



## **PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**July 21, 2021, 7:00 p.m.**

**Teleconference**

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order:** The Regular Board Meeting of Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Newell, via teleconference

2. **Swearing in of Newly Appointed Director Abel Sanchez**

3. **Roll call of the PV WATER Directors:**

Board Members Present: Newell, Culbertson, Zamora, Bannister, Broz, Rider, Sanchez

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Brian Lockwood, General Manager (GM)  
Helen Rodriguez, Financial/Admin Services Manager (FASM)

Laura R. Taay, Board Secretary

Casey Meusel, Associate Hydrologist

Others Present:

Tony Condotti, Agency Counsel (AC)

Matthew Grace, Asst. Agency Counsel (AAC)

Ellen Cross, Consultant, Strategy Driver Inc.

Justine Massey, Community Water Center

Tom Rider, Public

Kirk Schmidt, Public, Chairperson, Groundwater Sustainability Committee

Cameron Tana, Consultant, Montgomery & Associates

4. **Pledge of Allegiance**

5. **Oral Communications:** Justine Massey, Community Water Center, requested to present on a Well Impact Mitigation Program for the Pajaro Valley to the Board of Directors.

6. **Director Comments:** None

7. **Counsel Report:** None

8. **General Manager Report:** GM Lockwood reported:

- Agency 2002 Ford Truck – Field Vehicle, was hit by a FedEx vehicle. Fortunately, no one was injured. After inspection by ACWA/JPIA Insurance Adjuster, truck was determined to be totaled.

- ACWA Region 5, Thursday, August 19, 2021, Zoom event
- California Special Districts Association, Annual Conference, August 30 – September 2, Monday – Thursday, Monterey, CA
- Welcomed Director Sanchez

**9. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of June 16, 2021 Minutes
- B. Approval of Financial Reports

**Action:** Director Culbertson moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Director Rider.

Motion carried by the following voice vote:

**AYES:** Newell, Culbertson, Zamora, Bannister, Broz, Rider  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** Sanchez

**10. Informational Items**

- A. Received Basin Management Plan Implementation Update from GM Lockwood

**11. Discussion and/or Action Items**

- A. Consider Resolution 2021-12, Finding, Determining, and Declaring that the Public Interest and Necessity Require the Acquisition of an Easement in Certain Real Property (Assessor’s Parcel Number 051-101-07) by Eminent Domain

GM Lockwood presented this item. Properties have been identified for the College Lake project that is underway. APN: 051-101-07 requires the acquisition of a permanent, non-exclusive easement (Inundation Easement). Appraisers, Smith & Associates, Inc. determined a fair market value of \$90,700 of the 17.269-acre property, which does not include the smaller triangular portion separated by Paulsen Road. An offer letter sent on June 2, 2021, via USPS Certified, email and hand delivered to owners, Marco A. Murillo and Ma Estela Murillo, Husband and Wife and Jesus Murillo and Carmen Murillo, Husband and Wife, all as Joint Tenants.

It is always the Agency’s preference to acquire real property through negotiation; however, with respect to the subject Property, negotiations have not moved beyond the Agency’s offer.

All Resolution of Necessity requirements have been met:

1. Whether necessity and public interest require the project;
2. Whether the proposed project is planned or located in a manner that will be most compatible with the greatest public good and the least private injury;
3. Whether the property sought to be acquired is necessary for the project; and
4. Whether the offer required by Government Code Section 7267.2 has been made to the owner or owners of record.

**Action:** Director Bannister moved to adopt Resolution 2021-12, Resolution of Necessity for the College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project finding that public necessity requires acquisition by eminent domain of an Inundation Easement on APN: 051-101-07 located in the unincorporated area of Santa Cruz County, and authorizing the Agency’s counsel to proceed with eminent domain proceedings to acquire the real property; seconded by Director Rider.

Motion carried by the following voice vote:

**AYES:** Newell, Culbertson, Zamora, Bannister, Broz, Rider, Sanchez  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None  
**ABSTAIN:** None

B. Consider Recommendations from the Ad Hoc Sustainable Groundwater Planning Advisory Committee Regarding Sustainable Groundwater Management Criteria for the Basin Management Plan: Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update 2022

GM Lockwood introduced and summarized the Committee purpose. He then introduced Ellen Cross, Strategy Driver Inc., and Cameron Tana, Montgomery & Associates, who delivered a presentation summarizing Committee efforts and recommendations. The presentation is posted at [www.pvwater.org](http://www.pvwater.org).

The Committee has voted in favor of the recommendations listed below for establishing Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) for seawater intrusion, the chronic lowering of groundwater levels, and interconnected surface water, as well as sustainability statements on land subsidence and drought resiliency actions.

**Sustainable Management Criteria for Seawater Intrusion**

- **Statement of Significant and Unreasonable Conditions** - The 2014 Basin Management Plan Update sets a goal of reducing the rate of seawater intrusion by 90% to be achieved with the successful implementation of the Phase I projects by 2025. Therefore, it would be significant and unreasonable for seawater to intrude into the Aromas aquifer, the principal aquifer of the Basin, beyond 1,000 feet inland of seawater intrusion as of 2020.
- **Minimum Threshold** - The minimum threshold for seawater intrusion is defined as the 250 mg/L chloride isocontour located 1,000 feet inland of the 250 mg/L chloride isocontour as of 2020, per the best estimates of all available data.
- **Undesirable Result** - Undesirable results for seawater intrusion occurs when the minimum threshold is exceeded in any 3 of 5 years.
- **Measurable Objective** - The measurable objective for seawater intrusion is groundwater chloride concentrations less than or equal to 100 mg/L chloride inland of the minimum threshold isocontour.

