

April 2, 2024 Galena Groundwater District Meeting

Hybrid: City of Sun Valley Meeting Room and via zoom
April 2, 2024

Call to Order: 11:02am

In attendance: Pat McMahon (Board), Judd McMahan (Board), Peter Atkinsons (Board), Heather O'Leary (GGWD counsel via zoom), Chuck Matthiesen (water rights holder) and Marybeth Collins.

The meeting was called to order at the Sun Valley City Hall & via zoom, and quorum was established.

Proof of notice was confirmed (posted at City Hall and online at www.GalenaGWD.com), having been accomplished in advance of today's regular monthly meeting.

Minutes:

Minutes for the regular monthly meeting, held on March 5, 2024, were distributed in advance of the meeting.

MOTION: Judd motioned to approve as drafted the minutes for March 5, 2024. Peter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by those present.

Financials

Financials for March 2024 were submitted for review in advance of the meeting. Bookkeeping reviewed the March expenses, and year to date info, discussed the list of payables and provided simple status on the accounts receivable as a whole and with brief update on several efforts to resolve these obligations. Estimated totals on what can be eventually collected, and what is outside of County collection were noted in estimated total only.

MOTION: Judd motioned to approve the accounts payable list for a total of \$2,628.28. Pat seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BWGWMA Update

Pat referenced his direct conversations with members of IDWR which occurred as recently as last week. The general concept relates to standardizing the cost per acre foot of irrigation use. He has been speaking with several entities, to bring this information into the regular conversation. A standardized \$/acre ft, as reported to WD37 for annual irrigation use, would be composed of CIEF funds and cloudseeding funds. The BWGWMA is considering an update to the existing framework, as well as a longer timeframe of 10-15 yrs. The Director of IDWR had made clear that the Eastern Snake Plain opportunities puts great importance on defining a document which all BWGW parties (surface, ground, and "cities") establish a working agreement rather than facing 'tributary' efforts.

Heather noted that a standardized rate would provide that GGWD was not beholden to market rate for storage water.

Legal Update

Heather referenced the anticipated decision from the Director stemming from the October 2023 Administrative Hearing remains anticipated thus far, and reiterated hopes of a response soon. Heather also confirmed that there have been no further updates from Hiawatha Canal's recharge proposal, and related changes.

Executive Session

None.

Public Comment

Chuck Matthiesen inquired about some of the possible mechanics of Pat's earlier update on a standardized rate in the BWGWMA efforts, including the logic behind the starting number which couples Carl Pendleton's proposal of some years ago with reasonable rounding and flexibility, possible inflationary factors in a 15 yr agreement, and who the 'deciders' are in such concept.

Other Business

None.

Next Meeting Date

The Board confirmed next meeting to be Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 11am for the next monthly Board meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38am, via motion by Pat, seconded by Judd and confirmed unanimously.

DRAFT