

Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency

AGENDA PACKAGE

**Board Special Meeting
of
December 12, 2025**



FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, *Director, Camrosa Water District*
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, *Supervisor, County of Ventura*
Michael Craviotto, *Farmer, Agricultural Representative*
Lynn Maulhardt, *Director, United Water Conservation District*
Tony Trembley, *Councilmember, City of Camarillo*

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) Board of Directors will hold a **Board Hybrid Meeting** at **12:30 P.M. on Friday, December 12, 2025**, in the **Multi-Purpose Room and via Zoom**, at the Ventura County Government Center, Hall of Administration, at **800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California**.

FCGMA BOARD SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

**December 12, 2025
12:30 P.M.**

Welcome to the meeting of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Board of Directors, also sitting as watermaster for the Las Posas Valley Basin and the groundwater sustainability agency for the Las Posas Valley Basin, the Pleasant Valley Basin, and the Oxnard Subbasin. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all possible accommodations will be made for individuals with disabilities so they may attend and participate in meetings. If special assistance is needed, please call Agency staff at (805) 654-2014 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting so proper arrangements may be assured. If requested, and as possible, Agendas will be provided in alternative formats.

To attend the public portion of the meeting via Zoom, click here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89420089793?pwd=ajSPVrsrQEPYasZitKN7pa1D16WA0b.1>

Passcode:662465

Agenda items are numbered for identification purposes only and may not necessarily be considered in this order. Agenda items are grouped under Las Posas Valley Watermaster (LPV Watermaster) or under Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA), if the item directly applies only to that entity. The Board reserves the right to limit each speaker to five (5) minutes per subject or topic if necessary. The public portion of every public meeting of the Board of Directors is recorded. Please see the "STANDING NOTICES" section at the end of this Agenda for more information, including hybrid attendance and public participation.

OPENING

1. **Call to Order** – The Board Chair will call the meeting to order.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – A Board member will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call** – Attending Board members, alternates, and staff will be recorded by the Board Clerk.

4. **Agenda Review** – Consider and approve by majority vote, any minor revisions to Board Agenda items and/or attachments and any item(s) added or removed from this Agenda.
5. **Public Comments** – Members of the Public may speak about Agency-related matters not on today's Agenda. California State law does not allow any response or action from the Board concerning non-Agenda topics at this time; however, topics can be placed on future Agendas or referred to staff. Please come to the podium and state your name and affiliation for the record before commenting on any particular subject.
6. **Executive Officer's Comments** – Brief announcements and administrative report on Agency workforce activities.
7. **Board Member Comments** – An opportunity for Board Members to make comments or to communicate with other directors, staff, and/or the public regarding non-Agenda topics.

CORRESPONDENCE AGENDA

Correspondence Agenda items are presented to the Board for information under the Consent Agenda. These items require no action or are not ready for Board consideration.

8. **Receive and file correspondence** from Alison K. Toivola, Attorney, Best Best & Krieger LLP, regarding the City of San Buenaventura's Response to the Supplemental Letter Supporting Green Hills Ranch LLC Well Permit Application, dated November 26, 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA

Routine items are placed under the Consent portion of this Agenda and need only be reviewed and approved by one single motion. Consent items generally require no discussion; however, they may be debated or voted on by moving them to the "Regular Agenda" portion at the Board's discretion.

9. **Approval of Minutes – (New Item) RECOMMENDATION:** Approve minutes of the September 24, 2025, Board Regular meeting.
10. **Approval of Minutes – (New Item) RECOMMENDATION:** Approve minutes of the October 22, 2025, Board Regular meeting.
11. **Approval of Minutes – (New Item) RECOMMENDATION:** Approve minutes of the November 14, 2025, Board Special meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA – FCGMA Items

12. **FCGMA Financial Status Report for November 2025 – (New Item)**
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file the monthly financial report.

CONSENT AGENDA – LPV Watermaster Items

13. **LPV Watermaster Financial Status Report for October 2025 – (New Item)**
RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file the monthly financial report.
14. **Approve and Authorize the Executive Officer to Execute a Modification to the Professional Services Contract with Regional Government Services to Provide Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting Services – (New Item)**
RECOMMENDATION: Approve and authorize the Executive Officer to execute a modification to the professional services contract with Regional Government Services to administer the Las Posas Valley Adjudication Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting program and to provide related technical assistance and support.

REGULAR AGENDA

Regular Agenda items are heard at the Board's discretion and may be heard at any time during the meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA – FCGMA Items

15. **Agency Board Meeting, Special Meeting, and Committee Meeting Schedules for Calendar Year 2026 – (New Item)** **RECOMMENDATIONS:** (1) Approve the 2026 Board Regular Meeting Schedule as submitted or as modified by the Board; (2) Approve the 2026 Board Special Meeting Schedule as submitted or as modified by the Board; and (3) Approve the 2026 Committee Meeting Schedules as submitted or as modified by the Board.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

Discussions of Closed Session Agenda items are closed to the public. The Chair will announce when the Board is going into closed session. Closed session items may be heard at any time during the meeting. The Board will hold its closed session in the Atlantic Conference Room (ACR), inside the Hall of Administration building.

16. **PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Gov. Code, § 54957(b)(1))** **TITLE:** Executive Officer
17. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1):** **NAME OF CASE:** City of Oxnard v. Fox

Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Los Angeles County Superior Court
Case No. 20STCP00929

18. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE:** Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI0059700
19. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE:** OPV Coalition et al v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI00555357
20. **Adjourn Board Meeting.**

STANDING NOTICES

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.

Public Comment: Public comment is the opportunity for members of the public to participate in meetings by addressing the Fox Canyon Board of Directors in connection with one or more Agenda or non-Agenda items.

The following options allow for public participation:

1. Join the Zoom Meeting as an Attendee:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89420089793?pwd=ajSPVrsrQEPYasZitKN7pa1D16WA0b.1>

Passcode: 662465

Webinar ID: 894 2008 9793

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. If you experience technical difficulties during attendance that impact your ability to hear or see meeting proceedings, please contact the host via chat, or raise your hand for Q&A inside the Zoom Client. If you are unable to contact the host via the Zoom Client's chat or Q&A features, please call (805) 654-2014 and report the issue, then consider submitting written comment according to option 4, below.

