

# FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Eugene F. West, Chair**, Director, Camrosa Water District  
**David Borchard, Vice Chair**, Farmer, Agricultural Representative  
**Steve Bennett**, Supervisor, County of Ventura  
**Michael W. Mobley**, Director, United Water Conservation District  
**Tony Trembley**, Councilperson, City of Camarillo

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**Jeff Pratt, P.E.**

## NOTICE OF MEETING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) will hold a **TeleConference Executive Committee Special Meeting** at **10:30 a.m.** on **Wednesday, June 10, 2020**, in the **Conference Room 341**, Ventura Government Center, Hall of Administration, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 800 S. Victoria Ave, Ventura, CA 93009.

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE STAY AT HOME ORDER AND THE COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH OFFICER DECLARED LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AND BE WELL AT HOME ORDER RESULTING FROM THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS, THE HALL OF ADMINISTRATION BUILDING IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. TO FIND OUT HOW YOU MAY ELECTRONICALLY ATTEND THE MEETING AND PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT PLEASE REFER TO "NOTICES" ON PAGE 2 OF THIS AGENDA**

## FCGMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

**June 10, 2020**

**Members:** Chair Eugene F. West  
Vice Chair David Borchard

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Introductions**
- C. Public Comment** – Audience members may speak about FCGMA-related matters not on today's Agenda.
- D. Approval of Minutes** – Approve the minutes of the May 14, 2020 Executive Committee meeting.
- E. OPV Variance Review Committee** – Review submitted applications for appointment to the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins Variance Review Committee established by Resolution No. 2020-03 and make recommendations for appointments to be considered by the full Board at the June 24, 2020 meeting.
- F. Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date**
- G. Adjourn the Executive Committee Meeting**

## NOTICES

*The following information is provided to help you understand, follow, and participate in the meeting:  
Public Comments – Public comment is the opportunity for members of the public to participate in meetings by addressing one or more agenda or non-agenda items.*

*The following options allow for public participation:*

1. *Join the Zoom Meeting as an Attendee*

*Please click the link below to join the webinar:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86194673088?pwd=SXQvMIRCMEtbnktrbzVNVFUzRCszZz09>

*Password: 725275*

*With this option you will be able to raise your hand, and the Clerk of the Board will give you speaking abilities to make a public comment.*

2. *Call-In to listen to the meeting:*

*Telephone: 1 669 900 6833*

*Conference ID: 861 9467 3088*

*Password: 725275*

*Options 2 will not allow you to make direct speaking comments. If you wish to make a comment please follow the steps below.*

*2. If you wish to make a comment please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at [fcgma@ventura.org](mailto:fcgma@ventura.org). Please indicate in the Subject Line, the Agenda item number (e.g., Item No. 9). Your email will be read and placed into the record.*

*The FCGMA Board strives to conduct accessible, orderly, and fair meetings where everyone can be heard on the issues. The Board Chair will conduct the meeting and establish appropriate rules and time limitations for each item. The Board can only act on items designated as Action Items. Action items on the agenda are staff proposals and may be modified by the Board as a result of public comment or Board member input. Additional information about Board meeting procedures is included after the last agenda item.*

**Administrative Record:** *Material presented as part of testimony will be made part of the Agency's record, and 10 copies should be left with the Board Clerk. This includes any photographs, slides, charts, diagrams, etc.*

**ADA Accommodations:** *Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual, or other disability in order to review an agenda or to participate in the Board of Directors meeting per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), may request such accommodation in writing addressed to the Clerk of the FCGMA Board, 800 So. Victoria Avenue, Location #1610, Ventura, CA 93009-1610, or via telephone by calling (805) 654-2014. Any such request should be made at least 48 hours prior to the meeting so staff can make the necessary arrangements.*

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**Availability of Complete Agenda Package:** *A copy of the complete agenda package is available for examination at the FCGMA office during regular working hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday) beginning Three days before the Board meeting. Agenda packet contents are also posted on the FCGMA website as soon as possible, and left there for archival retrieval in case reference is needed on previously considered matters. Questions about specific items on the agenda should be directed to the Agency's Executive Officer.*

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**Continuance of Items:** *The Board will endeavor to consider all matters listed on this agenda. However, time may not allow the Board to hear all matters listed. Matters not heard at this meeting may be carried over to the next Board meeting or to a future Board meeting. Participating individuals or parties will be notified of the rescheduling of their item prior to the meeting. Please contact the FCGMA staff to find out about rescheduled items.*

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**Electronic Information and Updates:** *Our web site address is <http://www.fcgma.org>. Information available online includes the Board's meeting schedule, a list of the Board members and staff, general information, and various Agency forms. If you would like to speak to a staff member, please contact the FCGMA Clerk of the Board at (805) 654-2014.*



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## MINUTES

Minutes of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency's (FCGMA) **Videoconference** Executive Committee Meeting held **Thursday, May 14, 2020** in the Atlantic Conference Room of the Hall of Administration, Main Plaza, Ventura, CA 93009.

### A. Call to Order

Chair West called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

### B. Introductions

In attendance were: (1) Eugene West, Chair; (2) David Borchard, Vice Chair; (3) Kim Loeb, FCGMA; (4) Keely Royas, FCGMA; (5) Jared Bouchard, Pleasant Valley County Water District (PVCWD); (6) John Mathews, Attorney; (7) John Lindquist, United Water Conservation District (UWCD); (8) Jurgen Gramckow, Southland Sod.

