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

**February 20, 2025**

**Board Present**
Jacque Casillas, City of Corona
Matthew Dobler, EVMWD
David Harich, TVWD

**Staff Present**
Jeff Pape, TVWD
Tom Moody, City of Corona
Alex Lemieux, Aleshire & Wynder, LLP
Katie Hockett, City of Corona
Parag Kalaria, EVMWD
Ganesh Krishnamurthy, EVMWD
Christy Gonzalez, EVMWD
Scott Thompson, EVMWD
Michael Cruikshank, Water Systems Consulting

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was called to order by Chairperson Casillas at 4:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**– There were none.

**I. BUSINESS CALENDAR**

**A. Appointment of Secretary
(MO #59)**

The Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") creating the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority ("Authority") requires that the Board provide for staffing of the Authority to ensure the Authority is able to accomplish all requirements imposed by the JPA, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 and any other legal requirements.

At the August 15, 2024 meeting, the Board appointed Chance Edmondson as Secretary by minute order. On January 9, 2025, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District reassigned their BCGSA JPA representative from Chance Edmondson to Matthew Dobler. Although not required by the JPA, it is recommended that the Board appoint a Secretary for the Authority so that resolutions and other documents of the Authority can be attested to, and minutes of the Board's meetings can be prepared.

Due to potential employment and pension issues related to the use of a member agency public employee as a secretary to a Joint Powers Authority, it is recommended that the Board of Directors appoint a Board member as the official Secretary to the Board in lieu of any employees of any of the member agencies.

**B. Appointment of Treasurer (Resolution No. 25-01)**

The Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") creating the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority ("Authority") requires that the Board provide for a Treasurer for the Authority to be the fiscal agent and depository for the Authority. The Treasurer will also be responsible for maintaining all accounting transactions and records of the Authority in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and other applicable laws of the State of California.

The Treasurer will be responsible for working with the auditor for the Authority towards the completion of the audit and reporting of the audit findings. Additionally, the Treasurer will periodically provide a status of the Authority's Fiscal Year budget.

In August 2024, the Board adopted Resolution No. 24-01, appointing Chance Edmondson as the Authority's Treasurer. Being that Chance Edmondson is no longer a representative of BCGSA JPA, it is recommended that the Board appoint a replacement to fulfill the role and duties of the Treasurer.

**C. Appointment of ACWA JPIA Director Representative (MO #60)**

Being a member of ACWA and joining the JPIA program, BCGSA is required to appoint a Director Representative and Alternate Representative who will have the authority to attend and participate in any meeting of the JPIA Board of Directors.

Each JPIA Director or Alternate shall serve until a successor is appointed. They shall serve at the pleasure of the Member by which they have been appointed.

In August of 2024, the BCGSA Board acted by minute order to appoint Chance Edmondson as its JPIA Director and in November of 2023 David Harich as the Alternate. Since Chance Edmondson is no longer serving as the EVMWD representative for BCGSA, staff recommends appointing a new JPIA Director to represent the Authority.

Director Casillas nominated Director Dobler for the appointments of Treasurer, Secretary and JPIA Director Representative (Items A-C), and Director Dobler indicated acceptance of the nomination.

> **ACTION:** Director Harich made a motion, Director Casillas seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to:
>
> 1. Appoint Director Dobler as the Secretary for the Authority **(MO#59)**

2. Adopt a Resolution Appointing Director Dobler as Treasurer for the Authority **(Resolution 25-01)**
3. Appoint Director Dobler as the Authority's JPIA Director Representative **(MO#60)**

### D. Adoption of Resolution Authorizing Signatories to the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority Bank Account (Resolution No. 25-02)

In order to comply with Sections 11 and 12 of the Agreement forming the JPA, a bank account has been established for the Authority. It is customary to provide the bank with the Board's authorized signatories for the account. With changes in Board Members, staff recommends adoption of the proposed Resolution updating authorized signers and rescinding Resolution 24-02.

Confirming to Director Harich, this resolution authorizes all three directors signatories on the account.

