

**BOARD OF BEAR VALLEY BASIN  
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 18, 2022**

**OPEN SESSION**

A meeting of the Bear Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors was called to order at 5:01 p.m. on January 18, 2022 by Chair Ludecke by Zoom and at 41972 Garstin Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bob Ludecke, Chair  
John Green, Vice Chair  
Craig Hjorth, Treasurer  
Jim Miller, Secretary

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Bob Ludecke, Chair

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

No comments from the public.

**1. PUBLIC HEARING**

**1.1 Resolution No. 2022-01 Adoption of the Bear Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

Chair Ludecke opened the public hearing. There was no public comment. Chair Ludecke closed the public hearing. Chair Ludecke inquired into the list of agencies on page 71 and specifically requested the Big Bear Water Master be added to the list of local agencies. Secretary Miller inquired into the recharge into Sand Canyon and how significant the recharge will be to the Bear Valley Basin water table. Tom Harder, hydrologist, Thomas Harder & Co., responded the benefit of the recharge into Sand Canyon needs to be evaluated. The Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) describes projects and management actions. Reggie Lamson, Administrator, added the recharge to Sand Canyon will benefit the Sheephorn and Sand Canyon Wells. Also, it is cost effective to construct the piping and booster station required for this project. Because of the intertie with the CSD, the recharge into the Sand Canyon will benefit the whole Bear Valley Basin. David Lawrence, General Manager for BBARWA, stated the project plans to utilize the Bear Mountain snowmaking equipment to enable the project to be more even more cost effective. Secretary Miller inquired into whether the Sand Canyon recharge was a stand-alone project or part of Replenish Big Bear. David responded the goal is sustainability for the Valley and it all works together. Reggie added that we are in the permitting process, and it is more effective to permit all planned facilities at one time.

Vice-Chair Green inquired into the expected timeframe the reclaimed water will be added to the lake. David responded the earliest expected time is 2025 if all goes well; 2026 is more realistic. David added it is expected to take approximately a year for the design and 18 months to two years for construction of the treatment plant. Chair Ludecke stated that what gets the community excited is improving the lake, but we need to get the message out that the project will improve the Valley's groundwater sustainability. David added the project's full effect will take ten years because of the lake's natural annual evaporation. A member of the public asked if we can reduce dam releases and shorten the time frame for the full effect of the project. Mike Stephenson, General Manager of MWD, responded there are only two and a half to three inches released a year from the dam to maintain the brown trout at the Seven Oaks Dam. The

biggest impact to the lake is evaporation at approximately three feet a year. A member of the public asked where the money is coming from for the project. David responded that we have obtained \$7.7 million in grant funding and continue to apply for grants to reduce cost to taxpayers. Treasurer Hjorth requested milestones be identified. David responded the pilot study milestone is reflected on the website for Fall 2022.

*Motion made by Vice-Chair Green, seconded by Secretary Miller, and carried 4-0 approving Resolution No. 2022-01, adopting the Bear Valley Basin GSP.*  
*AYES: Green, Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller*  
*NOES: -*  
*ABSTAIN: -*

## **2. CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **2.1 Approve Minutes of Board Meeting Dated June 22, 2021**

*Motion made by Secretary Miller, seconded by Treasurer Hjorth, and carried 4-0 to approve the Consent Calendar.*  
*AYES: Green, Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller*  
*NOES: -*  
*ABSTAIN: -*

## **3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

None

## **4. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

### **4.1 Authenticate Claims Payments**

*Motion made by Vice-Chair Green, seconded by Secretary Miller, and carried 4-0 to approve the claims payments from June 10, 2021 to January 4, 2022.*  
*AYES: Green, Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller*  
*NOES: -*  
*ABSTAIN: -*

### **4.2 Resolution No. 2022-02 Carryforward Encumbrances and Appropriations**

*Motion made by Treasurer Hjorth, seconded by Vice-Chair Green, and carried 4-0 to adopt Resolution No. 2022-02 authorizing the proposed budget adjustment for the carryforward of encumbrances and appropriations.*  
*AYES: Green, Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller*  
*NOES: -*  
*ABSTAIN: -*

### **4.3 Basic Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021**

*Motion made by Secretary Miller, seconded by Treasurer Hjorth, and carried 4-0 accept the Basic Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2021..*  
*AYES: Green, Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller*  
*NOES: -*  
*ABSTAIN: -*

### **4.4 Membership and Insurance through Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority**

Informational for the Board.

#### 4.5 Board Meeting Calendar

*Motion made by Secretary Miller, seconded by Vice-Chair Green, and carried 4-0 to approve a regular Board meeting calendar which includes the third Tuesday in June and the third Tuesday in August.*

*AYES: Green, Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller*

*NOES: -*

*ABSTAIN: -*

#### 4.6 Additional Check Signers for the BVBGSA Bank Account

Treasurer Hjorth stated that there is a need for additional check signers in limited situations that impact his availability. Vice-Chair Green inquired into the merger between Union Bank and US Bank. Dani McGee, Chief Financial Officer for the DWP, responded that there is no information yet from US Bank on a timeline or how the transition will occur. Chair Ludecke shared that this is his last year on the BVBGSA Board.

*Motion made by Secretary Miller, seconded by Vice-Chair Green, and carried 4-0 to approve additional check signers for the BVBGSA bank account and amending the associated bank account signature card to include the other three Directors.*

*AYES: Green, Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller*

*NOES: -*

*ABSTAIN: -*

#### 4.7 Replenish Big Bear Update

David stated that permits for the project will be submitted by the end of February and that we will be evaluating wells around the valley that are within 200 feet of the lake high water level. Additionally, we plan to kick off environmental work in Spring 2022 and begin the pilot study by Fall 2022. Dave added that we are encouraged by the regulators, a schedule has been updated on the website, and we will be working on rate structures for how to fund the project. Reggie stated that we are also working with the Division of Drinking Water regarding the recharge into Sand Canyon.

#### 4.8 Management and Board Members Discussion

None.

#### **ADJOURN**

No additional business came before the Board. At 6:05 p.m., Chair Ludecke adjourned the meeting.

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Jim Miller, Secretary to the Board