

**Record of the Minutes of the
Beaumont Basin Committee Meeting of the
Beaumont Basin Watermaster
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

Meeting Location:

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

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair David Armstrong called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

II. Roll Call

<i>City of Banning</i>	<i>Nathan Smith</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>City of Beaumont</i>	<i>Robert Vestal</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>Joe Zoba</i>	<i>Present</i>

Hanibal Blandon and Thomas Harder were present as engineers for the Beaumont Basin Watermaster (BBWM).

Thierry Montoya was present as BBWM legal counsel.

Steve Stuart of Dudek was present as BBWM administrator.

Members of the public who registered and / or attended:

*Brett Granlund, Yucaipa Valley Water District
Joyce McIntire, Yucaipa Valley Water District
Ashley Gibson, Yucaipa Valley Water District
Lance Eckhart, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
Emmett Campbell, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
Kevin Walton, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
Robert Rasha, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
Cenica Smith, Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District
Matthew Palavido, Dudek
Brittany Lim, South Mesa Water Company
Eddie Giraldo, Rain for Rent
Ed Bender, Rain for Rent*

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Public Comments: None.

V. Consent Calendar

A. Meeting Minutes

- a. October 4, 2023 Regular Meeting
- b. November 1, 2023 Special Meeting

It was moved by Member Jaggars and seconded by Member Zoba to approve the October 4, 2023 meeting minutes.

AYES: Armstrong, Jaggars, Smith, Zoba
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: City of Beaumont
STATUS: Motion Approved

It was moved by Member Jaggars and seconded by Member Zoba to approve the November 1, 2023 meeting minutes.

AYES: Armstrong, Jaggars, Smith, Zoba
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: City of Beaumont
STATUS: Motion Approved

B. Status Report on Water Level Monitoring throughout the Beaumont Basin through November 13, 2023

C. A Comparison of Production Rights versus Production through August 2023

It was moved by Member Jaggars and seconded by Member Zoba to approve Consent Calendar items A, B and C.

AYES: Armstrong, Jaggars, Smith, Zoba
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: City of Beaumont
STATUS: Motion Approved

VI. Reports

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

Mr. Blandon reminded about failures of communication cables at the monitoring sites. Cables were ordered and received, and will be installed following the meeting.

An analysis of storage issues was prepared based on the question regarding different buckets that could exist, Blandon continued, and he asked if there were any questions. There were none.

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

Mr. Harder pointed to the 2024 scope of work and noted that technical memorandums prepared have costs associated. He explained that the attachments for items VII-A and VII-B were reversed. THC is in the process of putting together a scope of work with analysis of different basin operations to stress test the basin and identify potentially significant and unreasonable conditions. The intention is to present it at the next workshop.

- C. Report from Administrative Consultant – Steve Stuart, Dudek

Mr. Stuart reported that information is still being sought on well survey results from some of the parties in the basin. He is still working on the process of developing a schedule highlighting the many tasks for future discussion over the next couple of years.

- D. Report from Legal Counsel – Thierry Montoya - Frost, Brown, Todd

Mr. Montoya noted there is a vacancy for the City of Beaumont that will need to be filled. He encouraged the City to contact him so that a motion can be filed with the Court for a new member and alternate.

BBWM Secretary Jagers said he would compose a short letter to the City to reiterate and move it forward.

VII. Discussion Items

- A. Proposal by Thomas Harder & Company / Alda to Provide Engineering and Reporting Services in 2024

Recommendation: Approve Task Order No. 5 for Engineering and Reporting Services in 2024 for a sum not to exceed \$95,690 and send invoices to each Watermaster Committee member for 20% of the approved amount

It was moved by Member Zoba and seconded by Member Jagers to approve Task Order No. 5 for Engineering and Reporting Services in 2024 for a sum not to exceed \$95,690 and send invoices to each Watermaster Committee member for 20% of the approved amount by the following vote:

AYES:	Armstrong, Jagers, Smith, Zoba
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	City of Beaumont
STATUS:	Motion Approved

- B. Proposal by Thomas Harder & Company / Alda to Provide Groundwater Level Monitoring Services in 2024

Recommendation: Approve Task Order No. 6 for Groundwater Level Monitoring Services for a sum not to exceed \$28,120 and send invoices to each Watermaster Committee member for 20% of the approved amount

Member Jagers noted that the tables in the staff report were switched, and he clarified that the vote is on the recommendation plus the Task Order. The amounts in the discussion item are correct, Harder noted.

