

MINUTES OF THE YUCAIPA SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Board Meeting – January 24, 2024 - 10:30 a.m.

This Board meeting was held at the City of Yucaipa, 34272 Yucaipa Boulevard, Yucaipa, California.

- I. Call to Order - Chairman Mark Iverson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.
- II. Roll Call - The following representatives, as assigned by each Party, attended the meeting:

Purveyors	Present	Primary Representative	Present	Alternative Representative
South Mesa Water Company	✓	David Armstrong	✓	Brittany Lim
South Mountain Water Company	✓	George Hanson	✓	Sam Fuller
Western Heights Water Company	✓	Mark Iverson	✓	Brooke Shorey
Yucaipa Valley Water District	✓	Joseph Zoba		Jennifer Ares
Municipals				
City of Redlands	✓	John Harris	✓	Paul Mariscal
City of Yucaipa		Chris Mann	✓	Fermin Preciado
Regionals				
San Bernardino Valley MWD	✓	Mike Plinski	✓	Adekunle Ojo
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	✓	Lance Eckhart	✓	Emmett Campbell
Stakeholders				
County of Riverside		Steve Horn		Jeff Johnson
County of San Bernardino		Bob Page		
City of Calimesa		Wil Kolbow		

A quorum of the Board of Directors was present to start the meeting.

In addition to the Board of Directors identified above, the following members of the public were registered as attending the meeting:

- Madeline Blua, Yucaipa Valley Water District
- Ron Duncan, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
- Brett Granlund, Yucaipa Valley Water District
- Matt Howard, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
- Mike Kostelecky, Yucaipa Valley Water District
- Joyce McIntire, Yucaipa Valley Water District
- Steve Stuart, Dudek
- Kevin Walton, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
- Mike Wiel, California Department of Water Resources

III. Public Comments

None

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes will be presented at the next meeting for review and approval.

A. Board Meeting Minutes – July 26, 2023

Mike Plinski moved to approve the meeting minutes from July 26, 2023.

Fermin Preciado seconded the motion.

South Mesa Water Company	Yes
South Mountain Water Company	Yes
Western Heights Water Company	Yes
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Yes
City of Redlands	Yes
City of Yucaipa	Yes
San Bernardino Valley MWD	Yes
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Yes

B. Board Meeting Minutes – October 25, 2023

Mike Plinski moved to approve the meeting minutes from October 25, 2023.

Fermin Preciado seconded the motion.

South Mesa Water Company	Yes
South Mountain Water Company	Yes
Western Heights Water Company	Yes
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Yes
City of Redlands	Yes
City of Yucaipa	Yes
San Bernardino Valley MWD	Yes
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Yes

V. Discussion Items

A. Selection of Officers for the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency

David Armstrong made a motion to retain the existing officers of the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency:

- President - Mark Iverson, Western Heights Water Company
- Vice President - David Armstrong, South Mesa Water Company
- Secretary - Joseph Zoba, Yucaipa Valley Water District

- Treasurer - Mike Plinski, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

Joseph Zoba seconded the motion.

South Mesa Water Company	Yes
South Mountain Water Company	Yes
Western Heights Water Company	Yes
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Yes
City of Redlands	Yes
City of Yucaipa	Yes
San Bernardino Valley MWD	Yes
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Yes

B. Overview of the Approved 2022 Groundwater Sustainability Plan and Future Recommendations

Steve Stuart provided an overview of the Approval Notice received by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Office, California Department of Water Resources dated January 18, 2024. The Approval Notice suggested nine recommendations that should be considered when the Groundwater Sustainability Plan is reevaluated in 2027.

The Approval Notice will be discussed in greater detail at the next meeting of the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency on April 24, 2024.

C. Review of 2023 WY Conditions in the Yucaipa Subbasin

Steve Stuart provided an overview of the 2023 Water Year conditions in the Yucaipa Subbasin and discussed in detail the following management actions for each Management Area.

- Management Action #1 - Reduce Net Use of Groundwater when Groundwater Levels Decline Below Measurable Objectives

Steve Stuart reviewed the conditions of Representative Monitoring Points in the North Bench, Calimesa, Western Heights, and San Timoteo Management Areas.

- Management Action #2 - Sustainable Yield Pumping Allocations and Groundwater Replenishment

Steve Stuart provided information about the sustainable pumping allocation and 2023 water year production for each producer in each management area.

- Management Action #3 - Surplus Supplemental Water Spreading

Steve Stuart provided an overview of the supplemental water spreading activity for the 2023 Water Year.

D. Discussion of Sustainable Yield Pumping Allocations in the Calimesa Management Area

Steve Stuart provided a discussion about the Sustainable Yield Pumping Allocations in the Calimesa Management Area based on a claim by South Mountain Water Company that their Sustainable Yield Pumping Allocation should be more than 518 acre feet per year based on a longer historical pumping record that routinely exceeded 1,000 acre feet per year.

David Armstrong expressed his opinion that the fifty year time period used to develop the Groundwater Sustainability Plan is a representative view of production activities.

Mark Iverson discussed how groundwater production typically changes over time and is fairly captured in the period of time used to develop the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Lance Eckhart expressed concerns that extending the period of time used to determine the Sustainable Yield Pumping Allocations might be an issue with overlying water rights.

This item was deferred to a future meeting date for further discussion.

E. Update on Private Well Owner Outreach

Steve Stuart provided an overview of the outreach efforts for private well owners.

There was a consensus to finalize and publish the letter to private well owners.

F. Update of Well Ordinance for Yucaipa Subbasin and Resolution to Adopt Well Ordinance

Steve Stuart provided an overview of the updated Well Ordinance. This item will be presented at a future meeting for adoption.

G. Consideration of Dudek Proposal to Develop Framework for Transferring Pumping Credits [See Page 76 of 82]

Steve Stuart facilitated a discussion regarding the transfer of pumping credits. The meeting participants discussed several concepts and the overall complexity involved in the transfer of pumping credits.

Without a general consensus, this item will be deferred to a future meeting for further discussion.

VI. Topics for Future Meetings - Suggested meeting dates are provided below and will be adjusted based on the progress of each topic.

- Methodology used to determine the sustainable yield pumping allocations assigned to each groundwater user in the Calimesa Management Area – Requested by the South Mountain Water Company.
- Policy for transferring pumping credits between groundwater users.
- Consideration of the groundwater well ordinance and resolution.
- Public outreach efforts to private well owners.

VII. Comments by the Board of Directors

None

VIII. Announcements

The next scheduled meeting of the Yucaipa Sustainable Groundwater Management Agency will be on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at 10:30 am.

Future board meetings are scheduled on the following dates:

- Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 10:30 am - Board Meeting
- Wednesday, October 23, 2024 at 10:30 am - Board Meeting
- Wednesday, January 22, 2025 at 10:30 am - Board Meeting

IX. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am.