**ACTION:** Director Casillas made a motion, Director Dobler seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to:

1. Adopt the Resolution Establishing Authorized Signatories to the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority Bank Account; and

2. Rescind Resolution 24-02.

### E. Consider Adoption of Proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget (MO #61)

Mr. Kalaria presented this item and referred to the presentation within the packet. The total proposed operating and non-operating budget for FY 2025-26 is $459,198 and includes $103,165 in administration costs for the Authority, $389,000 in Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation costs, and a ($32,968) adjustment in required reserves.

Discussion ensued regarding the adjustment in the required reserves. Clarifying to the Board, moving the reserves back into the operating budget reduces the membership contribution.

The proposed budget for GSP Implementation costs was reviewed. As confirmed with Director Harich, we anticipate costs associated with further investigations into groundwater/surface water interaction, private wells, and aggregate pits. Once we receive feedback and approval for our GSP, we will have more clarity on the next steps and associated costs.

Per the terms of BCGSA's agreement with member agencies, the proposed budget is required to be covered by contributions from each member agency. With an estimated contribution carryover from the current fiscal year of $315,571, member contributions will be insufficient to cover the total proposed budget. Additional contributions totaling $105,866 or $35,289 per member agency are required to cover this deficit.

However, during the FY2024-25 budget cycle the board approved an annual member contribution of $122,750 for FY 2024-25 through FY 2028-29 in an effort to standardize the annual contribution and ensure consistency. With projected member contributions needed over the next five years totaling $486,592, staff recommends the Board approve the same annual member contribution of $122,750 for FY2025-26. This contribution from members is essential to adequately fund the budgeted expenses for FY 2025-26, however, will not be due until invoiced on July 1, 2025.

As per the reserve policy adopted by the Board on May 16, 2019, the Operating and Non-Operating Reserves have both been set at 25% of the proposed budgets. The reserve requirements for FY 2025-26 have been incorporated in the proposed budget.

By reallocating the surplus reserves back into our operating budget, we can stabilize the member contributions. As explained to Director Casillas, the increase in non-operating GSP Implementation costs for 2028-29 is due to the anticipated commencement of the aggregate pit recharge project. Discussion ensued regarding the alternate member contribution presented.

**ACTION:** Director Harich made a motion, Director Dobler seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to:

1. Approve the proposed BCGSA FY 2025-26 Budget; and,
2. Approve the annual member contribution per agency for FY 2025-26 in the amount of $122,750.

## II. CONSENT CALENDAR

**A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 15, 2025**

**B. Financial Statements for Period Ending September 30, 2024 and December 31, 2024**

**C. Ratification of Demands**

**D. Outside Contract Summary Report**

**ACTION:** Director Dobler made a motion, Director Harich seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

## III. ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

Mr. Cruikshank provided highlights on the information provided in the meeting packet in the form of the PowerPoint presentation. The State is still reviewing the GSP. Being a low-priority basin, there are competing priorities with the State. Answering a question from Director Harich, review of all the high and medium priority basins has been completed.

Project overview and updates of the investigation of groundwater/surface water interaction at Temescal Wash and the domestic private well survey was reviewed. In December 2024, Chandler Aggregates, Inc. informed BCGSA staff that the pit had been sold to Martin Marietta, Inc. Since this time, the aggregate pit-recharge feasibility study has been paused. An introductory meeting with Martin Marietta, Inc. has been set up in March 2025 to provide an overview of the Bedford-Coldwater GSP, and have discussions on their mining operations. The General Managers will be at the meeting.

Project and management actions were reviewed. The focus currently is completing the annual report. Water levels have increased significantly in the Coldwater basin. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

## IV. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Lemieux provided an update on AB 367, which addresses fire safety by requiring water districts to maintain backup power capable of running pumps for 24 hours during power shutoffs. The bill also mandates that water districts fill tanks when alerted to hazardous weather conditions and includes reporting requirements when fires cause significant damage.

## V. Comments of the Board

Chairperson Casillas confirmed the next meeting date of May 15, 2025, and welcomed Director Dobler to the Board.

## VI. Adjourn

There being no further business, the February 20, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

Matthew Dobler, Secretary

Date: 11/20/2025

**APPROVED:**

Jacque Casillas, Chairperson

Date: 11/20/25