2. During meetings held in the Board of Supervisors Boardroom, we have access to livestreaming capabilities. Observe the Board of Directors meeting streaming live by navigating to the "Current and Upcoming Meetings" section of our website and clicking on the video icon button next to the meeting listing at: <https://fcgma.org/board-agendas-broadcasts-minutes/>. *This option is currently only available for meetings held in the BOS Boardroom. For meetings held outside BOS, videos are converted and uploaded as soon as possible after adjournment.*

3. Call in to listen to the meeting:

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

Webinar ID: 894 2008 9793

Passcode: 662465

Options 2 and 3 will not allow you to make direct speaking comments. If you wish to make a written comment, please follow the steps below. Every effort will be made to read your comment into the

record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an Agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting.

4. If you wish to make a written comment on a specific Agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the Board regular meeting. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov. Please indicate in the subject line of your email the Agenda item number (e.g., Item 9). Your comment will be read by the Board of Directors and placed into the record.
5. If you are listening or watching the live stream of the Board meeting and would like to make either a general public comment (see Item 5) for items not on the day's Agenda or to comment on a specific Agenda item as it is being heard, please submit your comment via email to the Clerk of the Board at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov. Please indicate in the email subject line the Agenda item number (e.g., Item 9).

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 memos, presentations, maps, etc. If possible, in advance of the meeting, email PDFs to FCGMA@venturacounty.gov and indicate the related Agenda item number in your email's subject line.

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, via email to FCGMA@venturacounty.gov, 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.

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 72 hours before the regular 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 Agenda items should be directed to the Agency's Executive Officer by emailing FCGMA@venturacounty.gov.

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 Agency Clerk to find out about rescheduled items.

The Ralph M. Brown Act: It is the intent of the law that the actions of this Board be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly. Read about the Ralph M. Brown Act via this link: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?chapter=9.&division=2.&lawCode=GOV&part=1.&title=5.

Agency Information and Updates: Our website address is <https://fcgma.org/>. Information available includes meeting materials and schedules, Agency Ordinances, Resolutions, reports, forms, and more. FCGMA Board Regular meetings occur on the fourth Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise noted. If you would like to be added to our agenda notification email list, or to speak to a staff member, please contact the FCGMA Clerk of the Board via telephone at (805) 654-2014 or via email at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov.

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, *Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District*
Kelly Long, *Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura*
Michael Craviotto, *Farmer, Agricultural Representative*
Lynn Maulhardt, *Director, United Water Conservation District*
Tony Trembley, *Councilmember, City of Camarillo*

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

December 12, 2025

Board of Directors
Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009-1600

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report – (Returning Item)

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file this informational report.

FCGMA SEMI ANNUAL EXTRACTION STATEMENT REPORTING UPDATE

Staff continue to conduct review and processing of Semi-Annual Extraction Statements (SAES) received for the 2025-2 reporting period. This process is expected to extend through December 2025.

On December 2, 2025, sixty (60) Notices of Violation (NOVs) were mailed via certified mail to operators for non-reporting. NOVs are also being emailed to the operator contact on record. Pursuant to Resolution 2019-1, civil penalties (CPs) are assessed in the amount of \$50 per day late. As of December 9, 2025, the CP is \$1,200 and continues to accrue daily until reporting is submitted. In the NOVs, operators are given 45 days to appeal CPs to the Executive Officer for a reduction request. After 60 days without response, legal action may ensue.

Additional NOVs for incomplete reporting will be issued later this month, also granting 45 days to appeal CPs and a 60-day window before legal action is taken.

As noted in the last Executive Officer's (EO) Report, stakeholder support and follow-up remain a significant focus. Assistance is provided in various formats to assist operators with reporting requirements, system navigation, and resolution of incomplete or missing information. Staff also identify unreported meter, well, owner, or operator changes, and notify appropriate personnel for further action.

All stakeholders are encouraged to stay informed of the latest FCGMA reporting updates by visiting <https://fcgma.org/groundwater-extraction-reporting/>.

WELL OWNER AND OPERATOR CHANGE UPDATES

In accordance with Agency Ordinance Code Chapter 2.2, which requires ownership and operator changes to be reported within 30 days upon any change of ownership or operators, staff received the following during the month of November:

Ownership Changes: Seven [Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration \(Registration\) Forms](#) were received for changes in well ownership for seven wells.

Operator Changes: Six [Authorization Forms](#) were received to update operators for six CombCode accounts, representing 26 wells.

All submissions received in November are in queue for staff evaluation. Also in November, staff mailed 13 Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration packets via certified mail to register new well owners. Recipients have 30 days to respond before a second notice is sent. Failure to respond will result in further enforcement action.

Agency Forms are available at: <https://fcgma.org/agency-forms/>.

Staff continue to follow up with submitters from prior months to resolve outstanding corrections and ensure compliance with reporting requirements.

LPV WATERMASTER BASIN ASSESSMENT UPDATE

As outlined in previous Executive Officer’s Administrative Reports (EO Report), the Watermaster Board adopted a Basin Assessment for the Las Posas Valley Basin for Water Year (WY) 2025 (WY 2025 spans from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026), set at \$60.00 per acre-foot of allocation per year (AFY). This assessment funds administrative and technical work related to implementation of the Judgment.

Additionally, Resolution 2025-07 authorizes collection of an extra \$7.25/AFY to support replenishment activities and implementation of Basin Optimization Projects (BOP), bringing the total Basin Assessment for WY 2025-2026 (FY 2025-26) to **\$67.25/AFY**.

Basin Assessment Invoice 2025-1 was due October 31, 2025, and is considered delinquent if not paid by November 30, 2025. Staff is preparing to release delinquency notices this month, assessing the accrued interest at the current Ventura County real property tax delinquency rate (Judgment Exhibit A, §2.8.2.), which will be summarized future EO Reports under the section titled “LPV Watermaster Basin Assessment Delinquency Update.”

LPV WATERMASTER GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION & USE REPORTING UPDATE

In accordance with the Judgment (Exh. A, § 5.2), Groundwater and Extraction and Use reporting for the second half of the 2024 Water Year, (WY 2024 began October 1, 2024, and concluded September 30, 2025 per the Judgment), were due October 31, 2025. Regional Government Services (RGS), Watermaster’s consultant administering Semi-Annual Groundwater Extraction and Use reporting, sent the electronic reporting tool to

141 Water Management Identification Numbers (WMIDs) and provided a status report showing the number of respondents as of December 5, 2025 (Table 1).

Table 1: LPV Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting as of December 5, 2025

Reporting Status	Count	Approx. Percent
Submitted	123	87.2%
Partially Complete	4	2.8%
Not Started	14	10.0%
Total:	141	100%

Accurate completion and timely submission of the Groundwater Extraction and Use reports are crucial for Annual Allocations Accounting (Judgment §§ 4.12.8, and 5.2.4.3). Annual Allocations will be reported in future reports to your Board.

