

Galena Groundwater District Directors Meeting Minutes 07-02-24

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

Call to Order: 11:01 am

In attendance: Pat McMahon (Board), Judd McMahan (Board), Peter Atkinsons (Board), Heather O'Leary (counsel) 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 June 4, 2024, were distributed in advance of the meeting.

MOTION: Pat motioned to approve as drafted the minutes for June 4, 2024. Judd seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by those present.

Judd inquired about the Bureau of Reclamation grant study, referenced costs, and the purpose of the grant. Pat referenced a localized study, partnership with SVWGD and a study which will aide in IDWR tools, etc.

Financials

Financials for June 2024 were submitted for review in advance of the meeting. Bookkeeping reviewed the June 2024 expenses, and year to date info, discussed the list of accounts receivable items. Mid Valley – a water right converted to a municipal right by IDWR, was discussed. Some discussion related to municipal participation, other water rights which have been changed, legal recommendations to the Board, etc.

MOTION: Pat motioned to approve the accounts payable list for a total of \$7,055.60. Peter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Recorded Delinquency List of 06.19.24:

Information was included as reference, and as support for one of the payables items.

Storage Water purchase – Year 3 / 2024 Irrigation Season:

Pat discussed the upcoming water purchase commitment, related to the Big Wood Groundwater Management Agreement. Some initial cost estimates, along the line's of 2022 actual costs, were discussed. More information will follow.

Supplemental Water Right List - 2023:

Brockway updated list of water rights which might be considered supplemental reflects that of the original list – those rights show increased use percentages, recommends another 70 or so water rights be considered as supplemental and the memo had some additional items to consider. This drafted updated information submitted in 2023, has been used for a few individual water rights in GGWD – and was discussed for use in the 2025 budgeting process.

MOTION: Pat motioned to approve and accept the 2023 Supplemental List for GGWD assessment use. Peter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Discussion regarding billing based on reported use (reported to WD37) was revisited.

Memo Note #7 prompted some Board inquiry, and research will need to be accomplished.

Drafted 2025 Budget:

Two iterations for the annual assessment amount were presented to the Board for its consideration. No review was discussed. Given reported use questions, additional review was suggested (can GGWD reasonably use irrigation use reported in the most recent irrigation year for all irrigation rights in GGWD).

Counsel noted that the Board will need to decide at the September meeting, in order to meet the County deadline to collect assessments.

BWGWMA Update

Pat noted that conversation continues for renewing, with updates, the BWGWMA agreement and with a longer time frame. A longer time frame (ten years vs 3 years) may allow for improved negotiation (and reduced & foreseeable costs) for water acquisition, should this be a component of the terms of agreement.

Public Comment

None.

Legal Update

A decision remains pending for the October 2023 Administrative hearing.

Executive Session

The Board discussed going into executive session at 11:55 am, with roll call establishing Pat McMahon, Peter Atkinson and Judd McMahan present, confirming quorum.

MOTION: To commence Executive Session per Idaho Code 74-206(l)(f) was proposed by Pat, seconded by Peter, and passed unanimously by those present.

MOTION: To complete Executive Session at 12:06pm was proposed by Pat, seconded by Peter, and passed unanimously.

No decisions were reached.

Other Business

None.

Next Meeting Date

The Board confirmed next meeting to be Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 11am for the next monthly Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08pm, via motion by Pat, seconded by Peter and confirmed unanimously.