



MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2019, at 1p.m.

Ventura City Hall, Santa Cruz Conference Room (Room No. 223)
501 Poli Street, Ventura, California 93001

MINUTES

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jim Chambers
Conner Everts
Mike Mobley, Chair
Susan Rungren, Secretary

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Bryan Bondy, Executive Director
Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE:

Burt Handy
Margo Ferris, McLaughlin Ranch
John Lindquist, UWCD
Mark McLaughlin, McLaughlin Ranch
Neil Maguire, Ferguson Case Orr Paterson

CALL TO ORDER 1:00 p.m.

Chair Mobley called the meeting to order at 1:01p.m. and asked everyone to join him in reciting the Pledge of the Allegiance.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

No public comments were offered.

3. ROLL CALL

Director Chambers, Director Everts, Director Mobley, Director Rungren were in attendance, Director Shephard was absent from the meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion

Chair Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the agenda.
None were offered.

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Everts; Second, Director Chambers. Voice vote: four ayes (Chambers, Everts, Mobley, Rungren), none opposed/none abstaining, one absent (Shephard). Motion carries 4/0/1.

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 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 February 21, 2019 Mound Basin GSA Board of Directors meeting.

5b Approval of Warrants

Motion

The Board will consider approving payment of outstanding vendor invoices.

5c Monthly Financial Reports

Information Item

The Board will receive a monthly profit and loss statement and balance sheet for the Mound Basin GSA from UWCD's accounting staff.

Chair Mobley asked if there were any discussions required of the Consent Calendar items. None were requested.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar, Director Everts; Second, Director Rungren. Voice vote: four ayes (Chambers, Everts, Mobley, Rungren); none opposed/none abstaining; one absent (Shephard). Motion carries 4/0/1.

6. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Director Rungren reported that the Ventura Water Commission would be meeting on March 26 at 5:30p.m. and would be addressing the State Water Interconnection Project. Director Mobley reported that the agreement for UWCD technical services was approved yesterday.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Mr. Bondy updated the Board on the Agency's geochemical isotope study work plan, which Mr. Bondy had received for review and comment. He will send the work plan to United staff and work with staff to get on the District's calendar for sampling. United will collect the samples and then send them to the laboratory for analysis, on behalf of the MBGSA.

Mr. Bondy reported that the Agency's Prop 1 grant agreement has been signed and delivered to Sacramento. The next step in the process will be to organize a kick-off meeting with DWR project manager and the financial team.

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Mr. Bondy reviewed Ventura Water's environmental impact report (EIR) for water-supply, and noted that currently there are no plans for projects in the Mound basin but that the EIR discussed the Mound Basin at length. Early in Ventura's planning effort for their aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) project, some ASR sites in Mound basin were under consideration; however, at present the only sites under consideration are in the Oxnard basin. Mr. Bondy suggested that the EIR should not discuss the Mound Basin if no projects are proposed in the Mound Basin. Mr. Bondy stated that he may submit comments on the EIR to this effect. Director Rungren said she would look into the issue and coordinate with Mr. Bondy.

Director Chambers asked where the isotope study was starting – which wells were being tested. Mr. Bondy answered that the monitoring wells located at Marina Park, Camino Real Park, and Community Park will be sampled. The sampling analysis will also identify the age of the water and will help him and UWCD staff to understand the flow system.

Chair Mobley asked if there were any comments or questions.

Neal Maguire stated that he felt the MBGSA should comment on Ventura Water's EIR, as suggested by Mr. Bondy.

8. ACTION ITEMS

8a. **GSP As-Needed Support Services (Grant Category (c): Planning Activities; Task 2: Organizational Activities)**

Motion

Chair Mobley asked if any proposals had been received. Mr. Bondy reported that six requests for qualifications were sent out with a one month submittal deadline, which he believed was a reasonable response time. He had conversations with several of the firms and three had planned to submit qualifications. However, two of those three firms ultimately declined to submit. The proposal received was submitted by Intera, Inc. Mr. Bondy stated that he is very familiar with Intera. He explained that he has managed Intera's contract with Calleguas Municipal Water District in his capacity as the Calleguas Groundwater Manager. He also stated that Intera and he have worked side-by-side on a groundwater study for the City of San Diego, where Intera and Mr. Bondy's firm were separate subcontractors to the prime engineering firm for the project. Mr. Bondy stated that he is very comfortable working with Intera and that he thinks Intera manages its work efficiently and has competitive billing rates. He also knows the strengths and weaknesses of Intera's staff. Overall, he said it would be pretty seamless and efficient to work with Intera. He explained that neither Intera nor he has ever had any contractual or employment relationship with each other and that he has no financial interest of any kind in Intera. He reported that Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency (UVRGA), who is also hiring Intera to work under his supervision, had its counsel review the facts and applicable conflict of interest statutes. UVRGA counsel concluded there is no conflict of interest concern. He also said that he did not ask MBGSA's legal counsel for review because he felt the UVRGA counsel's opinion would suffice given that the facts are identical for both

agencies. He added that the UVRGA Board of Directors voted to move forward with contracting with Intera last week.

