

# LAS POSAS BASIN POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, May 2, 2024, 3:00 P.M.

In Person:

Calleguas Municipal Water District, 2100 Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84816327542?pwd=Y-bN4zt674FOphU6wRyxXw9swYTgvA.9bNuXf3yWWBZyrae>

Webinar ID: 848 1632 7542

Passcode: 400774

## **NOTICE OF MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Las Posas Basin Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) will hold a meeting at 3:00 P.M. on **Thursday, May 2, 2024**, in the Board Meeting Room of the Calleguas Municipal Water District and via Zoom.

## **AGENDA**

### **A. Call to Order**

### **B. Roll Call**

### **C. Agenda Review**

### **D. Public Comments**

### **E. PAC Member Comments**

### **F. Regular Agenda**

#### **1. Approve the Minutes of the April 4, 2024 regular PAC meeting**

#### **2. Committee Consultation: Groundwater Use Reporting Schedule for Water Year 2023**

The Las Posas Valley Adjudication Judgment requires that Watermaster adopt a schedule, following Committee Consultation, for deadlines for parties to submit Groundwater Use Reports (Judgment, § 4.10.1.2.). As described in the attached memo, Watermaster proposes that, for Water Year 2023, reporting shall be due June 7 and November 1, 2024, and requests PAC feedback by May 6, 2024.

#### **3. Watermaster Budget**

At its April 24, 2024 meeting, the FCGMA Board discussed the reconciliation of the FCGMA and LPV Watermaster budgets. The Board indicated that the Fiscal Committee meeting will begin the comparison and reconciliation process at its May 15 committee meeting. The PAC will discuss how to engage and what priorities for that engagement are. Part of this discussion includes how United Water Conservation District fees paid by landowners in the West Management Area of the LPV are accounted for.

#### **4. Las Posas Basin GSP Five-Year Evaluation Workshop**

The Five-Year Evaluation of the Las Posas Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) is due January 2025. On April 25, 2024, the FCGMA held a public workshop “designed to give

stakeholders the opportunity to provide feedback on the progress and contents of the Five-Year GSP Evaluation as it develops.” This workshop focused on the updated modeling. The PAC will discuss the workshop and potential policy implications.

**5. FCGMA Staffing**

At its April 24, 2024 meeting, the FCGMA received an update from the Interim Executive Director on process made to date on the staffing report requested by the Board at its March 27 meeting. Jim Beck and Taylor Blakslee of The Hallmark Group, with whom FCGMA contracted to assist with the staffing assessment, gave a presentation of the work methodology, considerations, and initial findings of their assessment. An update is anticipated at the May 15 FCGMA Fiscal Committee meeting and the next FCGMA Board meeting, on May 22. The PAC will discuss the Hallmark Group’s initial findings and determine how best to remain involved in the process.

**G. Future Agenda Items**

The PAC will consider items for future agendas.

**H. Adjourn**

## LAS POSAS VALLEY BASIN POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

### Meeting Minutes for April 4, 2024

The Las Posas Valley Basin Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) held a meeting at 3:00 PM on Thursday, April 4, 2024, in the Board Meeting Room of the Calleguas Municipal Water District Office and via Zoom.

- A. Call to Order: Chair Prichard called the meeting to order at 3:02 P.M.
- B. Roll Call: All PAC members were present unless otherwise noted:
  - 1. Calleguas Municipal Water District – Ian Prichard, Chair
  - 2. Zone Mutual Water Company – John Menne – Not present
  - 3. Ventura County Waterworks District Nos. 1 and 19 – Joseph Pope
  - 4. Commercial – Scott Meckstroth – Not present
  - 5. Watermaster (non-voting) – Farai Kaseke (via Zoom)
  - 6. East Las Posas Large Agriculture – David Schwabauer
  - 7. East Las Posas Small Agriculture – Josh Waters
  - 8. East Las Posas Mutual Water Company – Laurel Servin
  - 9. West Las Posas Large Agriculture – Rob Grether, Vice Chair (via Zoom)
  - 10. West Las Posas Small Agriculture – Richard Cavaletto
  - 11. West Las Posas Mutual Water Company – Steven Murata
- C. Agenda Review: There were no requested changes to the agenda.
- D. Public Comments: One member of the public inquired about how to get an LPV Basin landowner recognized as a Water Rights Holder in the LPV Adjudication Judgment when the landowner did not participate in the Adjudication. The community member was advised to consult with the PAC representative for his constituency group for further assistance.
- E. PAC Member Comments: After the special PAC meeting on March 26, 2024, the PAC provided a recommendation letter to Watermaster counsel suggesting certain timing and reporting due date revisions to the Judgment for the first year and for subsequent years. Vice Chair Grether reported that the PAC's letter was well received and Watermaster counsel will likely issue a response to the PAC during the week of April 8, 2024.
- F. Regular Agenda
  - 1. Approve the Minutes of the March 21, 2024 regular PAC meeting: Josh Waters made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as stated for the March 21, 2024 meeting; Richard Cavaletto seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 8 Ayes, 0 Nays, 2 Absent.
  - 2. Non-Voting TAC Appointments: The Judgment provides for each PAC member to appoint a non-voting member to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). PAC members were provided with the opportunity to appoint an individual representative to serve as a non-voting TAC member for their constituency group. Future appointments for qualified non-

voting TAC members may be made by PAC members at any time; appointees need to provide an annual statement of qualification for committee review in order to serve in this role. The following non-voting TAC member appointment was made:

- a. Chair Prichard appointed Bryan Bondy to serve on behalf of Calleguas Municipal Water District.
3. Committee Consultation: The Judgment requires Las Posas Valley Basin committee consultation during development of the LPV Basin Optimization Plan (BOP). On January 12, 2024, the FCGMA Board of Directors approved a scope of work to prepare the BOP, and the first two tasks require committee consultation prior to the development of the remainder of the Basin Optimization Plan. These tasks are: (i) development of Project Evaluation Criteria and (ii) technical evaluation of projects that will be included in the Basin Optimization Plan. The PAC and TAC will collaborate on these tasks as soon as the TAC is engaged.