All Parties are encouraged to visit <https://fcgma.org/lpv-reporting/> for the latest updates pertaining to LPV Extraction and Use reporting.

LPV WATERMASTER BASIN ASSESSMENT DELINQUENCY UPDATE

For Water Years 2023 and 2024, Watermaster adopted Basin Assessments for the Las Posas Valley Basin set at **\$64.00** and **\$64.58** per acre-foot per year, respectively. However, the Watermaster Board did not invoice nor collect the full Basin Assessment authorized for either WY 2023 or WY 2024 based on recommendations by the Fiscal Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee that the Watermaster fund contained sufficient operating funds to close out each WY without incurring a negative balance.

Payments not received within one month of the due date are considered **delinquent** and shall accrue interest at the current **Ventura County real property tax delinquency rate**. (Judgment Exhibit A, §2.8.2.)

As of **December 5, 2025**, the total delinquent Basin Assessment and interest for WYs 2023 and 2024 is **\$98,590.05**, consisting of **\$88,408.78** in delinquent Basin Assessments and **\$10,181.21** in accrued interest.

Item 6 – Executive Officer’s Administrative Report
FCGMA Board Special Meeting, December 12, 2025

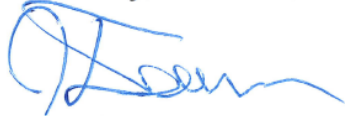
Table 2: LPV Watermaster Delinquency Basin Assessment Accounting by Assessment period

Invoice Period	Release Date	Due Date	1st Notice Sent	Final Notice Sent	No. of WMIDs per Period	Amt. per AF per Period	BA Amount Past Due by Period	Interest Amount Past Due by Period	Total Delinquent Past Due by Period
23-1	5/5/24	4/5/24	5/31/24	7/18/24	6	\$32.00	\$9,689.28	\$1,668.73	\$11,358.01
23-2	Canceled	-	-	-	-	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
24-1	10/2/24	11/1/24	12/11/24	12/21/24	10	\$16.145	\$20,050.51	\$2,555.19	\$22,605.70
24-2	1/6/25	1/30/25	3/10/25	3/20/25	16	\$16.145	\$29,016.35	\$2,992.07	\$32,008.42
24-3	4/1/25	5/1/25	6/10/25	6/20/25	18	\$16.145	\$29,652.64	\$2,965.28	\$32,617.92
24-4	Canceled	-	-	-	-	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
								TOTAL	\$98,590.05

CONCLUSION:

This letter has been reviewed by Agency Counsel. If you have any questions, please call me at (805) 650-4083.

Sincerely,



John Demers
Executive Officer



Alison K. Toivola
Partner
(541) 318-9836
alison.toivola@bbklaw.com

File No. 82470.00047

November 26, 2025

VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Las Posas Valley Groundwater Basin Watermaster
c/o Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009-1610
Email: LPV.Watermaster@ventura.org

Technical Advisory Committee
Las Posas Valley Groundwater Basin
Ventura County Government Center
Hall of Administration Building
800 S. Victoria Avenue L#1610
Ventura, CA 93009
Email: LPV.Watermaster@ventura.org

**Re: City of San Buenaventura's Response to the Supplemental Letter
Supporting Green Hills Ranch LLC Well Permit Application**

Dear Watermaster and Technical Advisory Committee:

We represent the City of San Buenaventura ("City") in the above-referenced matter. Consistent with our prior correspondence on this matter, we again write to request clarity from the Watermaster as to the proper procedural requirements for resolving the City's timely-identified concerns about the proposed new groundwater well described below. We also provide this letter to the Technical Advisory Committee ("TAC") as a courtesy, given the TAC's inclusion on recent correspondence.

I. Background

On April 3, 2025, we submitted a written protest on behalf of the City pursuant to Section 4.14 of the Final Judgment and Physical Solution ("Judgment") for the Las Posas Valley Groundwater Basin ("Basin") to protest the proposed new groundwater well that has been proposed by Pacific Coast Well Drilling, Inc. on behalf of Green Hills Ranch, LLC (collectively, "Applicant") (collectively, "April Letter"). In our April Letter, we identified the City's substantial concerns that Applicant's proposed new well could cause a Material Injury or Undesirable Result, as those terms are defined in the Judgment, and that Applicant has failed to provide sufficient information or data to adequately address these concerns. The City's initial technical analysis of the proposed

Best Best & Krieger LLP | 360 SW Bond Street, Suite 400, Bend, Oregon 97702
Phone: (541) 382-3011 | Fax: (541) 388-5410 | bbklaw.com

82470.00047\44379528.3

new well concluded that a Material Injury or an Undesirable Result could occur, and called for additional data and analysis¹ to be developed in order to adequately assess the risks presented by the proposed new well. In sum, the City requested the following:

[T]hat the Watermaster require that the Applicant ... (a) provide the necessary data, and (b) perform the proper model runs to appropriately and reliably assess whether the proposed new well could cause a Material Injury or an Undesirable Result. The City further expects that the public hearing required under Section 4.14 will address these issues and set forth a clear process through which the Applicant ... can take the additional steps needed to appropriately analyze the risks associated with the proposed new well before the well can be drilled and, if appropriate, production can commence.

On September 12, 2025, through its legal counsel at Downey Brand, the Applicant sent a letter directly to the TAC requesting that TAC take the lead on addressing several technical questions relevant to the proposed new groundwater well (“Supplemental Letter”). The Supplemental Letter enclosed two technical reports, both of which predated the City’s April Letter, and neither of which addressed the City’s substantial concerns.

Thereafter, on November 8, 2025, the Watermaster responded to the Supplemental Letter (“Watermaster Letter”). The Watermaster Letter explained that the Watermaster “has not referred these issues to TAC for recommendation, and Watermaster does not, at this time, require TAC’s review and analysis of the matters presented in Green Hills’ letter.” (Watermaster Ltr. at 1.) The City thanks the Watermaster for its continued work in “reviewing Green Hills’ application, and the protests received in response,” including the City’s April Letter and the substantial concerns raised therein.

On November 18, Applicant (again through its legal counsel at Downey Brand) submitted an additional letter requesting that Watermaster “set a hearing date by December 12, 2025.” The City responds to this letter for the sole purpose of explaining that time and scheduling constraints do not permit the City to attend any hearing this calendar year of 2025. Any hearing should proceed no sooner than January 2026 to allow the City, and all other interested parties, proper time to prepare.

