

# **Las Posas Valley Groundwater Basin Technical Advisory Committee Regular Meeting**

Meeting Minutes  
for  
April 15, 2025

## **A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chad Taylor at 2:00 pm.

## **B. Roll Call**

All voting TAC members were present (via Zoom):

- Vice Chair Tony Morgan - Present
- Chair Chad Taylor – Present
- Dr. Bob Abrams – Present

All non-voting TAC members were present (via Zoom):

- Bryan Bondy – Present
- Robert Hampson (filling in for Kim Loeb on behalf of Watermaster) – Present

Chair Taylor reported a quorum with all three voting members of the Las Posas Valley Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) present.

## **C. Agenda Review**

Chair Taylor indicated an agenda was published and notified on April 11, 2025 and he opened the meeting for comments on the agenda from TAC members or the public. No comments were presented.

## **D. Public Comments**

Mr. Taylor asked for public comments on items not on the agenda.

Mr. Steven Murata, a member of the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) representing the West Las Posas Mutual Water Company let the TAC know that his agencies, including plum Vista and Del Norte, have significant well, water level, and pumping historical data that they are happy to share with the TAC.

Mr. Taylor thanked Mr. Murata, indicated that groundwater professionals can never get enough water level and pumping data, and suggested the Watermaster staff may be interested in these data if they don't already have access to them.

## **E. TAC Member Comments**

Chair Taylor asked TAC members for comments on items not on the agenda.

Mr. Bondy indicated that in addition to his role on the TAC representing Calleguas Municipal Water District, he also manages the Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The Mound GSA historically relied on the model constructed and maintained by the United Water Conservation District (UWCD), as in the West Las Posas Management Area (WLPMA). Recently it has been hard to get details from UWCD from that model, which is necessary for the Mound GSA to prepare their Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Periodic Evaluation.

Mr. Bondy noted that this information should be accessible for Sustainable Groundwater Management Act implementation and the fact that it is not being made available is a problem. Mr. Bondy expressed hope that a solution to this problem could be reached in the future.

**F. Regular Agenda**

**1. Approve the Minutes of the March 18, 2025 Regular Meeting**

Mr. Taylor asked TAC members for comments on the minutes from the March 18, 2025 regular meeting, which were included in the agenda packet. No TAC member or public comments were submitted.

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Morgan moved to approve the March 18, 2025 TAC Meeting minutes

**SECOND:** Dr. Abrams seconded the motion

**VOTE:** Unanimously approved

**2. Committee Consultation Request – Basin Optimization Yield Study Preferred Modeling Alternative and Impacts to Schedule**

Chair Taylor summarized the request for consultation on the preferred modeling alternative and schedule impacts submitted to the TAC by the Watermaster. His remarks included a reminder to the TAC and attendees that the original plan for evaluation of Basin optimization yield was to use the groundwater models for both Las Posas Valley Basin (LPVB) management areas. However, modeling of the WLPMA has historically been undertaken in cooperation with UWCD using their Coastal Plain model. The Watermaster was not able to develop an agreement with UWCD to use that model for the Basin Optimization Yield Study (BOYS). The consultation request included identification of a new preferred alternative to analyze optimization of LPVB yield and estimation of the updated schedule. This preferred option would utilize model files provided by UWCD to the Watermaster during preparation of the recently completed GSP Periodic Evaluation to perform basin optimization simulations.

Mr. Bondy asked if that meant some of the work product from the BOYS may not be available to the public for review. Mr. Hampson responded that counsel will have to review each requests for information from the model.

Mr. Hampson informed the other members of the TAC that Watermaster legal counsel informed Watermaster staff that there may be limitations on information sharing from the model files. Mr. Hampson read the following statement to the TAC:

Some of the model files that Watermaster will use to prepare the LPV basin optimization yield study (specifically in the West Las Posas Management Area) include files received from United Water Conservation District. These files and the information embedded in them may be subject to a protective order in the OPV [Oxnard Subbasin and Pleasant Valley Subbasin] Adjudication. Requests for access to or disclosure of those files will be reviewed against that protective order by FCGMA [Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency] counsel on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Taylor reminded the TAC that in their review of the scope of work and budget for the BOYS they asked for an extended review period to facilitate requests to receive and review information from the optimization simulations using the model. The uncertainty regarding availability of information from the model adds uncertainty to the TAC's review of the BOYS optimization simulations.

TAC members suggested that if there is data or information the TAC anticipates perhaps test cases can be provided to the Watermaster in advance. Mr. Hampson provided that this could be helpful to the Watermaster and that the test cases could include broad categories of data including water budget information, fluxes in specific areas of the model, etc.

Mr. Morgan asked if the concern was that the TAC would not receive requested model outputs, or that model input files would be unavailable. He provided the opinion that sharing model input files may be subject to the protections of the OPV Adjudication, but the model output should be available.

Dr. Abrams asked if model input files would be modified, or would the original inputs developed for the GSP Periodic Evaluation be used.

Mr. Hampson indicated that there was discussion within the Watermaster regarding whether modified model input files would be subject to the protective order.

The TAC moved on to discussion of specific adjustments that might be implemented in the BOYS simulations. These included reduced pumping for projects that include in lieu components, baseline conditions for simulations, optimization criteria, and the boundary between the WLPMA and the East Las Posas Management Area.

All TAC members agreed that the preferred alternative presented by the Watermaster was the best solution identified.

Mr. Bondy indicated that he had previously completed simplified analyses of water levels and pumping that could be used to compare with the magnitude of yield optimization and rampdown identified by the planned modeling work.

The TAC also discussed the schedule as presented by the Watermaster and their consultant, Dudek. They noted that the TAC review periods remained the same and were consistent with requests made by the TAC in previous reviews of BOYS scope and budget proposals.

Mr. Taylor reviewed the schedule with the TAC and all agreed that a Recommendation Report should be prepared presenting the concept of test questions for counsel review. That Recommendation Report would be presented in the agenda for the next regular TAC meeting scheduled for May 6, 2025.

No public comments were provided.

### **3. Update on Committee Consultation Review Schedule**

Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Hampson for an update on upcoming committee consultation requests and Mr. Hampson indicated that the list in the agenda was up to date.

No public comments were received.

### **4. Schedule for Completing Committee Consultations and Related Recommendation Reports**

Mr. Taylor indicated that the only outstanding committee consultation was the BOYS preferred modeling alternative and schedule and a Recommendation Report on that topic would be drafted for TAC review in the next regular meeting.

No public comments were received.

**G. Items for Future Agenda**

Mr. Taylor asked for recommendations for items to consider including in future agendas from the TAC and public; none were identified.

**H. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Mr. Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:47 pm

**SECOND:** Dr. Abrams seconded the motion

**VOTE:** Unanimously approved