**Sustainable Management Criteria for the Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels**

- **Significant and unreasonable** chronic lowering of groundwater levels occurs when groundwater levels decline such that a significant number of domestic, agricultural, or municipal wells, experience a long-term reduction in groundwater supply.
- The **Minimum Threshold (MT)** for GWL is the average of the 2 lowest annual minimum groundwater elevations from water year (WY) 2000-2020.
- An **Undesirable Result** for GWL occurs when any of the below occurs in either the area within 1,000 feet of the Delivered Water Zone or in the area outside 1,000 feet of the Delivered Water Zone:
  - More than 15% of Representative Monitoring Point (RMP) wells experience a drop in groundwater elevations below MT during 4 out of 5 consecutive years, or
  - More than 20% of RMP wells experience a drop in groundwater elevations below MT during 3 out of 5 consecutive years, or
  - More than 25% of RMP wells experience a drop in groundwater elevations below MT during 2 out of 5 consecutive years.

- The **Measurable Objective (MO)** for GWL is the average of 2016-2020 spring (March-May) groundwater measurements, plus the projected rise in average spring elevations between 2015-2018 and 2035-2040 as simulated by the Pajaro Valley Hydrologic Model (PVHM) in simulations of the Basin Management Plan (BMP) Update.
- **Interim milestone (IM)** for GWL incorporate increases simulated by the PVHM for the BMP Update over the following time frames:
  - 2025 IM: The average of 2016-2020 spring groundwater elevations plus simulated average recovery in spring groundwater elevations between 2015-2018 and 2020-2025.
  - 2030 IM: The average of 2016-2020 spring groundwater elevations plus simulated average recovery in spring groundwater elevations between 2015-2018 and 2025-2030.
  - 2035 IM: The average of 2016-2020 spring groundwater elevations plus simulated average recovery in spring groundwater elevations between 2015-2018 and 2030-2035.

**Sustainable Management Criteria for Interconnected Surface Water**

- **Significant and unreasonable** depletions of interconnected surface waters occur when pumping groundwater in the Aromas aquifer causes depletions of interconnected surface waters greater than what occurred during Water Years 2000-2015 in surface waters typically interconnected with groundwater in the Aromas aquifer during Water Years 2000-2015.
- Analysis of best available information indicate **no potential for significant and unreasonable conditions** for ISW in the Basin.
  - **Minimum thresholds** for depletion of ISW are not necessary.
  - **Undesirable results** for depletion of ISW are not necessary.
- **Measurable objectives** are set to raise groundwater to the adjacent channel bed elevations to increase the frequency and duration of ISW between the Aromas aquifer and surface water in the Basin where reasonably achievable with implementation of the BMP Update.

**Statement on Land Subsidence**

- It is reaffirmed that sustainable management criteria for subsidence are not needed for the Basin based on the preliminary results of the United States Geological Survey’s (USGS) evaluation of subsidence presented to the GSU22 Committee meeting on December 15, 2020 confirming the lack of observed permanent subsidence in the Pajaro Valley Subbasin (Basin).

**Statement on Drought Resiliency Actions**

The 2014 Basin Management Plan Update includes drought resiliency actions that provide resiliency for achieving the sustainability goal of the Pajaro Valley Subbasin.

**Action:** Director Bannister moved for the Board to approve the Ad Hoc Sustainable Groundwater Planning Advisory Committee’s recommended sustainable management criteria and statements for inclusion in the Basin Management Plan: Groundwater Sustainability update 2022; seconded by Director Broz.

Motion carried by the following voice vote:

**AYES:** Newell, Culbertson, Zamora, Bannister, Broz, Rider, Sanchez  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

- C. Consider Adopting Resolution 2021-13, Recognizing State of California Drought Declaration and Requesting a 15% Reduction of Water Use Compared to Water Year 2020

After thoughtful discussion, it was decided the Resolution requires additional work.

**Action:** Director Culbertson moved for the Board to table this item until the August 18, 2021 Board meeting; seconded by Director Rider.

Motion carried by the following voice vote:

**AYES:** Newell, Culbertson, Zamora, Bannister, Broz, Rider, Sanchez

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**12. Monthly Reports/Presentations**

- A. Facility Operations Report
  - 1. Received 2021 Supplemental Water Production Monthly Summary Report
- B. Board Committee Reports available at [www.pvwater.org](http://www.pvwater.org)
- C. Public Outreach Update

**13. Correspondence**

**14. Future Meetings**

- A. Project & Facility Operations Committee, Wednesday, July 28, 2021, 3:00 p.m., Teleconference
- B. Administrative/Finance Committee, Tuesday, August 10, 3:00 p.m., Teleconference
- C. Ad Hoc Sustainability Groundwater Planning Advisory Committee, Thursday, August 12, 2021, 2:00 p.m., Teleconference
- D. Board of Directors, Wednesday, August 18, 2021 ,7:00 p.m., Teleconference
- E. Project & Facility Operations Committee, Wednesday, August 25 , 2021, 3:00 p.m., Teleconference
- F. Ad Hoc Adaptive Management plan Committee, Thursday, September 2, 2021, 2:00 p.m. Teleconference

**15. Future Agenda Items – None**

Adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

  
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Laura R. Taay, Board Secretary

  
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Date Approved