

**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE
BEDFORD-COLDWATER
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AUTHORITY**

February 15, 2018

Board Present

Paul Rodriguez, TVWD

Phil Williams, EVMWD

Staff Present

Jeff Pape, TVWD

Tom Moody, City of Corona (4:10 p.m.)

Margie Armstrong, EVMWD

Parag Kalaria, EVMWD

Terese Quintanar, EVMWD

Victor Harris, Stantec

Steven O'Neill, Olivarez Madruga Lemieux O'Neill, LLP (Via teleconference)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was held at its principal offices located at 22646 Temescal Canyon Road, Temescal Valley, California. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rodriguez at 4:05 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes of the November 16, 2017 Meeting

B. Ratification of Demands

ACTION: Vice-Chairman Williams made a motion, Chairman Rodriguez seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar.

4. BUSINESS CALENDAR

A. Groundwater Sustainability Plan and Other Updates

Victor Harris reported that there was a kick off meeting held in December, to discuss near-term items such as an outreach plan and SharePoint site and development of a logo. He continued that on February 1, a graphic artist was obtained to render examples, which will be available in a week. Background reports for the area have been gathered, and review is underway to determine what will be helpful. He requested another

technical meeting on March 1, to continue these discussions. Staff concurred with the March 1 meeting, and that having regular meetings of the group during this initial stage of establishment will be beneficial.

Chairman Rodriguez asked if anything had been heard about the grant application. Ms. Armstrong answered that it was received, and our grant is on the list as a "recommended" project. Chairman Rodriguez further inquired about the different ratings of "recommended", "highly recommended", or other, and asked if the project was "short listed". Ms. Armstrong responded that our project is "highly recommended", and there were very few "not recommended" or considered for partial funding. The submission timing of BCGSA's application was good, as funding is ample for almost the entire list of applicants. Further, she anticipates hearing the determination around March, through formal communication. BCGSA received a very good rating of 19. Larger agencies, such as EVMWD, also received a 19 for the GSP grant, and the Corona Department of Power and Water received an 18 or 19 for a groundwater study.

Chairman Rodriguez expressed concern that perhaps we should have an advocacy process. He stated that half of the cities do a great job with grant applications and others do not develop the applications very well. High scoring applications are deemed as high value projects. Many jurisdictions are not familiar with the process. It's important to leverage our knowledge of applications the best we can. To this, Ms. Armstrong answered that, in instances when there is a bigger pool of applicants and less funding available, behind the scenes work may be necessary. In this case, it may not be necessary, because there are two projects and the amount of funding applied for is the amount of grant funding available. Chairman Rodriguez encouraged all to communicate and advocate about the needs of the BCGSA whenever possible. He expressed his confidence that staff will reach out whenever appropriate, to assist the process along.

Tom Moody shared that cohesiveness of multiple agencies working together is one of the things considered by the State. Regional projects are given a lot of credit. He continued that Corona has tried to expand on that capability, working with surrounding cities. The fact that BCGSA's application includes three agencies is a positive.

Commenting on the development of the website and logo, Chairman Rodriguez asked Mr. Harris about any unexpected issues. Mr. Harris answered there were none and stressed the need to communicate on anticipated expenditures and the need to maintain transparency as the process continues. In closing, Chairman Rodriguez stated the importance of establishing a clear structure and that working cohesively works to our advantage.

5. LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT

Mr. O'Neill reported that he had reviewed insurance options and that ACWA JPIA is a good carrier and offers a good policy. This is a relatively new program offered by JPIA for GSAs. The annual quote of both ACWA JPIA and a different provider was \$5,000. However, ACWA provides better coverage for that amount. Proposals will be presented

to the Board in the future. In order to obtain ACWA JPIA coverage, the JPA is required to become a member of ACWA, which is part of the \$5,000. The insurance is paid on a deposit basis and they base the fee on actual O&M. As the BCGSA is JPA and GSA, we applied for coverage of the JPA. Mr. O'Neill concluded by listing some policies that have been discussed for adoption in the future. As the agency matures, those policies will be developed and implemented.

6. COMMENTS OF THE BOARD

Vice Chairman Williams confirmed that the May meeting will not conflict with the Spring ACWA Conference. Ms. Armstrong reported that the agenda for the next meeting will have the financial statements included.

Mr. Pape asked about the website development and if there will be links. Mr. Harris answered that there will be an internal SharePoint site to exchange data amongst the participants as well as a public website. The outreach plan is also being planned and an update will be provided at the next meeting. Office 365 will be used, and we will have a domain name for the public site and an internal site. Answering Ms. Armstrong, he stated that we will be able to build content concurrently. Also, Office 365 is relatively inexpensive.

7. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the February 15, 2018 Regular meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

Phil Williams
Phil Williams, Vice-Chairperson

APPROVED:

Paul Rodriguez
Paul Rodriguez, Chairperson

Date: May 17, 2018

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