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MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

held on Monday, May 22, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom and
at the City of Ventura, Assembly Conference Room
336 Sanjon Road, Ventura, CA 93002

MINUTES

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE

Catherine Keeling, Chair
Elizabeth (Betsy) Cooper, Vice-Chair/Secretary
Arne Anselm, Treasurer
James (Jim) Chambers
Conner Everts

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Bryan Bondy, Executive Director
Jackie Lozano, Clerk of the Board

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Mohammad Hasan, UWCD
Kathleen Kuepper, UWCD
John Lindquist, UWCD
Ed Reese, UWCD
Steven Smith
Brian Zahn, UWCD

CALL TO ORDER 3:01 p.m.

Chair Catherine Keeling called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Keeling led the participants in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. BOARD OF DIRECTORS ROLL CALL

The Clerk of the Board called roll. All five Directors were present (Anselm, Chambers, Cooper, Everts, Keeling).

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

Chair Keeling asked if there were any public comments. None were offered.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion

Chair Keeling requested that Item 5b. Approval of Warrants be pulled for discussion from the Consent Calendar. Director Everts moved Agenda approval as amended; seconded by Director Anselm. Roll call vote: Five ayes (Anselm, Chambers, Cooper, Everts, Keeling); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 5/0.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Consent Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

5a. Approval of Minutes

Motion

The Board will consider approving the Minutes from the March 21, 2023, Regular Board of Directors meeting. A meeting cancellation notice was emailed to the Board of Directors and interested parties list as well as posted on the Mound Basin GSA website regarding the April 24, 2023, Regular Board of Directors meeting.

5c. Monthly Financial Reports

Information Item

The Board will receive monthly profit and loss statements and balance sheets for the months of March and April 2023.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar item nos. 5a and 5c, Director Everts; seconded by Director Cooper. Roll call vote: Five ayes (Anselm, Chambers, Cooper, Everts, Keeling); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 5/0.

5b. Approval of Warrants

Motion

The Board will review the warrant payment registry for previously paid invoices and consider approving payment of outstanding vendor invoices. Chair Keeling, being new to the Board, asked for an explanation of this motion. Executive Director Bryan Bondy provided a summary of each vendor invoice. Chair Keeling requested that copies of the invoices be included in the meeting packet.

Motion to approve the warrants, Director Anselm; Seconded by Director Chambers. Roll call vote: Five ayes (Anselm, Chambers, Cooper, Everts, Keeling); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 5/0.

6. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Cooper provided an update on the status of the City of Ventura's municipal wells in the Mound Basin. Mound Well No. 3 electrical service was established last week, and the well is expected to be operational in July. Mound Well No. 2 was drilled near the Ventura County Government Center. The City will soon be soliciting bids for the remaining work necessary to render Mound Well No. 2 operational. Mound Well No.2 will not be operational for another year or so.

Director Everts announced that he plans on attending the Groundwater Resources Association of California annual SGMA Implementation Summit and Workshop in June.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Information Item

Executive Director Bondy summarized the written staff report concerning Agency activities since the last Regular Board of Directors meeting of March 21, 2023. He notified the Board that the Agency will not be receiving a SGM Implementation Grant it applied for. Executive Director Bondy explained that Mound Basin's characteristics did not align very well with the State's grant priority criteria, which emphasize drought actions and disadvantaged communities. Executive Director Bondy explained that he is still working with the Small GSA Coalition to secure funding for small GSAs in the State. Director Everts asked if Executive Director Bondy had consulted with Mr. Steve Bennett directly. Executive Director Bondy said that the Small GSA Coalition lobbyist had spoken with Assemblymember Bennett's staff. Director Everts offered to speak with Mr. Bennett if Mr. Bondy felt it would help. Director Chambers wondered if it made sense to write the GSP to get a grant even though we are not getting a grant. Executive Director Bondy said the GSP was written to comply with the SGMA regulations. He further explained that the GSP identified three new monitoring wells for seawater intrusion, with two being necessary for SGMA compliance and the third being optional if a grant was obtained. One of the required monitoring wells was funded by the State and was completed last year. Director Chambers asked if the well was available for testing. Executive Director Bondy answered that the well was tested by the state and there was no indication of seawater intrusion. He added that United Water Conservation District (United) staff are working to incorporate the well into its monitoring program.

