

Galena Groundwater District Meeting

Hybrid: Sun Valley City Hall Meeting Room and via zoom
October 6, 2020

Call to Order: 11:00am

In attendance: Pat McMahon (Board), Judd McMahan (Board), Zack Latham (Brockway), Erick Miller (Brockway), Lisa Davitt (GGW bookkeeping), Heather O'Leary (GGW legal), Jim Speck (via zoom), Dave Bell (via zoom), Chris Bromley (SVCo).

The meeting was called to order at 11:03am at the Sun Valley City Hall public meeting room, with quorum being established.

Proof of notice was confirmed as Dave Bell had posted the agenda on the GGWD website the previous Friday (10.02.20) and Pat had posted an agenda at City Hall's public bulletin Board on the same day.

Minutes:

MOTION: To approve the September 8, 2020 meeting was proposed by Pat, seconded by Judd and passed unanimously.

Engineering Update:

Erick confirmed that there were no updates.

Financials

Lisa presented the Board with bills for Lawson Laski (\$4,985.75 for Lawson, Laski; \$100 for CNA Surety; \$1,696.25 for Davitt Bookkeeping; \$125.00 for District 37 pivo-track reimbursement). Clarification regarding the District 37 expense confirmed 25% of total bill was accurate, specific to monitoring canal levels. All bills were approved.

MOTION: To approve all invoicing presented was proposed by Judd, and seconded by Pat, and passed unanimously.

Public comments.

Chris Bromley came to the meeting to sit in and listen.

Pat spoke to drafted legislation from January 2019 where GGWD had proposed being a local waterbank. This legislation did not gain much momentum based on timing. Reference to supporting IDWR efforts at considering new legislation, based along the Lemhi example, but intended for local basin efforts, is something that GGWD would discuss supporting.

Discussion about a meeting to be held in Shoshone tomorrow (Oct 7, 2020), led by the IDWR Chairman, possibly related to a creation of a committee for purposes of addressing suggestions of a pending 'call' and possible solutions. A drafted groundwater management plan had been submitted to the IDWR as a possible avenue toward solution between local groundwater districts and South Valley callers. Given those who plan to attend the Wednesday meeting, its possible that vetting the engineering of the groundwater engineering information may come into play as well, and the drafted management plan may evolve into a management committee with a short time frame to define and propose items for agreement. Likely invitees and attendees include South Valley Groundwater Board members, Galena Groundwater Board members, IDWR Chair and staffing, various engineering consultants, members

representing the calling parties (Arkoosh, BigWood Canal, Fred, etc. This general meeting will be conducted at the Shoshone Fairgrounds location, commencing about 10:00am. Various ideas were discussed, with pragmatic items about finding a solution will involve some concession by all participants, review of existing water rights and efficiencies, impact perceptions and the critical importance of maintaining relationships. Mr. Bromley inquired about any sort of letter from the IDWR Director, and written support about possible committee creation. No committee documentation was located, simply general communication about tomorrows meeting with SVGWD, Callers, engineering, IDWR and GGWD, with details about time and location as yet undefined in the email.

As part of public comment, Mr Speck noted that this has been a hard water year, and inquired about the possibility of a watercall for next year being in the planning stages. Pat confirmed that this sort of planning was what the meeting was hoping to preclude.

Mr Bromley spoke to pending litigation which will come before Judge Wildman in mid October, which will be reviewing the issue of making decisions which seem to be a conglomeration of the groundwater act and the conjunctive management act, which is inherently problematic.

Mr Speck received confirmation that the approved GGWD budget for 2021 budget (Dec 2020 – Nov 2021) would be billed at \$30.00/.02cfs.

Dave Bell confirmed that there would be a letter from the GGWD Board sent out with the December billing, providing information and update to all members. All billing which goes through the County will simply be sent the letter.

Mr. Speck affirmed information which will be posted on the GGWD website, including the approved budget, drafted minutes, etc.

Next Meeting Date

The Board confirmed Tuesday, November 10th, 2020, as the rescheduled meeting timeframe, as November 3rd will be election day, and the meeting room will not be available. Mr Bell will update the website with this slight date change.

Executive Session.

None

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29am