

November 12, 2024 Minutes from Galena Groundwater District Meeting

Hybrid: City of Sun Valley Meeting Room and via zoom
November 12, 2024

Call to Order: 11:02 am

In attendance: Judd McMahan (Board), Peter Atkinson (Board), Pat McMahon (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 having been accomplished at least 72 hrs. in advance of today's regular monthly meeting.

Minutes:

Minutes for the regular monthly meeting, held on October 1, 2024, were distributed in advance of the meeting.

MOTION: Pat motioned to approve as drafted the minutes for October 1, 2024. Peter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by those present.

Financials

Financials for October 2024 and year-to-date information had been submitted for review in advance of the meeting. Bookkeeping reviewed October detail, year to date and balance sheet items as well as the payables. An additional item, for Lawson Laski, was referenced and included as an added request for payables inclusion. One of the invoices that the District has in its payables reporting is for Year 3 water purchase which had been held since September based on anticipated updates and was held again in October as the need for water purchase was in discussion still within the BWGWMA. There is no specific update as of this meeting, and so this Agreement item will remain as a current District obligation. Water has not been received. Several receivable items were discussed.

MOTION: Pat motioned to approve two of the accounts payable list for a total of \$14,874 in presented invoices (legal, bookkeeping) as well as a recently received legal invoice, specific to October billing, in the amount of \$7,802.00. Peter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The invoice for Southwest Irrigation District will remain on the books and reflected as owing, until clarification for this item has been received.

Brief update regarding the status of follow up & results for Board request to incorporate assessments via County property tax assessment wherever reasonably possible, and work underway related to direct billing for all other water rights holders (substantially HOA, municipal and non-standard situation).

BWGWMA

Pat discussed the approved three-year extension of the Big Wood Groundwater Management Agreement, with reference to some changes in the terms. Fallow is still a feature for GGWD, at 200 acres for each year but this can include fallow in Camas. Fiscal commitments will be increased, and funded to the CIEF fund, bolstering its presence and allowing for longer term agreements (and therefore some negotiation ability). Additional items such as minimums (47 cfs at Magic), Camas Prairie study and participation, AIA, water management at Magic, etc. were also noted. General agreement regarding Dave Shaw, his skill and knowledge, occurred. Bookkeeping was directed to follow up with some historical fallow participants, in hopes of fallow partnership in 2025.

Public Comment

None.

Legal Update

Heather reaffirmed the upcoming notice requirements for GGWD, including written notice in the local newspaper for the 2025 annual assessment billing and due dates; mailing of annual assessment information by December 1 (the County-collected items are noticed by the County and a second hard copy will not occur to mitigate confusion), and delinquency reporting to the County due by January 15th.

Executive Session

The Board discussed going into executive session at 11:31 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 11:50am was proposed by Peter, seconded by Pat, and passed unanimously.

The Board agreed that pending its review and approval of Hiawatha Canal's proposed conditions of approval for Permit No. 37-23381, it would stipulate to withdraw its protest regarding Hiawatha Canal's recharge application.

MOTION: Pat motioned to approve a stipulation to a withdraw the Galena GWD's protest of Hiawatha Canal's recharge application, pending the Board's review and approval of the Hiawatha Canal's proposed conditions of approval for the permit. Peter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by those present.

Judd will create an annual letter, to be included with the annual assessments which will be mailed and which will be posted to the website.

Next Meeting Date

The Board re-visited the next meeting date and updated its preference to Tuesday, December 3, 2024 at 11am for the next monthly Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54am via motion by Peter, seconded by Judd and confirmed unanimously.