Informational item. No further questions or comments from the Directors.

No comments or questions from the public.

8. MOTION ITEMS

8a. Proposed Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget and Multi-Year Projection

Motion

The Board reviewed the fiscal year 2023/2024 budget and updated multi-year projection, as provided in the agenda packet. Executive Director Bondy clarified for the newer board members that the Agency's budget and multi-year projection are reviewed and approved annually. The Board discussed whether the meeting location would be adequate for a public hearing. Director Cooper said there would be no issue with access to the meeting room and parking at the City of Ventura's Public Works Facility. There was a consensus from the Directors to modify the start time of the June 26, 2023, Board of Directors meeting and Public Hearing to 1:00 p.m. They also desired to consider modifying the time for the rest of the 2023 calendar year. This would allow the Directors a better window of commuting time for those who lived further away. Clerk of the Board Jackie Lozano would poll the group before making any adjustments to their calendars.

No further comments or questions were offered by the Directors. No comments or questions were offered by the public.

Motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget and Muti-Year Projection and schedule a public hearing to consider adoption of groundwater extraction fees for fiscal year 2023/2024 on June 26, 2023 at 1 p.m., Director Everts; seconded by Director Chambers. Roll call vote: Five ayes (Anselm, Chambers, Cooper, Everts, Keeling); none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 5/0.

8b. Resolution 2023-02 Honoring Michael W. Mobley

Motion

At the request of the Board of Directors, Resolution 2023-5 was agreed to by the Board recognizing Michael Mobley for his dedication of more than five years of service to the Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency in his role as a member director and chair representing United Water Conservation District.

No comments or questions were offered by the Directors. No public comments were offered.

Motion to adopt Resolution 2023-02 recognizing Michael Mobley for his dedication and service to the Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Director Everts; seconded by Director Chambers. Roll call vote: Five ayes (Anselm, Chambers, Cooper, Everts, Keeling), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 5/0.

8c. Small GSA Coalition Letter to Legislators Concerning State Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget

Motion

Executive Director Bondy provided an overview of this motion to the Board for their consideration. After a brief discussion between the Board and staff, all were supportive in sending out the letter and having it executed by Chair Keeling.

Motion approved authorizing Chair Keeling to sign a letter to State legislators, Director Everts; seconded by Director Cooper. Roll call vote: Five ayes (Anselm, Chambers, Cooper, Everts, Keeling), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 5/0.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS


Director Keeling polled the Directors for any future agenda items.

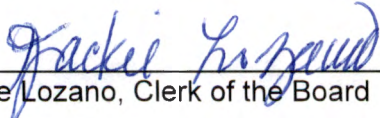
- Director Chambers asked about a report on the new monitoring well. Executive Director Bondy said the Agency is still waiting for the report from the DWR. Director Cooper asked about the frequency of groundwater quality testing. Kathleen Kuepper, UWCD, said quarterly. Executive Director also mentioned that induction logs of the monitoring well could be performed to check for seawater with more resolution. Director Chambers expressed his thanks to Executive Director Bondy.

ADJOURNMENT 3:39 p.m.

Chair Keeling adjourned the meeting at 3:39 p.m. to the next Regular Board of Directors meeting on June 26, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. or call of the chair.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Board of Directors meeting of May 22, 2023.

ATTEST: 
Elizabeth (Betsy) Cooper, Vice-chair/Secretary

ATTEST: 
Jackie Lozano, Clerk of the Board



MoundBasin

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

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MOUND BASIN GSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Monday, May 22, 2023, at 3:00 a.m.

Name: Kathleen Kuepper

Organization: UWCD

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

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Name: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: Steve Johnson

Organization: Southern California Water Ltd Alliance

Phone: (310) 227-7967

E-mail: stevenjohnson34@gmail.com

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

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