

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

November 17, 2022

Board Present

David Harich, TVWD

Jacque Casillas, City of Corona

Phil Williams, EVMWD

Staff Present

Greg Thomas, EVMWD

Ganesh Krishnamurthy

Jeff Pape, TVWD

Steven O'Neill, Aleshire & Wynder, LLP

Margie Armstrong, EVMWD

Christy Gonzalez, EVMWD

Susie Evans, EVMWD

Terese Quintanar, EVMWD

Parag Kalaria, EVMWD

Kelly Shugart, Stantec

Michael Cruikshank, Water Systems Consulting

Ian Castillo, Water Systems Consulting

Katie Hockett, City of Corona

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was held via teleconference allowed under the waivers of the Brown Act in response to the COVID19 epidemic. Participants joined by accessing information posted on the meeting Agenda, posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting start time. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Casillas at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT– There were none. Opportunity for public comment was provided to attendees for the entire duration of the meeting.

I. BUSINESS CALENDAR

**A. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
CONTINUANCE OF REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS
(Resolution No. 22-04)**

Chairperson Casillas explained that this is a reoccurring resolution to be acted upon as long as the Governor's Emergency Order is effective, and it allows the Board to continue to meet remotely, in compliance with the Brown Act. Although AB 361 calls for

the Resolution to be adopted every 30 days, because the BCGSA meets approximately every 90 days, it is advised that the resolution be placed as the first matter of business on each agenda.

ACTION: Vice Chairman Harich made a motion, Director Williams seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to Adopt Resolution No. 22-04.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Minutes of the August 18, 2022 Regular Meeting**
- B. Financial Statement**
- C. Ratification of Demands**
- D. Outside Contract Summary Report**

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

3. Administrator's Update

Mr. Cruikshank provided highlights on information provided in the meeting packet in the form of the Grant Progress Report. The well drilling application procedure, developed in response to Governor Newsom's Order N-7-22 was finalized. The Order requires GSAs to provide input. We've received an application from GOCO Hospitality, which is being reviewed by Todd Groundwater. The annual groundwater sampling event took place, testing of the 8 wells identified in the GSP, including the two monitoring wells installed last year. This is the first annual test of the wells and results should be received within two weeks. A request for Proposal (RFP) released on November 9, 2022, for the Investigation of Groundwater/Surface Water Interactions at Temescal Wash. Results of that RFP will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

Vice Chairman Harich requested a copy of the written procedure.

4. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. O'Neill reported that, he has worked on several items with Ms. Armstrong related to groundwater sampling, Goliath Graphics Contract, and a response letter to accompany the audit report to relay that the GSA does not have any outstanding exposure to claims.

Regarding the Brown Act, prior to the pandemic requirements for telephonic or remote meeting attendance were adhered to. This meant that meeting notices included the location where the remote director is, are accessible to the public at that location, and at least a quorum has to participate within the boundaries of the agency. The March 2020 Executive Order relaxed those requirements, and in September 2021 AB361 was enacted, for the proclaimed state of emergency. In order for AB361 to be utilized, local

and health officials need to recommend social distancing. Governor Newsom announced that he will be lifting the state of emergency in February 2023. In September 2022, AB 2449 was passed and removed some requirements of the original Brown Act, no longer requiring the posting of agendas at remote locations and not requiring remote access locations to be identified on the agenda. Also, remote locations would not need to be accessible to the public. However, other specific requirements of AB2449 are cumbersome. One is that a quorum of the body has to be within the boundaries of the agency, in one location identified on the agenda. A member who wishes to participate remotely has to show just cause prior to the meeting through advance notification. Emergency reasons need to be specific and there are limits to the number of times a member can use this option. There are also technical requirements the agency must provide, such as a two-way audio-visual platform to allow the public to participate. He concluded by sharing that many agencies are discussing utilizing the requirements of the Brown Act and foregoing the utilization of AB 2449. He offered to share guidelines with the Board and staff. Chairperson Casillas expressed looking forward to meeting again in person once the state of emergency sunsets.

5. Comments of the Board

Chairperson Casillas thanked Ms. Armstrong for her hard work, dedication and for leading the way for the Authority. She expressed her gratitude, and that Ms. Armstrong would be sorely missed. Ms. Armstrong relayed that she is looking forward to getting to some personal goals and projects and plans to stay busy with non-work-related projects.

6. Adjourn

There being no further business, the November 17, 2022, Regular meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was adjourned at 4:21 p.m. The next meeting will be held virtually, and the Board will plan to meet in person next May.

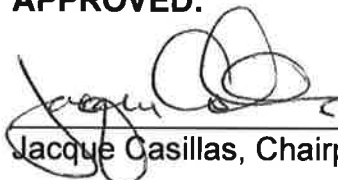
ATTEST:



Jack T. Ferguson, Secretary

Date: 5/25/23

APPROVED:



Jacque Casillas, Chairperson

Date: 5/18/23