Watermaster/FCGMA and Dudek have requested the following from the PAC and TAC as they begin their technical project evaluation of projects for inclusion in the BOP:

- a. Confirm that each project is appropriate for inclusion in the Basin Optimization Plan.  
PAC response: Watermaster/Dudek must provide sufficient data for proper modeling so TAC members can determine whether a project is suitable for inclusion in the BOP. Projects with insufficient technical data can remain on the list but will not be prioritized or fully evaluated for implementation. The types and depth of modeling will be determined for each project.
- b. Confirm that the assumed project proponents are appropriate.  
PAC response: Project No. 7 is currently assigned to Zone; however, Zone does not want to be the project proponent for this project. Calleguas MWD has agreed to be named as the project proponent for Project No. 7 and Chair Prichard will include this requested change in his response to Watermaster.
- c. Provide input on the appropriate project proponent for Project 6.  
PAC response: The appropriate project proponent for Project No. 6 should be FCGMA. There was an inquiry about how much work FCGMA has done and how much work they will continue to do on their projects versus project work performed by Dudek; Watermaster was not certain at this time.

Chair Prichard will provide a written response to Watermaster which will include formal responses and recommendations from the PAC for items a. through c. above.

Questions were raised about whether cost analysis is being performed by Dudek and/or FCGMA in connection with the nine projects that are under consideration; Watermaster responded that cost review will be performed at a later stage.

PAC members discussed Project No. 2, importing water for storage in Calleguas' well fields, as a cost effective and straightforward project that would yield a lot of water and would not require much infrastructure development. Also, the Simi Valley overflow from Arroyo Simi Creek into the LPV Basin is an existing beneficial program and securing the contract/documentation needed to retain this should be prioritized.

Once engaged with the TAC, the PAC will review and provide input on the project list, the draft project evaluation checklist, and the draft project ranking sheet.

4. FCGMA Staffing Update: The FCGMA Executive Committee is working to obtain an independent evaluation of the fiscal impact of three alternative staffing options for the agency. The new members of FCGMA's Executive Committee are Chair Gene West and Director Kelly Long.
5. PAC Administrator Budget: Rob Grether, chair of the nominating sub-committee, presented a draft job description and budget for the PAC Administrator position which is bifurcated into two roles: a PAC Administrator and PAC Administrative Assistant. The PAC Administrator role is to be held by a senior-level hydrogeologist or geologist who can synthesize information from the TAC and create technical reports for the Court. The PAC Administrator Assistant is a supporting role for the non-technical and administrative portions of the job. All members of the PAC who were present were in unanimous agreement that the proposed job description and budget were appropriate and ready for submission to Watermaster/FCGMA for approval. There were candidates under consideration for both PAC Administrator roles.
6. PAC Administrator – Closed Session:
  - a. Pursuant to California Government Code 54957, the PAC entered into closed session at 4:08 P.M. to confer regarding the nomination of PAC Administrators.
  - b. The PAC reconvened to public session at 4:20 P.M. The following actions were reported:
    - i. The PAC nominated Tony Morgan to serve as PAC Administrator ; the nomination passed by unanimous consent.
    - ii. The PAC nominated Care Wesley to serve as PAC Administrator Assistant; the nomination passed by unanimous consent.
- G. Future Agenda Items: No future agenda items were requested.
- H. Adjournment: There being no further business, Chair Prichard adjourned the meeting at 4:24 P.M.

# FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

## LAS POSAS VALLEY WATERMASTER

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### MEMORANDUM

**Date:** April 25, 2024  
**To:** Las Posas Valley Watermaster Policy Advisory Committee  
**From:** Kudzai F. Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager  
**Subject:** Committee Consultation for Las Posas Valley Adjudication Judgment Groundwater Use Reporting Schedule for WY2023.

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Dear Las Posas Valley Watermaster Policy Advisory Committee (PAC):

The Las Posas Valley Adjudication Judgment requires that Watermaster adopt a schedule, following Committee Consultation, for deadlines for parties to submit Groundwater Use Reports. (Judgment, § 4.10.1.2.). Watermaster is also required to develop a form for the reporting of Semi-Annual Extractions and Use. (Watermaster Rules, § 5.2.)

Watermaster has developed a Semi-Annual Groundwater Extraction and Use form which is ready for distribution. In order to allow adequate time for Water Right Holders to submit a completed Semi-Annual Groundwater Extraction and Use form and given that this is a new form delivered in a new format and that these changes may cause some confusion for the Water Right Holders, Watermaster proposes that, for Water Year 2023, reporting shall be due **June 7<sup>th</sup>** and **November 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please provide feedback via the email below to the Watermaster by May 6, 2024.

Please contact me at 805 654 2010 or [LPV.Watermaster@ventura.org](mailto:LPV.Watermaster@ventura.org) with any questions or concerns.