In the following section, the City provides its further response to the Supplemental Letter in order to highlight that the Applicant has failed to engage with the City’s substantial concerns, and has failed to satisfy its burden of proof as required under the Judgment.

¹ As the City explained: “The City does not have the key data it needs to make a final assessment as to whether a Material Injury or an Undesirable Result will occur, including, for example: (a) the proposed new well’s intended production rate, (b) annual amount of groundwater to be produced from the proposed new well, (c) total acreage to be served by the proposed new well, and (d) identification of the aquifer zone(s) that will ultimately be produced.”

II. Response to Supplemental Letter

The City has reviewed the Supplemental Letter and its two cited reports. In short, these materials are insufficient to adequately address the substantial concerns raised in the City's April Letter, and the City respectfully requests that the Watermaster clarify the appropriate procedure by which Applicant must proceed.

To be clear, it is not the City's burden of proof to show the existence of Material Injury or Undesirable Results. In pertinent part, Section 4.14 of the Judgment permits a new groundwater extraction well as long as such well "does not cause a Material Injury or an Undesirable Result." "[N]o Groundwater Extraction from the proposed new or replacement well shall begin until the new or replacement well is approved by Watermaster." (Judgment, § 4.14.) Where concerns are raised as to Material Injury or an Undesirable Result from the new proposed well, as has occurred here, "Watermaster will conduct at least one public hearing on the issue." (*Ibid.*)

It is, therefore, clear that the Watermaster has the authority to approve an application for a new well and, therefore, has the authority to decide whether a Material Injury or an Undesirable Result will occur. But there is nothing in the Judgment that requires opponents to a proposed new well to prove the existence of any particular Material Injury or Undesirable Result. Rather, the only logical interpretation of Section 4.14 is that it is, in fact, an applicant's burden to prove for the Watermaster that no Material Injury or Undesirable Result will occur from their proposed new well, including at a public hearing. Here, because it is the Applicant's burden of proof to demonstrate that its proposed new well will not cause a Material Injury or Undesirable Result, it is therefore Applicant's responsibility to run the appropriate groundwater model(s) or otherwise accurately assess whether such well will cause a drop in water levels at the City's well.

To be clear, the Applicant has not met this burden of proof. In its Supplemental Letter, the Applicant produced two limited studies—the Feasibility Study and the I&S Study—neither of which address the City's substantial concerns raised in its April Letter. Indeed, the Supplemental Letter expressly admits that one report "**did not analyze Ventura's Saticoy Well.**" (Suppl. Ltr. at 2 [emphasis added].) Further, both of these studies predated the City's April Letter and therefore did not engage with or respond to the City's concerns as identified in the April Letter.

Despite, or perhaps because of, this failure, Applicant's Supplemental Letter instead seeks to escape its inevitable burden of proof. In short, the Supplemental Letter attempts to state that either the City (or another opponent to Applicant's well) or the TAC must somehow prove that there exists a Material Injury or Undesirable Result. But that makes no sense. Indeed, the Supplemental Letter appears to state that it is the City who has the responsibility to "articulate[] a harm to the Fox Canyon Aquifer that would result from the proposed well ... Without further information, the Watermaster cannot make a determination that the new well could cause a material injury." (Suppl. Ltr. at 2.) But that is impossible. As the City explained in its April Letter, and as reiterated in footnote 1, above, the City does not have access to the data and information about the proposed new well that would allow the City to reach such a conclusion. It is unfair to ask the City to bear the burden of proof in disproving Material Injury or Undesirable Result when the City does not have the ability to do so. It is only proper that the Applicant, and the Applicant alone, bear the

Watermaster

November 26, 2025

Page 4

burden of proving that no Material Injury or Undesirable Result will come from the Applicant's new well. Such an outcome is consistent with the Judgment's language and the only logical approach, given the Applicant is the one with the most information about the proposed new well.

For these reasons, the City respectfully requests that Watermaster clarify that the burden of proof is on the Applicant, and not on the City, to prove that no Material Injury or Undesirable Result will occur.

III. Conclusion

The City respectfully renews its request, first set forth in the April Letter and reiterated here, that Watermaster require that Applicant satisfy its burden of proof by providing sufficient information to ensure its well will not cause Material Injury or Undesirable Results. In the meantime, the City reserves all rights. Addition, the City requests that the Watermaster not set a hearing on this matter until January 2026 or later to allow the City, and all other interested parties, adequate time to prepare. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Alison K. Toivola
of BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

CC: Gina Dorrington, General Manager, Ventura Water
Jennifer Tribo, Assistant General Manager of Water Resources, Ventura Water
Miles Hogan, Senior Assistant City Attorney, City of San Buenaventura
Will Hansen, Director of Sales, Pacific Coast Well Drilling, Inc.
Elizabeth Ewens, Counsel for Watermaster
Barbara Brenner, Counsel for Del Norte

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura
Michael Craviotto, Farmer, Agricultural Representative
Lynn Maulhardt, Director, United Water Conservation District
Tony Trembley, Councilmember, City of Camarillo

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

DRAFT MINUTES

Action minutes of the Wednesday, September 24, 2025, hybrid regular meeting of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Board of Directors, also sitting as watermaster for the Las Posas Valley Basin and the groundwater sustainability agency for the Las Posas Valley Basin, the Pleasant Valley Basin, and the Oxnard Subbasin. The meeting occurred via Zoom and in-person in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room at the Ventura County Government Center, Hall of Administration, at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

1. Call to Order

12:34 P.M.

Chair Eugene F. West called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair West led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Directors Present

Chair Eugene F. West
Director Lynn Maulhardt
Director Tony Trembley
Director Michael Craviotto
Director Kelly Long arrived after the meeting's roll call.

Quorum status reached.

Alternate Directors Bert Perello and Reddy Pakala attended as members of the public.
Alternate Director Pakala attended remotely.

Agency Staff Present

John Demers, Executive Officer
Jason Canger, Agency Counsel
Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager
Robert Hampson, Groundwater Specialist
Elka Weber, Clerk of the Board

4. Agenda Review

12:35 P.M.

Executive Officer John Demers requested that Item 19 be heard by the Board at the end of the Regular Agenda, after Item 22. The Board agreed without objection.

5. Public Comments

12:35 P.M.

No public comments were made.

6. Executive Officer's Comments

12:35 P.M.

