

**Record of the Minutes of the
Beaumont Basin Committee Meeting of the
Beaumont Basin Watermaster
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, October 5, 2022**

Meeting Location:

Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
560 Magnolia Ave.
Beaumont, CA 92223

I. Call to Order

Chair Arturo Vela called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m.

II. Roll Call

<i>City of Banning</i>	<i>Arturo Vela</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>City of Beaumont</i>	<i>Jeff Hart</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District</i>	<i>Dan Jagers</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>South Mesa Water Company</i>	<i>David Armstrong</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Yucaipa Valley Water District</i>	<i>Joseph Zoba</i>	<i>Present</i>

Hannibal Blandon and Thomas Harder were present as engineers for the BBWM.

Thierry Montoya was present as BBWM legal counsel.

Members of the public who registered and / or attended:

Joyce McIntire, Yucaipa Valley Water District
Lonni Granlund, Yucaipa Valley Water District
Lance Eckhart, San Geronio Pass Water Agency
Ron Duncan, San Geronio Pass Water Agency
Steve Stuart, Dudek
Mark Swanson, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
James Bean, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
Robert Rasha, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
Cenica Smith, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Vela led the pledge.

IV. Public Comments:

None.

V. Consent Calendar

- A. Resolution 2022-07: Authorizing Public Meetings to be Held via Teleconferencing Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) and Making Findings and Determinations Regarding Same
- B. Meeting Minutes
 - a. August 3, 2022 Regular Meeting
- C. Status Report on Water Level Monitoring throughout the Beaumont Basin through September 19, 2022
- D. A Comparison of Production versus Extraction Credits through August 2022

It was moved by Member Zoba and seconded by Member Jagers to approve Consent Calendar items A – D.

AYES:	Hart, Armstrong, Swanson, Vela, Zoba
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None
STATUS:	Motion Approved

VI. Reports

- A. Report from Engineering Consultant – Hannibal Blandon, ALDA Engineering

Mr. Blandon reported on new equipment installation and an error on spreadsheet no. 2, which has been corrected.

- B. Report from Hydrogeological Consultant – Thomas Harder, Thomas Harder & Co.

No report.

- C. Report from Administrative Consultant

No report.

D. Report from Legal Counsel – Thierry Montoya, Alvarado Smith

Mr. Montoya discussed the process to update Watermaster Committee members.

VII. Discussion Items

A. Consideration of Proposals and Award of Contract to Provide Professional Engineering Services to the Beaumont Basin Watermaster

Recommendation: Award Contract to Thomas Harder & Company for Professional Engineering Services for a sum of \$315,805 and send invoices to each Watermaster Committee member for 20% of the approved amount

Member Hart reported that the RFP was released on August 4, 2022 with bids due on September 16. One response was received from Thomas Harder and Company and Mr. Stuart prepared a scoring matrix.

Mr. Jagers thanked Harder and Associates and Mr. Blandon for submitting a proposal and said he believed their work to date has aligned with the Watermaster activities. The proposal touched on the bulk of the RFP items, he noted.

Mr. Hart indicated that the cost seems fair and is tantamount to historical costs given an increase related to determination of the safe yield.

Chair Vela concurred and invited public comment. There was none.

It was moved by Member Zoba and seconded by Member Jagers to approve the award of a contract to Thomas Harder & Company for Professional Engineering Services for a sum of \$315,805 and send invoices to each Watermaster Committee member for 20% of the approved amount.

AYES:	Hart, Armstrong, Swanson, Vela, Zoba
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None
STATUS:	Motion Approved

B. Draft Groundwater Water Well Level Measuring Procedures

Recommendation: Review, Comment, and Provide Direction Regarding Subject Item

Member Jagers advised that Mr. Stuart had looked at the procedures, provided comments and added value. This activity began with some comments made regarding well monitoring activities, he reminded. The effort is to formalize procedures on behalf of the Watermaster to have repeatability and to provide some assured guidance that things are done consistently. For the Watermaster monitoring, this gets the job done, and for the member agencies some best management practices were shared, Jagers added.

A final step will be to prepare a resolution to adopt the proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations, Jagers suggested.

Chair Vela expressed appreciation and said the City of Banning field staff is comfortable with the procedures and requirements.

Member Zoba pointed out that Yucaipa Valley Water District (YVWD) would be installing injection wells rather than extraction wells and pointed to Section B. He suggested taking time before the next meeting to address injection wells and whether that water level data is useful.

Member Jagers acknowledged Zoba's point and advised that the project is now being spearheaded by Mr. Stuart, but he would be happy to participate. He suggested that since other recharge basins are being considered in the Beaumont Basin, it should be determined if there is enough monitoring to accurately reflect what the groundwater level is doing in areas of influence and how it might be managed to assure ongoing understanding and to have ways to level the recharge or extract under the mound with nearby wells.

Zoba indicated he was comfortable with monitoring the ASR wells but cautioned that the data relative to the mound must not impact the data negatively. He acknowledged that more monitoring is needed around the Basin, especially on the west side.

Comments should be sent to Mr. Stuart.

Mr. Eckhart advised that a recently approved contract between the San Geronio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) and the US Geological Survey (USGS) addressed data gaps on the west side, which should be useful to everyone. He suggested collaboration with Mr. Stuart.

Mr. Blandon pointed out that monitoring well measurement requires ceasing pumping for 24 hours and asked how that would be coordinated.

Member Jagers noted that the related guideline C reads, "wherever possible" and advised that stopping production would not likely be possible in the summertime, but if coordinated in advance there may be an opportunity to rest the well in advance in the spring and fall. The idea is to collect the best data possible, but in reality, with heavy reliance on extraction wells that may not be achieved. As more redundancy is created, it may become more of a reality, he stated.

Mr. Blandon pointed out that USGS has been using a number of wells on the west side but when some of the owners were approached, they showed reluctance to having a formal contract to install monitoring equipment. Jagers suggested collaboration with SGPWA.

VIII. Topics for Future Meetings

- A. Monitoring of future west side well sites and methodologies, and potential collaboration with USGS
- B. Draft Groundwater Water Well Level Measuring Procedures
- C. Procurement Policy
- D. Evaluation of Storage Issues in the Basin (tabled from 12/2/2021 meeting)
- E. Development of a methodology and policy to account for groundwater storage losses in the basin / groundwater management
- F. Incidental discharge
- G. Development of a Recycled Water Policy
- H. Development of a return flow accounting policy

IX. Comments from the Watermaster Committee Members

Member Armstrong advised that South Mesa Water Company will be making a change to its representation on the Watermaster Committee. Member Jagers acknowledged the long-term commitment and contributions of Member Jorritsma.

X. Announcements

- a. The next regular meeting of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

b. Future Meeting Dates:

- i. February 1, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.
- ii. April 5, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.
- iii. June 7, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

XI. Adjournment

Chairman Vela adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

Attest:



Daniel Jagers, Secretary
Beaumont Basin Watermaster