

Galena Groundwater District Meeting
Special Board Meeting

Meeting Room at the Sun Valley Water & Sewer District
June 3, 2026

Call to Order: 11:09 am

In attendance: Judd McMahan (Board), Brian Barsotti (Board), Heather O'Leary (counsel), Michael Miller, Ed Zinader (Squash Blossom Farm) and Marybeth Collins.

The meeting was called to order at the meeting room of the Sun Valley Water & Sewer District, and quorum was established.

Proof of notice was confirmed.

MINUTES

Drafted minutes for the May 2026 board meeting were submitted in advance of the meeting for review.

MOTION: Approve minutes from May 5, 2026 board meeting was recommended by Brian with a few notes to update math on page 2, seconded by Judd and passed unanimously.

FINANCIALS

Discussion of current financials through the end of May 2026 were presented, including banking balances, outstanding receivables and a few payables items. Brief questions regarding a few credit balances.

MOTION: Approve paying all invoices as presented, was recommended by Brian, seconded by Judd and passed unanimously.

BWGWMA

Approximately 240 acres of fallow have been submitted to IDWR, and an additional 74 acres involving the commitment not to use supplemental water rights was also sent to IDWR. The South Valley GWD submitted a list including 1,700 acres of fallow and between both entities, the expanded minimum requirements have been met. Discussion of Id Water Resource Board representation, 32 cfs concerns as there is not much more that can be done to accomplish this minimum flow level, 2024 CIEF billing has been paid but CIEF has not purchased water (none available – an unforeseen issue in the agreement) Neither Dean Stevenson nor Brian Ohlmsted had solutions. Cooper & Nick (SVGWD) suggested that water could be located.

Discussion regarding CIEF and its actions related to those monies. Brian Barsotti suggested an accounting for those funds would be good.

South Valley GWD suggested a cost share concept, where Little Wood water right users might keep water reduction, in rotation, in order to maintain the 32 CFS level. Further discussion of what "authorization" might mean within the management plan, and a review of other needs was referenced.

Judd and Justin (SVGWD) are in regular communication.

The Airport Authority suggested it might forego irrigation on 15 acres along Highway 75. Nick Carnes is the primary contact and signature for fallow is pending.

The Swan Falls / Trust Water issue is a looming danger. Idaho Power has the authority, in the agreement, to make the call that flows are insufficient, and curtailment needs to occur.

BROCKWAY

Erick continues to work on the list, coordinating water rights, noting anomalies including surface diversion with surface water date/cutoff. Brief reference to several opt in water rights.

Public Comment

Mr. Zinader referenced acreage and fallow. Mr. Miller did not respond to discussion to speak.

Legal Updated

Technically, the County needs the assessment list by July 21st, per statute. Inquiry with Morgan Drage at the County provides some latitude of no later than the middle of August. Some discussion regarding missing water rights from the GGWD list occurred.

Other

Discussion regarding a few of the presentations at the IWUA June seminar occurred. LiDar and drone concepts. Some discussion regarding mitigation vs management plans.

Executive Session

The Board discussed going into executive session at 11:58 am, with roll call establishing Brian Barsotti and Judd McMahan present, confirming quorum.

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

MOTION: To complete Executive Session at 12:36pm was proposed by Brian, seconded by Judd, and passed unanimously.

No decisions were made during Executive Session.

Confirm: next Meeting Date

The first Tuesday in July is July 7, 2026.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:37pm.