes. *Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).*

IV. Items for Board Consideration and Possible Action

- A. *Technical Advisory Committee Report.* Andy Malone, lead Technical Consultant, provided an overview of the TAC Meeting Summary and Recommended Metering Program and Metering Program Recommendations as outlined in Agenda Items IV.A.i and IV.A.ii. A discussion ensued, with the following key points:
 - Chairman Duncan mentioned that the Borrego Water District has approved to make its consultant, Dudek, available to represent Director Jorgensen on the TAC.
 - Director Smith noted that it is the Watermaster’s discretion who performs the meter reads at the wells with manual-read meters.
 - Executive Director Adams confirmed that annual checks for accuracy are performed by a third party at all BPA Party wells.
 - Director Seley clarified that there are no technical reasons why the telemetry data would be inaccurate, other than data latency, given the accuracy testing process and noted that he did not have concerns about the proposed additional verification process for wells with smart meters.

Motion: Motioned by Director Smith, seconded by Director Seley to receive and file the TAC meeting minutes. *Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote (5-0-0).*

Motion: Motioned by Director Smith, seconded by Director Jorgensen to accept the recommendations presented by the TAC. *Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote (5-0-0).*

- B. *Environmental Working Group.* Ms. Adams presented the memo included in the agenda packet, specifying the recommendation to form a subcommittee of the Board to establish a framework for initiating the Environmental Working Group (EWG). Director Jorgensen and Director Bennett were appointed to serve on the EWG Subcommittee.

C. *Administrative and Technical Services SOW for Remainder of WY 2020.* Executive Director Adams informed the Board that WEI has been acquired by West Yost Associates and explained that there will be no change in the services and staff provided to the Borrego Springs Watermaster pursuant to the contract with WEI. A board agenda item to assign the WEI contract to West Yost Associates was recommended for consideration at the December 2020 Board meeting. Following this discussion, Executive Director Adams proceeded to present the memo included in the agenda packet. The key points of discussion included:

- The Board was requested to consider (1) approval of the scope and budget for the groundwater monitoring program under Task 3.3 in the amount of \$55,132 and (2) defer approval of the remaining Statement of Work and budget after more time is afforded for review.
- Groundwater quality sampling has not occurred yet in 2020 due to the COVID-19 epidemic interfering with well site access.
- A detailed budget breakdown was presented that compared the anticipated WY 2021 expenditures to the budget included in the Settlement Agreement.
- The Task 3.3 scope includes two semi-annual monitoring events: Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. The surface water monitoring portion of the monitoring program entails manually measuring stream discharge at five sites on Coyote Creek.
- Chairman Duncan requested that Directors Bennett and Smith work with Watermaster Staff on finalizing the Statement of Work and performing due diligence on West Yost associates and provide guidance to the Board at the December 2020 meeting when the items will return for approval.
- In response to a question from Tammy Baker, Chairman Duncan noted that the TAC would be addressing the adequacy of the water quality monitoring program and discuss expansion of monitoring into the northern portion of the basin in order to address the concern that this area is not sufficiently monitored.

Motion: Director Smith motioned, Director Jorgensen seconded motion to amend Exhibit A of the WEI Professional Services Agreement to include the SOW and \$55,132 budget for Task 3.3 – Implement Interim Groundwater Monitoring Program as defined in Statement of Work No. 2. *Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote (5-0-0).*

V. Reports

A. Executive Director Report.

- *Accounting Update—Bank account and assessments.*
 - The bank account for the Board has been created, and Watermaster has begun receiving assessment payments from parties. A more detailed financial statement and report of payments will be presented at the December Board meeting.
- *CASGEM Implementation.*
 - Watermaster Staff are working with Borrego Water District staff to ensure CASGEM data are collected and reported to DWR without duplication of monitoring efforts. Watermaster has budget to reimburse BWD staff for their efforts up to the amount budgeted in the Settlement Agreement (\$5,000).
- *Fallowing Standards Verification for Conversion of Water Credits to BPA.*

- Watermaster Staff are working with the Borrego Water District and BPA parties on the status of compliance with the following standards in Exhibit 3 of the proposed Stipulated Judgment. This work will continue over the next couple of months.
 - The Borrego Springs Watermaster website is in progress and Staff hopes to have it completed at the end of the month. A notice will be sent to the distribution list once the website is functional.
- B. Legal Counsel Report.
- A streamlined set of administrative procedures will be presented for approval at the December Board meeting.
- C. Chairperson's Report—none
- D. Status of Stipulated Judgement.
- Michele Staples, Jackson Tidus Law, provided a brief update.
 - It was noted that the Court proceedings are generally closed to the public, except under special circumstances.

VI. Board Member Comments – none.

VII. Upcoming Borrego Springs Watermaster Board Meetings.

The next regularly-scheduled Board meeting will be held on Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 4:30 pm.

Potential agenda items could include:

- Administrative and Technical Services: Finalize Statement of Work and Budget for WY 2021
- Following Standards Verification for Conversion of Water Credits to BPA
- Environmental Working Group – Subcommittee update, if available
- Watermaster Local Office for Post-COVID Operations

The first regular Board Meeting of 2021 will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 4:30 pm. Potential agenda items could include:

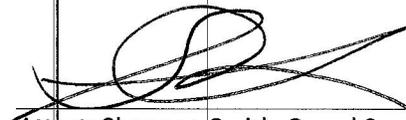
- Environmental Working Group
- Data Sharing and Privacy Protocols
- HydroDAVE Implementation (per request of Director Smith)

VIII. Adjournment

- A. Director Duncan adjourned the meeting at 5:51 pm.

Kristan Culbert

Recorded by: Kristan Culbert
West Yost



Attest: Shannon Smith, Board Secretary