Agency Executive Officer John Demers referred to the administrative report included in the Agenda package.

Mr. Demers noted that the Ad Hoc Subcommittee held its first meeting on Friday, September 12. Review of Action Items:

- The Subcommittee discussed variance application policies, requirements, and Ordinance compliance factors, as well as the status of the Agency's review and processing of pending variance applications.
- Subcommittee recommendations to staff included amending Resolution 2020-03¹ to update and clarify determination procedure and authority, and an informational presentation to the Board at a future meeting focusing on a categorical analysis of the different types of variance applications and what the factors in determinations for each category might include, so that the Board and the public have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.
- In addition, there are approximately 8 denied applications that have been processed, reviewed by the prior Variance Committee, and who have paid their appeal fee; the Subcommittee has recommended scheduling hearings during upcoming special meetings for these 8 applications pending an appeal before the Board.

7. Board Member Comments

12:36 P.M.

No Board Member comments were made.

CORRESPONDENCE AGENDA

8. Receive and file correspondence from Russell McGlothlin of O'Melveny & Myers LLP, et al, regarding Basin Management Actions, dated September 3, 2025.

¹ Resolution 2020-03, Amended 2022: <https://s42135.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Resolution-2020-03-Amended.pdf>

9. Receive and file correspondence from Kevin Kildee, Mayor, City of Camarillo, regarding the Camarillo Water Crisis and the operation of the North Pleasant Valley Desalter, dated September 15, 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA

12:36 P.M.

10. Approval of minutes of the June 13, 2025, Board Special meeting.
11. Approval of minutes of the June 25, 2025, Board Regular meeting.
12. Approval of minutes of the July 23, 2025, Board Regular meeting.
13. Approval of minutes of the August 22, 2025, Board Special meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA – FCGMA Items

14. FCGMA Financial Status Report for August 2025

CONSENT AGENDA – LPV Watermaster Items

15. LPV Watermaster Financial Status Report for August 2025
16. Appointment of Ventura County Waterworks Districts Nos. 1 & 19 Representative, Mr. Paul Chan, to the Las Posas Valley Basin Policy Advisory Committee
17. Approval of and Authorization for the Executive Officer to Enter Into a Professional Services Contract with Robert Abrams (PhD, PG, CHG) of Aquilogic, Inc. to Serve as the Landowner Representative to the Calleguas Municipal Water District Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project Study Group

Motion: Director Trembley moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Maulhardt seconded the motion. Chair West called for a vote of all in favor on the motion raised. The motion passed with all in favor at 12:36 P.M.

REGULAR AGENDA – FCGMA

12:36 P.M.

18. **Resolution 2024-05; Reserve Fee Annual Review**

Presenter: John Demers, Executive Officer

Mr. Demers included the following updated revenue and cashflow analysis in his presentation, which supersedes the data presented in his letter to the Board which was included in the Agenda package for this meeting:

Item 9 – Draft September 24, 2025, Meeting Minutes
FCGMA Board Special Meeting, December 12, 2025

	FY 2020-21 <i>Year-End Actuals</i>	FY 2021-22 <i>Year-End Actuals</i>	FY 2022-23 <i>Year-End Actuals</i>	FY 2023-24 <i>Year-End Actuals</i>	FY 2024-25* <i>Year-End Actuals</i>	FY 2025-26 <i>Estimated Projections</i>	FY 2026-27 <i>Estimated Projections</i>
Revenue**	\$443,426	\$1,865,459	\$1,776,295	\$3,064,646	\$2,472,441		
Special Counsel	(\$1,435,145)	(\$1,830,270)	(\$2,049,926)	(\$1,295,000)	(\$1,435,276)	(\$1,575,000)	(\$1,400,00)
County Counsel	(\$121,467)	(\$136,367)	(\$249,170)	(\$142,500)	(\$248,977)	(\$215,000)	(\$175,000)
GEMES Acct***	(\$966,821)	(\$1,067,999)	(\$1,590,800)	\$36,346	\$824,534	(\$965,466)	(\$2,540,466)

* GEMES Reserve Fee renewed September 25, 2024, with the adoption of Resolution 2024-05.

** Revenue based on fee implementation January 1, 2021, through FY 2024-25.

***Projected GEMES Reserve Fund account year-end balance, if no fee is collected.

Presentation slides are indexed with meeting materials online².

Motion: Director Trembley moved to direct Agency staff to continue collecting the GEMES Reserve Fee under Resolution 2024-05 at the currently approved rate of \$20.00 per acre-foot through Fiscal Year 2025-26. Director Maulhardt seconded the motion. Chair West called for a vote of all in favor on the motion raised. The motion passed with all in favor at 12:41 P.M.

REGULAR AGENDA – LPV Watermaster

12:42 P.M.

20. Approval of Las Posas Valley Basin Annual Water Right Allocations for Water Year 2025 (October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026)

Per Item 4, Agenda Review, Item 19 was heard at the end of the Regular Agenda. Item 20 was heard after Item 18.

Presenter: Dr. Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager

Board discussion held:

Dr. Kaseke provided background and development timeline of the calculation of annual Water Right Allocations under the Las Posas Valley Adjudication Judgment for Water Year (WY) 2025, which runs from October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026, according to the LPV Judgment.

Assignment of Action Item:

² See Item 18 Attachments at: <https://ventura.primegov.com/portal/item?id=278318>

Director Craviotto requested that the Annual Allocations schedule reflect the dates of the Water Year as determined by the LPV Judgment, so that the information is clearly reiterated to Water Right Holders.

Motion: Director Craviotto moved to approve and adopt Las Posas Valley Basin Annual Water Right Allocations for Water Year 2025 (October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026). Director Maulhardt seconded the motion. Chair West called for a vote of all in favor on the motion raised. The motion passed with all in favor at 12:57 P.M.

REGULAR AGENDA – LPV Watermaster Items Continued

12:57 P.M.

21. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-07 Approving a \$7.25 Basin Assessment for Fiscal Year 2025-26, Water Year 2025 to Fund the Implementation and Work on Projects Included in the Las Posas Valley Basin Optimization Plan

Presenter: Dr. Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager

Board discussion held:

Dr. Kaseke emphasized that, to date, Watermaster has not invoiced or collected Basin Assessments for any Basin Optimization Plan (BOP) project and therefore does not currently have funds to implement such projects. Watermaster staff recommends the Board separately approve, invoice, and collect Basin Assessments for Watermaster's regular administrative/technical expenses and for Watermaster's project expenses. This approach would isolate funds collected for Watermaster's general administrative and technical costs from funds collected for specific BOP projects and thus facilitate implementation of specific assessments or fees for different management areas that the Board may approve as a matter of equity.

