



BIGHORN-DESERT VIEW WATER AGENCY

Our Mission - "To provide a high quality supply of water and reliable service to all customers at a fair and reasonable rate."

Planning/Legislative/Engineering Grant & Security Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Members: President Burkhart & Director Close-Dees

BOARD MEETING OFFICE
1720 N. CHEROKEE TR.
LANDERS, CALIFORNIA 92285

June 15, 2021
Time – 9:15 A.M.

PUBLIC AND BOARD WISHING TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY
TELECONFERENCE LINE THRU ZOOM 669-900-6833

OR

Join Zoom Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88302729955?pwd=eWFEWDE1NXdSQUVyQINhc244aNHdz09>

Passcode: 517717

Or Dial:

1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID: 883 0272 9955

Passcode: 517717

Please note that all requirements of the Brown Act requiring the physical presence of the board or staff have been waived per Executive Order N-29-20

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burkhart called the meeting to order at 9:45 am – Following public participation by BDVWA in the June 15, 2021 State Water Resources Control Board regular meeting at 9 am.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Chairman Burkhart

ROLL CALL

Directors: John Burkhart
Megan Close-Dees

Staff: Marina West

Public present via teleconference - 0. There were 0 members of the public present in the Boardroom.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee members approved the agenda as presented.

Discussion and Action Items -

1. Conference Call with Mojave Water Agency's Legal/Legislative and Public Information Committee

Committee participated via teleconference for an update by the State Advocate of Issues at the State Level, as well as an update by the Federal Advocate of Issues at the Federal Level.

No public comments.

2. Community Water Systems Alliance Update: Proposed Legislation Which Could Affect Agency Operations

GM West gave the staff report noting the status of some of the bills moving through the legislature. Of particular interest is the push on illegal Cannabis and absent emergency legislation to modify Prop. 64 the CWSA is requesting meetings with the authors of AB 1138, as amended, Blanca Rubio. Unlawful cannabis activity: *civil* enforcement and SB 427, as amended, Eggman. Water theft: enhanced penalties. We are focused on two amendments, one which would force discontinuation of service at the time of eradication and two, water hauling as a crime of "aiding and abetting". SB 427 was just discovered last week and staff would be asking for the same amendments.

She noted that she signed a letter as Chair of the Policy Committee for the CWSA addressing the Cannabis issue, a draft letter is in the agenda packet but the final letter took on a different approach. She also mentioned that was the purpose of speaking live to the State Water Resources Control Board to relay our concerns.

GM West reviewed the state bills that the CWSA is following.

GM West discussed the inclusion of some larger regional water agencies that are engaging on behalf of their disadvantaged communities within their sphere. One is Central Basin Municipal Water District. This agency has been plagued with problems – all that fascinating dialogue can be found on a Google search but what is interesting is that CBMWD and other large systems are finding ways to fund needs of their DAC's. For instance, CBMWD's new general manager has pledged resources to help with grant writing for small water systems within their purview. Orange County Water District is a member and San Diego County Water Authority is considering joining. These memberships help fund the CWSA and reduce the financial burden on the small DAC members. With this there is a Small Water Systems Regional Empowerment Program Proposal for these larger entities.

Regarding illegal Cannabis, staff is evaluating usage at Johnson Valley Well 10 as the well is being overtaxed at this time and we are not at summer yet. To start this process, staff is obtaining property information from every hauler. This was mentioned at the last Board meeting. Bulk haulers were never asked to provide proof of property connection to the water as there had never been this kind of usage. GM West found three customers at the cash station that provided properties outside the Agency boundaries. These accounts were closed

yesterday. It was found that these three accounts have hauled out over an Acre-Foot since August. She also discovered approximately 6 accounts on 1-inch meters that are "taking too much water for hauled living". She will investigate these more. Lastly, the commercial water haulers have an increased demand. However, GM West also came across a customer who lives outside the boundaries but not growing Cannabis. This customer claimed to have had access to an actual 1-inch meter at JV for 18 years but he was "kicked off" due to low usage because this is a vacation property not a permanent residence. At this time, GM West is inclined to allow this customer to purchase water but is considering limits on purchases to control "take" from the station. GM West will be meeting with the Ad Hoc Committee on June 30, 2021 to present additional ideas to deal with this issue.

GM West showed the NBC4 I-Team newscast from last week and discussed recent criminal activity.

No public comments.

3. Review Engineering/Hydrogeological Services Proposal for GM Replacement Well, Destruction of GM Well 2 and Up to Three Additional Borings/Monitoring Wells

GM West reviewed the staff report as provided in the Agenda packet noting the change in concept from single data point borings to permanent monitoring wells. She intends to work with Mojave Water Agency staff on which sites should be pursued.

No public comments.

4. Consent Items

a. PLEGS Committee Meeting Minutes, April 20, 2021

Recommended Action:

Approve as presented (Item a):

No Public Comment.

The Committee members approved the minutes as presented.

5. Public Comment Period

No Public Comment.


6. Verbal Reports - Including Reports on Courses/Conferences/Meetings

1. Committee Members' Comments/Reports – Director Burkhart asked about the property location for the monitoring well for Johnson Valley. He also asked about building permits for expanding cabins on hauled water. He reported \$36 per foot to drill a well.

2. General Manager's Report – Reported on the AWAC Grant for current year that went to fund the Yucca Valley Elementary School "Outdoor Learning Program".

7. **Adjournment** – Chairman Burkhart adjourned the meeting at 12:07 pm

Approved by:


John R. Burkhart, Committee Chair

Official Seal