It was moved by Member Zoba and seconded by Member Jagers to approve Task Order No. 6 for Groundwater Level Monitoring Services for a sum not to exceed \$28,120 and send invoices to each Watermaster Committee member for 20% of the approved amount by the following vote:

AYES:	Armstrong, Jagers, Smith, Zoba
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	City of Beaumont
STATUS:	Motion Approved

C. Update on the Safe Yield Reset of the Beaumont Basin

Recommendation: No recommendation

Mr. Harder advised this is still in progress, as the consultant feels the weight of making sure that it is as accurate as possible. It is hoped to be presented at the January meeting.

D. Review of Appropriator's Production Right Calculation

Recommendation: No recommendation

Mr. Stuart referred to Mr. Blandon's earlier presentation and measurement of production of groundwater in the basin. This is the measure of determining whether or not a particular pumper or appropriator would have to apply replenishment water or funds for replenishment water should they experience overproduction in a particular year, he explained.

Mr. Stuart reviewed several sections and concepts in the judgment. He requested direction from the Committee. Discussion touched on:

- 1. Possible limit in time on surplus water*
 - a. Judgment / rules do not speak to this*
 - b. Temporary surplus was to create additional capacity in the basin to help encourage or implement conjunctive use projects or increase the ability to store / capture more water in the basin*
 - c. Definition of stored water allows for only supplemental water (imported or recycled)*
 - d. If temporary surplus cannot be stored, it had to be used in the year it was provided*
 - e. Consider future action to redefine or add to the concept of stored water as part of the physical solution to include some of the other waters*
- 2. Physical solution would include looking at overall production of all appropriators in the basin vs. the surplus*
 - a. Ability to transfer between appropriators*
 - b. State required conservation goals have been met and storage accounts are stable*
- 3. New Yield*
 - a. not defined as supplemental water*
 - b. could be captured stormwater or diversion of streamflow*
- 4. Order of operation of water usage / Appropriator's Production Right*
 - a. Add a separate table for the storage account*
 - b. Remove supplemental water from the equation*

5. *Imported water and storage account management*
6. *Develop a process of accounting*
7. *This approach is consistent with the judgment and the concepts / legal cases that address these kinds of judgments, and is within the Committee's obligation and right to take this holistic view*

E. Update on Development of Data Management System

Recommendation: No recommendation.

Mr. Matthew Palavido shared the major updates since the last meeting including groundwater elevation readings and production information for all wells. The NOAA climate stations have been added with readings through December 1.

On Friday, Mr. Palavido said he would send out login information and instructions so agencies can provide feedback. There will be another discussion to show how to edit and add information.

Member Zoba asked if the NOAA data beyond the BBWM boundary could be added; Mr. Palavido said it could and pointed to some examples.

VIII. Topics for Future Meetings

	Item	Date Listed
A	Development of a Recycled Water Policy	3/27/2019
B	Development of a return flow accounting policy	3/27/2019
C	Development of a methodology and policy to account for groundwater storage losses in the basin / groundwater management	3/27/2019
D	Procurement Policy including thresholds for RFP process	8/17/2021
E	Incidental discharge	10/6/2021
F	Evaluation of Storage Issues in the Basin	Tabled from 12/2/2021 meeting
G	Monitoring of future west side well sites and methodologies, and potential collaboration with USGS	10/5/2022

H	Direction for use of different types of storage accounts	8/2/2023
I	Revision of Rules and Regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Mechanism for BBWM to collect funds if storage account is in deficit (Development of a rate for overproduction of right) ii. General modernization of rules and regulations iii. Clarification of overlier transfers process iv. Proposal from Dudek for this work 	8/2/2023
J	Process and categorization of water production for the annual report	8/2/2023

IX. Comments from the Watermaster Committee Members: None.

X. Announcements

- A. The next meeting of the Beaumont Basin Watermaster is scheduled for Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.
- B. 2024 Meeting Dates:
 - Wednesday, February 7 at 11 a.m. Regular Meeting
 - Wednesday, March 6 at 11 a.m. Special Meeting
 - Wednesday, April 3 at 11 a.m. Regular Meeting
 - Wednesday, June 5 at 11 a.m. Regular Meeting
 - Wednesday, August 7 at 11 a.m. Regular Meeting
 - Wednesday, October 2 at 11 a.m. Regular Meeting
 - Wednesday, December 4 at 11 a.m. Regular Meeting

XI. Adjournment

Vice Chair Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

Attest:



Daniel Jagers, Secretary
Beaumont Basin Watermaster