Dr. Craviotto asked when this project Basin Assessment will be billed to Water Right Holders. Dr. Kaseke responded that it would be included as a line item on the Basin Assessment scheduled to be released on October 1, 2025, at the start of the Water Year.

Assignments of Action Items and Deadlines:

Chair West noted that while he appreciated the logic in separating out project assessments from administrative assessments, he would have liked to have seen this proposed Resolution sixty days ago during the budget adoption for this Fiscal Year.

- Chair West clarified that perhaps the numbers were not ready for this particular budget cycle, but moving forward he would like to see this Basin Assessment and its calculations included in Watermaster budget discussions.
- Director Craviotto noted that after the Basin Optimization Yield Study is performed, it will be a lot easier for Watermaster to forecast what projects and expenses will be coming down the line.

Motion: Director Craviotto moved to adopt Resolution No. 2025-07 approving a Basin Assessment in the amount of \$7.25 per acre-foot of annual Water Right Allocation to fund the implementation and work on specified projects included in the Las Posas Valley Basin Optimization Plan. Director Trembley seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote Tally:

Director Craviotto – Yea
Director Trembley – Yea
Director Long – Yea
Director Maulhardt – Yea
Chair West – Yea

Via roll call vote, the motion passed with all in favor at 1:09 P.M.

22. Watermaster Update on Carryover and Overuse

1:10 P.M.

Presenter: John Demers, Executive Officer

Assisting Speaker: Dr. Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager

Assisting Speaker: Jason Canger, Agency Counsel

Board discussion Held and Assignments of Action Items and Deadlines:

Director Long suggested that a Carryover FAQ be added to the LPV Watermaster section of the website, clearly communicating Carryover Terms and Conditions. See Judgment, §4.11.1 for Carryover Terms and Conditions. Director Long reiterated the Board's transparency mandate.

Chair West asked whether Watermaster staff have developed the required administrative procedures and fees attendant necessary to request and obtain an Allocation Transfer from another Water Right Holder. Mr. Demers responded that the form is on the website now. Chair West reminded the Board that past discussions involved an administrative fee and whether it should be levied on the applicant in order to facilitate the staff time involved in administering the transfer without the cost burden falling on all Water Right Holders via Basin Assessments. He asked that staff revisit the fee.

Directors Long and Craviotto asked that the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) be consulted over whether an administrative transfer fee would be a possibility under the Judgment.

Due to the October 31st deadline for Allocation Transfers to be received in order to Cure the Overuse that occurred in Water Year (WY) 2023 (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024), the end of the first Cure period that the Watermaster is administering, Director Long reiterated that the process be communicated to Water Right Holders in a very

transparent manner. Dr. Kaseke responded that the deadlines were posted on the Watermaster Home Page until the Board approved the Annual Report, which contains this information. Dr. Kaseke noted that Water Right Holders received multiple email communications from Watermaster regarding their Extraction and Use Reporting and their associated deadlines. Director Craviotto requested that a link to Carryover information live on the Watermaster Home Page moving forward. Dr. Kaseke agreed.

Director Craviotto also suggested adding a separate column on Annual Allocation calculations for Carryover so the information is clearly communicated on materials sent to Water Right Holders for review and corrections.

Director Long asked whether the Basin Assessments would show on the reporting database (FCGMAonline.org) if Overuse fees from previous Water Years are pending. Dr. Kaseke noted that no Overuse Assessments have been levied at this point in time and added that the online reporting element is still under development; Water Right Holders do not yet have access to this information in the reporting database. Director Maulhardt identified this as a high priority for staff, including the administrative fee for Allocation Transfer applicants. Chair West suggested that the Executive Committee work with PAC to oversee the development of this priority.

Agency Counsel Jason Canger confirmed that the Judgment provides a number of enforcement tools for those who fail to report, as failure to report would be in violation of the Judgment. Chair West noted that this type of enforcement action requires involving the court, which would increase the administration over time. Chair West suggested that enforcement be brought against those who failed to report during Water Year 2023 (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024) now. Chair West noted that if they can't manage their own businesses responsibly, it is not Watermaster's responsibility to do so. Director Trembley agreed that the notification system currently in place is reasonable, and he generally agrees with the Chair on enforcement.

Chair West asked for Public Comment at 1:48 P.M. Public comment was given by:

- Daryl Smith, Grower
- Bert Perello, City of Oxnard Councilmember and FCGMA Alternate Director

Director Maulhardt asked for an update from the Executive Committee once they begin discussion of this priority.

Director Long asked that the contact email for the Extraction and Use Reporting consultant, Regional Government Services (RGS), be published on the website as a reminder to Water Right Holders.

As this was an informational Item only, no Board action was taken.

19. Hearing on R.N. Daily Ranch's Appeal of the Interim Executive Officer's Denial of Well Drilling Application No. 0309 1:56 P.M.

Per Item 4, Agenda Review, Item 19 was heard at the end of the Regular Agenda.

Chair West called the public hearing to order at 1:56 P.M.

Hearing Procedures:

Chair West, in his capacity as Hearing Officer, gave a brief overview of the structure of the appeal hearing: Agency staff first present their report, the appellant then presents, persons in favor of the appeal then present, followed by persons opposed; the appellant will then present a rebuttal if they have one prepared, followed by closing comments from Agency staff or Counsel, culminating in Board discussion and decision. Chair West asked the Clerk to swear in any speaker providing testimony during the hearing.

Regarding procedural rules and policies that will be applicable for purposes of this hearing, Agency Counsel Jason Canger reminded the Board and the public that this is a quasi-adjudicatory hearing; unlike other hearings that decide rules or plan that apply on a general basin wide application, this hearing will determine the privileges of at least two parties. Mr. Canger continued, noting that an adverse party may result from the Board's decision today, and because the Board's decision will be final, that adverse party will have the opportunity to appeal to the Superior Court. There are some formalities in anticipation that there may be an appeal to the Board's decision. Notwithstanding those formalities, generally, proceedings and hearings in front of the Board are informal. There is a basic presentation requirement by either party, but for the attorneys in the room, the formal rules of evidence do not apply; the standard that is applied here is that any information that is presented here is admissible so long that it is the type of information that is understood by a reasonable person to be useful and admissible in this proceeding. Because this is an adjudicatory proceeding, exhibits will be introduced. Mr. Canger asked for patience as presenters and speakers move exhibits into evidence. Staff exhibits will be marked sequentially, whereas all parties' exhibits will be marked alphabetically.

