



AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2019 – 8:30 A.M.
1391 Engineer Street, Vista, CA 92081
Phone: (760) 597-3100

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if special assistance is needed to participate in the Board meeting, please contact the Board Secretary during regular business hours at (760) 597-3128. Notification received 48 hours before the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable accommodations.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 4. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
The Board may take action on any item appearing on the agenda.
- 5. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME**
Public comment time on items not appearing on the agenda will be limited to 5 minutes per person and 15 minutes per subject. The Board may find it necessary to limit total time allowable for all public comment on items not appearing on the agenda at any one meeting to one hour. Persons desiring longer public comment time and/or action on specific items shall contact the Secretary and request that the item be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors.
- 6. WARNER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN ASSESSMENT**
Recommendation: Receive and file Warner Valley Groundwater Basin – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Process Assessment and Warner Valley Basin Groundwater Flow Model Development and Calibration.
- 7. COMMENTS BY DIRECTORS**
This item is placed on the agenda to enable individual Board members to convey information to the Board and the public not requiring discussion or action.
- 8. COMMENTS BY GENERAL MANAGER**
Informational report by the General Manager on items not requiring discussion or action.
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

- *The agenda package and materials related to an agenda item submitted after the packet's distribution to the Board, are available for public review in the lobby of the District office during normal business hours.*
 - *Agendas and minutes are available at www.vidwater.org.*
 - *VID Board meetings are generally held on the first and third Wednesday of each month.*

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I, Lisa R. Soto, Board Secretary of the Vista Irrigation District, hereby certify that I posted a copy of the foregoing agenda in the lobby of the District office at 1391 Engineer Street, Vista, California at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, in accordance with Govt. Code Sec. 54956.

Date: January 3, 2019



Lisa R. Soto, Board Secretary



STAFF REPORT

Board Meeting Date: January 16, 2019
Reviewed By: Don Smith
Approved By: Brett Hodgkiss

SUBJECT: WARNER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN ASSESSMENT

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file Warner Valley Groundwater Basin – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Process Assessment and Warner Valley Basin Groundwater Flow Model Development and Calibration.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION: On June 29, 2015, the Board conducted a workshop on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA) and authorized staff to perform further investigations regarding future management of groundwater resources.

On June 21, 2017, the Board authorized the General Manager to enter into a professional services agreement with Todd Groundwater, Inc., to provide groundwater assessment and consultation services per their joint proposal with Dudek.

FISCAL IMPACT: Not to exceed \$227,392; \$80,042 (35.2%) will be reimbursed by the City of Escondido under the terms of the Local Entities’ Agreement. The District’s net cost is estimated not to exceed \$147,350.

SUMMARY: The groundwater assessment performed by Todd Groundwater, Inc., in conjunction with Dudek, included outlining data needs, procedures, likely costs, potential benefits and other considerations to help the District evaluate the possibility of forming a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Basin under SGMA; reviewing previous hydrogeological studies of the Warner Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) and updating, compiling and analyzing hydrogeological and groundwater pumping data to estimate the sustainable yield of the Basin; and assessing the hydrologic connectivity and independent sustainable yield of that portion of the Basin underlying the Warner Springs Ranch Resort. Representatives from Todd Groundwater Inc. and Dudek are present to review their assessment of SGMA as it pertains to the District’s operations in the Warner Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) as well as the development and findings of the numerical groundwater model of the Basin.

DETAILED REPORT: As a very low priority groundwater basin, SGMA does not require the formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) or the preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Basin. The cost of forming a GSA is estimated at \$90,000, and the cost of preparing a GSP is estimated at between \$500,000 to \$1,000,000. Additionally, there will be unknown ongoing administrative, monitoring and reporting costs associated with these efforts.

The chief advantage of implementing SGMA in the Basin is an increased level of certainty with respect to future groundwater production for the District. However, significant uncertainties exist with respect to involvement by the County of San Diego (County), the evaluation of groundwater dependent ecosystems, and the administrative overhead related to the effort. At this time, staff believes that the District’s interest in protecting groundwater production within the Basin is best served by participating in the County’s project review and approval process for development plans within the Basin and not pursuing implementation of SGMA.

A numeric groundwater model of the Basin has been prepared to assess the sustainable yield of the Basin; the potential effect of proposed development on the District’s groundwater production; the potential for increasing the yield of the Local Water System; and the possible effects of climate change on Basin yield. The findings of this effort suggest that, for the drought and recovery period 1945 through 1986, groundwater yields of up to 9,125 acre-feet per year (afy) could have been supported while allowing full recovery of the groundwater basin (compared to the 7,600 afy of actual pumping by the District over that period).

Modeling the interaction of pumping within the Warner Springs Ranch Resort (WSRR) with pumping by the District shows that an increase in consumptive use within the WSRR area caused an equal decrease in the conjunctive use yield available to the District. The limiting factor for sustainable yield available to WSRR during the drought of record was not storage recovery, but limited storage due to the relatively shallow groundwater basin near WSRR. The model showed that WSRR consumptive use could successfully be increased to 1,100 afy (as compared to an historical use of 400 to 600 afy). Groundwater use associated with the proposed WSRR project is uncertain at this time.

The primary opportunities for increasing the District's yield of Local Water depend on increasing the capacity of the wellfield to pump over a wider range of groundwater depths, thereby increasing total water available during periods of drought; and increasing the ability of the wellfield to peak its production during the summer delivery period, thereby reducing evaporative losses in Lake Henshaw. The ability to achieve these objectives will require an evaluation of existing water production infrastructure and the design and construction of new wellfield facilities.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Warner Valley Groundwater Basin – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Process Assessment
2. Warner Valley Basin Groundwater Flow Model Development and Calibration