

## Galena Groundwater District Meeting

Hybrid: Sun Valley Water & Sewer District General Meeting Room and via zoom

**January 4, 2022**

Call to Order: 11:03am

In attendance: Pat McMahon (Board), Judd McMahan (Board - zoom), Peter Atkinsons (Board - zoom), Heather O'Leary (GGW counsel - zoom), Dave Bell (website - zoom), Jim Speck (zoom), Marybeth Collins.

The meeting was called to order at 11:03am at the Sun Valley City Hall and via zoom.

Proof of notice was confirmed by Dave - in that both the agenda and drafted minutes were posted online, and the agenda was posted at City Hall - in advance of today's meeting.

### Minutes:

Approval of the minutes as presented for the December 7, 2021 regular meeting was motioned by Judd, seconded by Pat and passed unanimously.

### Engineering Update:

No specific engineering update was presented.

### BWGWM Committee Update:

Pat provided update to everyone related to the term sheet and finalized agreement. Really, quite remarkable. There remain a few items to address in other facets of this larger conversation, including a hearing on January 6<sup>th</sup> which relates to the authority exercised by the IDWR Director.

### Financials

Financial information had been emailed to the Board with documents reflecting account balances, year-end budget to actual comparisons, updated accounts receivable, balance sheet information. GGWD has approximately \$109,000 in available funds as of December 31, 2021. Also presented at the meeting for payment was \$312.72 to IWUA specific to annual membership billing based on District acreage, and two (2) replacement refund checks which were returned for incorrect address, and for receipt after 6 months respectively. A variety of items were discussed including pending 2021 billing, financial reporting layout, uncleared checks research, accounts receivable and County collections, etc.

**MOTION:** To approve the invoice for IWUA, two re-issued payments discussed above, and an anticipated legal+engineering invoice not to exceed \$50,000 was motioned by Judd, seconded by Peter, and passed unanimously.

### Delinquency Update:

Statute provides the District with guidelines to meet. The District has reviewed these guidelines sent along by counsel. Given that there are some large past due situations which are now starting to be reviewed directly with the various parties, given the County's January 15<sup>th</sup> assessment payment anticipated, given the several uncleared checks to be re-issued based on date of check vs date of mailing, given one or two agreements meriting additional review, etc. - several actions will take place in the next few weeks and at the February meeting, there will be more information on where the District stands

with these items, in order to establish the Boards plan of action specific to Statute use and application within GGWD.

#### Public Comment

Mr. Speck inquired about a detail on the Term Sheet, and the logic around the 1,755-acre feet of water storage (1,500 plus 17%), its fiscal impact, its non-obvious relationship (Little Wood benefit), etc. Pat spoke to the estimated costs (\$35/ac.ft plus \$8/ac ft in wheeling), the value of negotiation & outreach to ensure a working agreement and the three-year commitment parameter.

Mr. Speck inquired about the January 6<sup>th</sup> hearing, and Heather confirmed that the hearing was specific to suit filed by several parties, in 2021, related to actions taken by the IDWR Director and whether those were within the scope of authority for the position. Heather will forward the briefing to Mr. Speck for greater elaboration.

Dave Bell inquired about County billing (vs GGWD direct-to-member) billing. The County is willing to bill on the annual property tax assessment, billing for the GGW District as a municipality, however – the County has very specific parameters in order to accomplish this which includes that the water right and the property name be literally held under the same name, ready traceability, etc. In many cases – this is not possible. GGWD will continue to research this possible option, to mitigate issues of unpaid membership dues, and late payers.

#### Other

Heather will send along information related to an email inquiry from Mr. Cantrell.

Heather updated the Board regarding a pending conversation with Flying Heart representatives set for next week.

#### Executive Session

None.

#### Next Meeting Date

The Board confirmed Tuesday, February 1, 2022 for the next regular meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38am.