Mr. Canger noted that the Board can ask questions of staff or presenters at any time.

Mr. Canger then reminded the Board that the recommended action, which is that at the conclusion of the Board's deliberation, to direct Agency Counsel to prepare a written decision consistent with your Board's decision and direction; and to continue the hearing to a future meeting for adoption of a written decision.

Speakers:

- Procedural Speaker: Jason Canger, Agency Counsel
- Staff Presenter: John Demers, Executive Officer
 - Assisting staff Speaker, during Board questions and Closing Comments: Dr. Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager
 - Assisting staff Speaker, during Closing Comments: Kathleen Riedel, Groundwater Specialist (ret.)
- Appellant Presenter: Gary D. Arnold, Attorney, Arnold LaRochelle Mathews VanConas & Zirbel, LLP
 - Supporting Appellant Speaker, during Rebuttal: Alan T. Yoshitake, Attorney, Seyfarth Shaw, LLP.

Item 9 – Draft September 24, 2025, Meeting Minutes
FCGMA Board Special Meeting, December 12, 2025

- Opposing Party Presenter: David A. Esquibias, Attorney, Westlake Law Group, PLC
 - Supporting Opposing Party Speaker: Brian E. Hamilton, Attorney, Downey Brand LLP (attended remotely)

A record of the appeal hearing and exhibits introduced is available via this meeting's indexed materials³.

Testimony concluded at 3:55 P.M.

Board Discussion Held:

Chair West stated that while staff made the only decision they could make, they do not have the discretion this Board has. Chair West continued, noting that the problem seems to him to be a consequence of the wellhead-based allocation system; the allocation was based on the common use of those acres during the allocation base period. It makes sense to Chair West to divvy that allocation out according to parcel use so that both parties may have access to the water they used previously. Perhaps a well sharing agreement could be implied based on past shared use of the property and that well. Director Long agreed regarding past history of the allocations and stated that while she does agree to split the allocation, she questions how that can be done without approval of the other party.

Director Maulhardt stressed to the Board that their decision must follow the Agency's own rules and procedures, otherwise unintended consequences will be created. He stated that he is reluctant to enter a family dispute, as there is a continuing dispute between both parties in court regarding trust administration. Director Maulhardt stated that the Board does not have a clear unequivocal authority to intervene; the Board needs to have a well sharing agreement in place; he stated that he does not support the appellant's request and supports the staff's decision.

Director Craviotto stated that at base, the appellant is requesting to replace a failed well. Director Craviotto expressed that he doesn't think the Board has to answer the allocation question with this decision. He suggested adding a caveat for continued water delivery as per historical use.

Director Trembley agreed with Director Maulhardt and stated that he wishes to affirm the Interim Executive Officer's denial of the application. He referred to the staff materials, specifically the Board letter included in the Agenda package, to review the reasoning of the previous Interim Executive Officer and how that was the correct reading of Agency Ordinances. Director Trembley noted that on packet⁴ page 96 of 157, staff asserts that any action other than affirming the denial could result in litigation. Secondly, on packet pages 101 and 102 of 157, the arguments put forth by the Interim Executive Officer were the correct reading of Ordinance E and the correct reading of OPV Allocation Ordinance, § 9.2. To align with the request of the appellant R.N. Daily, the Board would have to

³ Materials (Item 17) and recording: <https://ventura.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=21217>

⁴ Agenda packet Director Trembley references in his comments:
<https://ventura.primegov.com/viewer/preview?id=377763&uid=db111ff5-ad2b-4ada-a0a9-b20956347963&type=2>

expressly ignore the plain language of the Agency Ordinances in order to deny the Executive Officer's decision. Further, the land is getting farmed; it is being used and is being supplied water from Pleasant Valley County Water District, and lease Duda is farming the land. Director Trembley did not see prejudice towards the appellant if the appeal is affirmed by the Board, and the issue may ultimately be decided in probate court. Further, Director Trembley stated, even if one were to argue that the Board has this authority, why should the Board deny the Interim Executive Officer's decision in this instance, especially in the absence of a well sharing agreement? Director Trembley stated his vote is unchanged, and he would vote today to affirm the denial of the application.

Chair West noted that previous discussion from the June 13 Board meeting⁵ included the option of approving the drilling of the replacement well, conditioned to the presentation of a well sharing agreement or an allocation transfer agreement signed by all respective parties. That option, he continued, would give staff what they need and provide the appellant a chance to drill the well.

Director Trembley asked Mr. Canger if this option would cure the issues under OPV Allocation Ordinance, § 9.2. Mr. Canger agreed that this option would satisfy that provision, because a well sharing agreement would then be in place. As staff said, Mr. Canger continued, a well sharing agreement would provide consent from both parties and satisfy that provision. Mr. Canger then read the provision to the Board, noting it was the standard for the Executive Officer's approval of a transfer of allocation. It appears not only in 9.2 of the OPV Allocation Ordinance, but in the previous versions of the Agency's larger ordinance, the Agency Ordinance Code; "Requests for transfer or temporary assignment of extraction allocations shall be submitted jointly by the operators and owners involved and shall include the specific details of their proposal." (OPV Allocation Ordinance, § 9.2.) Mr. Canger then stated that in the absence of a well sharing agreement, the option Chair West brought to light would not satisfy that provision of the OPV Allocation Ordinance.

Chair West asked, in the absence of a well sharing agreement, what authority decides the allocation of that resource? He submitted to his fellow Directors that the authority is the Board. Whether the Board realigns the allocations between the respective parcels or considers the suggestion brought by Director Craviotto, Chair West noted that the Board's action today certainly points out a need for revisions to the Ordinance Code in the future so there is a mechanism by which it's clear that this Agency can recast the allocation of a single wellhead among multiple parcel owners. To resolve this particular appeal, Chair West is happy with either of the options presented today by members of the Board.

Director Maulhardt reiterated his position. The rules are the rules, he said, and a well sharing agreement must be in place in order to approve this application. It is inequitable to come up with a specific decision today for a singular appeal that does not apply for other stakeholders.