Chair Mobley asked about Intera's fee schedule. Mr. Bondy said the firm's fee schedule is less than similar firms he is familiar with. Mr. Bondy said Intera's rates are lower because some Intera staff is based in Texas and New Mexico, so they can offer lower rates due to lower cost of living. He explained that there have been no issues working with staff in other states and that the main points-of-contact are located in Torrance, CA. Mr. Bondy added that Intera's staff includes some of the brightest young professionals in the industry, which also contributes to lower rates. He added that it is an on-call, support services contract, mainly to fill in the gaps between himself and UWCD. He anticipates that UVRGA will have a greater need for the firm's help, but wants to make sure he has a full bench to keep the ball moving forward.

Chair Mobley said that it was a very impressive proposal and that United has good relationships with the firm for quite a few years. Mr. Bondy said that Intera likes working with him, that they know they have a good fit, and that having the same executive director and the same consultant for Mound Basin and Upper Ventura River makes it easier to manage and balance workloads.

Motion to authorize Chair to execute a professional services agreement with Intera, Inc., subject to negotiation of agreement terms to the satisfaction of the Chair, Agency Counsel and Executive Director; Director Everts; Second, Director Chambers. Voice vote: four ayes (Rungren, Mobley, Chambers, Everts); none opposed/none abstaining; one absent (Shephard). Motion carries 4/0/1.

8b. Request for Proposal for Joint Audit Services

Motion

Mr. Bondy explained that the GSA is required to have an annual audit and submit a copy of its audited financial statements to the County of Ventura by June 30, 2019, which requires hiring an outside audit firm. He said that since MBGSA and FPBGSAs have both contracted with UWCD to handle accounting and administrative services, the opportunity to package the auditing services together for the selection of one auditor to serve both agencies is preferred for an efficiency standpoint.

The Board was in agreement, but asked that the deadline for proposals be extended to April 24 to allow for more time to prepare and submit proposals.

Motion to approve the Joint RFP to solicit bids for an auditor along with the Fillmore and Piru Basins GSA, Director Everts; Second, Director Rungren. Voice vote: four ayes (Chambers, Everts, Mobley, Rungren); none opposed/none abstaining; one absent (Shephard). Motion carries 4/0/1.

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Chair Mobley then said he had a conflict with the next Board meeting date of April 18, and suggested moving the Board meeting to April 25. Mr. Bondy said that the next couple of months may be slow, and that aside from negotiating the terms of the service agreement with Intera and getting them started, the Board had no real policy issues, just the selection of an auditor, which could be decided on April 25. Chair Mobley said that the Board could review the proposal on the fly and would appreciate a recommendation from staff.

Director Chambers asked about stakeholder engagement. Mr. Bondy said there wasn't really any tangible information to share as yet. Director Chambers asked about a timeline and Mr. Bondy said he would discuss this with UWCD staff and come up with a refined schedule for the Board's consideration.

Chair Mobley asked around the second round of extraction fee billing and Mr. Bondy responded that he expected invoices to go out later this month.

Margie Ferris asked if everyone who had been billed has paid and Mr. Bondy responded that of the 32 wells encompassed in the Mound Basin GSA, only two were unpaid for a total of about \$3,000. Four wells were not reporting to UWCD, three of which were owned by the same entity, and UWCD was working on securing that pumping information.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

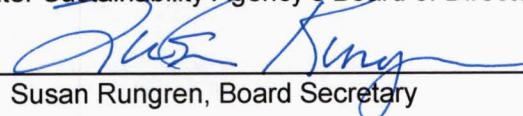
None were offered

ADJOURNED 1:33p.m.

The Board adjourned at 1:33p.m.to the next **Regular Board Meeting** on Thursday, **April 25, 2019** 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 March 21, 2019.

ATTEST:



Susan Rungren, Board Secretary

ATTEST:



Kris Sofley, Clerk of the Board