

August 4, 2026 Galena Groundwater District Meeting Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Meeting Room at the Sun Valley Water & Sewer District
August 4, 2026

Call to Order: 11:00 am

In attendance: Judd McMahan (Board), Brian Barsotti (Board), Peter Atkinson (Board) Heather O'Leary (counsel), Erick Powell (Brockway) 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 June 2026 board meeting were submitted in advance of the meeting for review.

MOTION: Approve minutes from July 7, 2026 board meeting was recommended by Brian, seconded by Peter and passed unanimously.

FINANCIALS

Discussion of current financials through the end of July 2026 were presented, including banking balances, outstanding receivables and several payables' items. Brief discussion regarding fallow credit/reimbursements.

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

BROCKWAY

Erick spoke to membership and related discussion. He noted that there was a caveat – that the information reported was based on the assumption that WMIS data is good (accurate data). 350 WMIS IDs were reviewed, wmis equals a well location which may involve one or more water rights, each of those rights has one or more uses (irrigation, stock water, aesthetic etc.). WMIS reflects an annual volume, factoring diversion flow rate. In the BWGWMP – diversion rate is important. Erick reviewed 2013 – 2025. He noted difficulties using WMIS (irrigation vs storage, lack of rented water data). A domestic water right equals 14.65 ac ft/yr. 83 WMIS numbers came under specific review, such as Golden Eagle. A question regarding possible surface water muddying of data provided that this was unlikely. Judd & Erick will vet this nonetheless. Other issues: accuracy of reporting, incomplete data sets, water use, outliers, broken meters, broken system were all noted. Domestic inefficiency was all expressed. The net result of the review is that large violators and perennial violators should be held to meters, water use checks, etc. to start – and then working down to smaller rights/WMIS users. Methods via public education, specific work with landscapers, complying with the management plan and reinforcing the relationship with the South Valley Groundwater District were all expressed. Varying ideas for reporting, tracking, etc. were bandied about.

GREAVES / WRLT

Friedman and Community School signage were deployed and press releases are out. Phase 2 will occur in Spring 2027

RAIN ENHANCE & LiDAR TOOLS

Judd referenced his conversation with the LiDAR people, who were extremely interested in coordinating work and data gathering in this area. This issue is that the expenses run into the millions, and will need to involve the

Water Resource Board or grants and such to set this in motion. Further conversation will occur with the BWGWM Advisory Committee as the benefit of the forecasting availability would benefit all. IWWRI, while developed with a focus on Silver Creek temperatures, is a somewhat more dependable tool that IDWR info at this point in the forecasting process. Brian spoke with the Rain Enhancement reps and found an initial cost of about \$100,000 to engage. Neither Pat (IWB) nor Idaho Power expressed interest in this strategic drone process.

BOARD RENUMERATION

Discussion of reimbursing Board members for time, expenses in pursuit of business on behalf of the District occurred.

MOTION: Brian motioned to approve remuneration for meetings (other than Board meetings) and expenses for Board members working on District projects, was seconded by Peter and passed unanimously.

BWGWM

Judd attended two CIEF meetings, where water purchase was discussed. There have been some glitches this year (concerns of setting precedent, discernment options, minimums, etc.). There will be conversation at the Committee meeting related to this year's requirements, experiences & decisions as well as likely a conversation about minimum flows at Willow Creek and other minimums (Stanton = 53cfs, condition 161 & Milner Gooding)

Public Comment

None

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. Board discussion of annual assessment rate provided guidance for bookkeeping to address this mid-August deadline. Mailing of assessments must be done prior to December 1st. Two applications to join the District will be discussed in September.

Confirm: next Meeting Date

The first Tuesday in September is September 1st.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:19pm