### C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

### D. Approval of Minutes – February 12, 2020

Vice Chair Borchard made a motion to approve the February 12, 2020 minutes. Chair West seconded the motion, and the motion was approved.

### E. Extraction Allocation During Transition to Water Year

Kim Loeb introduced the item and stated that semi-annual reporting needs to transition from the current reporting period to the new water-year reporting starting October 1, 2020, as required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and the new allocation ordinance for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley (OPV) Basins. He explained that there needed to be a special two-month reporting period and allocation for agricultural (Ag) operators in August and September 2020, and that the annual allocations needed to be prorated for the nine-month period of January through September for municipal and industrial (M&I) and domestic operators.

Based on an analysis of monthly extractions based on Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) data, staff recommended that August through September 2020 allocations for Ag operators be set at 35% of each operator's 2019/2020 Crop Year annual efficiency allocation. Based on analysis of monthly potable water production reported to the State Water Board by local urban water purveyors, staff recommended that the January through September 2020 allocations be set at 76% of Temporary Extraction Allocation (TEA) for each M&I operator and 76% of the baseline or historical allocation for domestic operators.

Jared Bouchard stated that growers are in uncharted territory due to COVID-19 and he appreciates staff's recommendation to establish a simplified variance process for operators to provide evidence of different usage during the transition period

Vice Chair Borchard asked if the allocation for the 2020/2021 allocation would be reduced by the 35% used during the transition period. Mr. Loeb explained that it would not and the transition period would be treated as a separate reporting period.

Chair West stated that it seemed straightforward and Vice Chair Borchard agreed to make a move to recommend it to the full FCGMA Board.

#### **F. OPV Variance Review Committee**

Mr. Loeb presented the item and stated that the Board adopted Resolution 2020-03 at the April 22, 2020 meeting, which reads "An applicant for a variance seeking additional allocation related to change in crops, change in land use, or receipt of water from a water purveyor shall have the request submitted to a variance review committee representative of the groundwater extractors in the basins." Mr. Loeb said that staff plans to send out a solicitation seeking interest for committee members, but that staff is seeking guidance on the size of the committee, the structure, and the process for selection of committee members.

Chair West recommended a Variance Review Committee with five to seven members, a structure in favor of groundwater extractors from the basins and for the Executive Committee to review and make a recommendation to the Board for appointment of the applicants.

Jared Bouchard asked for confirmation that it would be a combination of OPV. Mr. Loeb confirmed.

Mr. Mathews said that Pleasant Valley County Water District is in a unique situation and he hopes that each Board member doesn't get to choose one member.

John Lindquist asked if there were going to be any environmental representation on the committee.

Jurgen Gramckow stated that there needs to be knowledgeable users who are on the ground every day. He also said that the maximum number of members should be seven.

Vice Chair Borchard stated that he agreed with Mr. Gramckow.

Chair West stated that he thinks five is better than seven if there is equal representation. He said that with regards to structure staff should do a simple analysis of use of the basins. He also said that the solicitation for members should be done sooner rather than later and be brought back to the Executive Committee for recommendation.

#### **G. Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date**

Items to be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting are the received applications for the OPV Variance Review Committee. The next meeting date is set for June 10, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

**H. Adjourn the Executive Committee Meeting**

Chair West adjourned the Executive Committee meeting at 3:38 p.m.

Submitted by:

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Keely Royas  
Clerk of the Board

DRAFT

# FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY



## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** June 10, 2020  
**To:** Executive Committee  
**From:** Kim Loeb, Groundwater Manager *KL*  
**Subject:** Item E – OPV Variance Review Committee

Resolution 2020-03 Establishing Policies and Procedures for Granting Variances from the Initial Extraction Allocation Under the Ordinance to Establish an Allocation System for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Groundwater (OPV) Basins was adopted by the Board at the April 22, 2020 meeting.

The Resolution was based on recommendations of the Executive Committee and identified “other variance requests” and which would be reviewed by a Variance Review Committee:

*An applicant for a variance seeking additional allocation related to change in crops, change in land use, or receipt of water from a water purveyor shall have the request submitted to a variance review committee representative of the groundwater extractors in the basins. The recommendation of the committee shall be provided to the Board for its consideration of the variance request.*

At the May 14, 2020 meeting, the Executive Committee recommended that the Variance Review Committee consist of 5 to 7 members representative of the groundwater extractors in the OPV Basins.

The Agency solicited applications for serving on the Variance Review Committee with a submittal deadline of June 5, 2020. Seven applications were received. The table provides a summary of the applications; copies of the applications are attached (phone numbers and email addresses have been redacted).

Name	Organization	Landowner or Lease Operator	Sector	Basin
Gary Arnold	Arnold Ranch, LLC	Landowner	Ag	Oxnard Basin
Jared Bouchard	Pleasant Valley County Water District	Purveyor	Ag	Oxnard & PV Basins
Omar Castro	City of Oxnard	Landowner	M&I	Oxnard Basin
Robert Eranio	Cloverdale Mutual and Rio Manor Mutual Water Companies	Landowner	M&I	Forebay
Lucia McGovern	City of Camarillo	Landowner	M&I	PV Basin
Greg Lewis	Duda Farms	Both	Ag	Oxnard & PV Basins
Fred Van Wingerden	Pyramid Flowers, Inc.	Both	Ag	Oxnard Basin

Staff recommends the Executive Committee review the applications and make recommendations for consideration by the full Board at the June 24, 2020 meeting.