

**BOARD OF BEAR VALLEY BASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**
MEETING MINUTES
June 27, 2024

OPEN SESSION

A meeting of the Bear Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors was called to order at 9:02 a.m. on June 27, 2024, by Chair Miller at 41972 Garstin Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim Miller, Chair
Steve Ludecke, Vice-Chair
Craig Hjorth, Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:

John Russo, Secretary

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Miller led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM:

No comments from the public.

1. PUBLIC HEARING

1.1 Resolution No. 2024-01 Budget for Fiscal Year 2025

Motion made by Vice-Chair Ludecke, seconded by Treasurer Hjorth, and carried 3-0 to adopt Resolution No. 2024-01 approving the Budget for Fiscal Year 2025.

AYES: Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller

NOES: -

ABSTAIN: -

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

2.1 Approve Minutes of Board Meeting Dated November 13, 2023

Motion made by Vice-Chair Ludecke, seconded by Chair Miller, and carried 3-0 to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller

NOES: -

ABSTAIN: -

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

None

4. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

4.1 Approval of Claims Payments

Motion made by Treasurer Hjorth, seconded by Vice-Chair Ludecke, and carried 3-0 to authenticate the claims payments from November 14, 2023 to June 27, 2024.

AYES: Hjorth, Ludecke, Miller

NOES: -

ABSTAIN: -

4.2 Replenish Big Bear Presentation

Chair Miller asked Laine Carlson, Professional Engineer with Water Systems Consulting (WSC), how she sees potable water reuse regulations evolving. Laine responded that currently every type of potable water reuse has some sort of regulation attached. Laine added that state and federal governments are trying to encourage communities to engage in water reuse but that the surrounding regulations make it difficult. Chair Miller asked what alternatives are being proposed for using excess water. David Lawrence, General Manager for BBARWA, responded that the excess water could go to Baldwin Lake, but it would require tertiary treatment. Chair Miller asked what the lifetime of the pipeline carrying wastewater down to Lucerne is. David responded that the pipeline was put in the 80s and should be good for at least 50 years. David added that a section of the line is currently exposed and the costs to replace the line fully would cost approximately \$80 million. Vice-Chair Ludecke asked David if that is why the permit for discharging excess water into Baldwin Lake was applied for. David responded that the permit application was planned for regardless of the state of the wastewater pipeline to Lucerne, and that he was trying to think long-term. Laine added that permits only requiring secondary treatments for excess wastewater will most likely be phased out and that further treatments will most likely be required in the future.

Treasurer Hjorth asked if the pumping stations would be used to pump water to the golf course. Reggie, Administrator for BVBGSA and General Manager for DWP, responded yes, there would be a pumping station pumping water from the lake to the golf course. Laine displayed two pipeline options for getting the reclaimed water to the first discharge point at Stanfield Marsh. Vice-Chair Ludecke asked why the potential new BBARWA pipeline for the reclaimed water going through Baldwin Lake was preferred over the alternative pipeline going down Shay Rd. David responded that the pipeline going through Baldwin Lake was preferred because it wouldn't be going through neighborhoods in Big Bear City which brings numerous complications, and further drives up costs. Vice-Chair Ludecke asked if there would be a spare pipeline added to the preferred pipeline. David responded there would not be a spare pipeline added.

Laine shared how Replenish has so far been awarded \$18 million in grants and \$9 million recommended. Vice-Chair Ludecke asked if the total \$27 million in grants is part of the \$86 million in total project cost. David responded yes; the \$27 million is part of the \$86 million project cost and added that the difference of \$57 million is from the WIFIA loan. Chair Miller asked what the contingency was for the project and David responded that the contingency was \$22 million. Vice-Chair Ludecke asked why the contingency for the project was so large. David responded that they could only go to the lender once, so the lender suggested requesting a higher amount than what BBARWA anticipated they would need. Chair Miller said the purpose of the large contingency is not being communicated effectively to the public and contributes to the overall confusion about the project. Chair Miller emphasized that the project is in a public relations stage and that there needs to be a simpler way to communicate how the project affects the public and how much it will cost residents on an individual level. Vice-Chair Ludecke agreed that there is a lot of confusion surrounding the project. Brittany Lamson, Interim General Manager for MWD, agreed with Chair Miller that there needs to be a shift in advertising to individual residents and how it would affect them personally.

Brittany asked when the administrative draft of the permit would be ready. Laine responded that the regional board is constrained, and it could take up to a year. Secretary Ludecke asked what the monitoring costs for MWD would be. David responded that an estimate will be in the upcoming budget.

4.3 Management and Board Members Discussion

None.

ADJOURN

No additional business came before the Board. At 10:42 a.m., Chair Miller adjourned the meeting.



Craig Hjorth, Treasurer to the Board