⁵ See recording and Item 17 materials from the June 13, 2025, FCGMA Board of Directors Special Meeting:
<https://ventura.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=21217>

For the Board's information, in terms of Counsel's opinion, Mr. Canger stated that, in the face of the Ordinance and the provisions it mandates, he does feel the Board is exposing itself to liability with respect to a petition for writ of mandate if it decides to reverse the Interim Executive Officer's denial in the absence of a well sharing agreement. Acting in contrary to the Agency's own laws or any law does expose the Agency to that type of liability. Secondly, Mr. Canger stated that he is concerned about the precedence that a decision like this might set for the Agency. How might a precedent set today be applied in the future when a similar or even dissimilar situation comes to the Board for decision, and the appellant brings up the action taken today.

Motion: Chair West moved to reverse the decision of the Executive Officer and approve the application of the drilling of a replacement well, conditionally, subject to, and conditioned upon, production of a well sharing agreement and/or an allocation transfer agreement.

Motion Discussion:

Director Maulhardt asked Counsel if the motion on the table met with his concerns. Mr. Canger stated that if the Board were to reverse the Interim Executive Officer's decision and approve it contingent upon a number of conditions, he still does not think that satisfies the Ordinance. He would recommend to deny the appeal and uphold the Interim Executive Officer's decision, and to ask the parties to return with a well sharing agreement. Director Long asked if Mr. Canger's recommendation would incur additional cost to the appellant. Mr. Canger stated responded that no additional appeal fee of \$250 would be assessed.

Director Long seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote Tally:

Director Craviotto – Yea
Director Trembley – Nay
Director Long – Yea
Director Maulhardt – Nay
Chair West – Yea

Via roll call vote, the motion passed with majority in favor at 4:27 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

4:28 P.M.

Chair West asked for public comment regarding the matters agendized in closed session. None was given. Chair West recessed into closed session at 4:28 P.M.

- 23. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION** (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9,

SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: City of Oxnard v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCP00929

24. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI0059700

25. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: OPV Coalition et al v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI00555357

26. Adjournment

Chair West adjourned the meeting from closed session.

Submitted by:

Elka Weber
Clerk of the Board

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura
Michael Craviotto, Farmer, Agricultural Representative
Lynn Maulhardt, Director, United Water Conservation District
Tony Trembley, Councilmember, City of Camarillo

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

DRAFT MINUTES

Action minutes of the Wednesday, October 22, 2025, hybrid regular meeting of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Board of Directors, also sitting as watermaster for the Las Posas Valley Basin and the groundwater sustainability agency for the Las Posas Valley Basin, the Pleasant Valley Basin, and the Oxnard Subbasin. The meeting occurred via Zoom and in-person in the Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room at the Ventura County Government Center, Hall of Administration, at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

1. Call to Order

12:30 P.M.

Chair Eugene F. West called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Director Trembley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Directors Present

Chair Eugene F. West
Director Lynn Maulhardt
Director Tony Trembley
Director Michael Craviotto
Director Kelly Long

Quorum status reached.

Alternate Directors Bert Perello, Keith Ford, and Reddy Pakala attended as members of the public. Alternate Director Pakala attended remotely.

Agency Staff Present

John Demers, Executive Officer
Jason Canger, Agency Counsel
Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager
Robert Hampson, Groundwater Specialist
Elka Weber, Clerk of the Board

4. Agenda Review

12:30 P.M.

No changes to the Agenda.

5. Public Comments

12:31 P.M.

No public comments were made.

6. Executive Officer's Comments

12:31 P.M.

Agency Executive Officer John Demers referred to the administrative report included in the Agenda package.

7. Board Member Comments

12:32 P.M.

Chair West stated that while the inclusion of brief summaries of recently held Committee or Subcommittee meetings in the Executive Officer's Administrative Report accompanying each regular Board meeting is appreciated, he'd like to see a summary report with an overview of action items from each Committee that met recently during Board Member Comments in future meetings.

Director Craviotto reminded Watermaster staff that it is the Agency's purview to inform its stakeholders with transparency, and he requested that Allocation Transfer information and deadlines be especially clear when communicating with Water Right Holders about Annual Allocations accounting. Directors Long and Maulhardt agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE AGENDA

8. Receive and file correspondence from Alexander Nguyen, City Manager, City of Oxnard, regarding the September 15 City of Camarillo Groundwater Adjudication Letter, dated October 13, 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA

12:43 P.M.

9. Approval of minutes of the August 27, 2025, Board Special meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA – FCGMA Items

10. FCGMA Financial Status Report for September 2025

11. FCGMA 2023-2024 Biennial Financial Audit Report

CONSENT AGENDA – LPV Watermaster Items

12. LPV Watermaster Financial Status Report for September 2025

Motion: Director Maulhardt moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Craviotto seconded the motion. Chair West called for a vote of all in favor on the motion raised.

The motion passed with all in favor at 12:43 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

12:43 P.M.

Chair West recessed into closed session at 12:43 P.M.

- 13. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: City of Oxnard v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCP00929**

Chair West reconvened the regular session at 1:27 P.M.

REGULAR AGENDA – FCGMA

1:27 P.M.

- 14. Conduct a Public Hearing and Adopt an Ordinance to Further Amend the Ordinance to Establish an Allocation System for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basins; Find that Adoption of the Ordinance is Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act**

Motion: Chair West moved to remove Item 14 from this meeting's Agenda. He stated that the Board has received correspondence from constituents¹ that express legitimate concerns about this Item that should be addressed and resolved collaboratively with staff before Item 14 is brought to a future Agenda. Director Long seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote Tally:

Director Craviotto – Yea
Director Trembley – Yea
Director Long – Yea
Director Maulhardt – Yea
Chair West – Yea

¹ Review Item 14's materials at: <https://ventura.primegov.com/portal/item?id=279423>

Via roll call vote, the motion passed with all in favor at 1:28 P.M.

REGULAR AGENDA – FCGMA Items Continued

15. Presentation on Framework for Review and Processing of Variance Requests Under the OPV Allocation Ordinance 1:29 P.M.

Presenter: John Demers, Executive Officer

Recommendations outlined in Mr. Demers' presentation:

- Approve the framework presented.
- Direct staff to rescind Resolution No. 2020-03.
- Direct staff to evaluate the need for a new Resolution to codify the review and approval process and to draft procedures, as necessary.
- Direct staff to begin work on a flexible allocation system for extractors who also receive water from another system.

Discussion Held and Assignments of Action Items and Deadlines:

Chair West noted that Mr. Demers' presentation was consistent with discussions raised at the September 12, 2025, Variance Ad Hoc Subcommittee meeting², and he found the outline Mr. Demers presented to the Board productive. Director Maulhardt agreed with the recommendations and supported the proposed protocol, both as presented.

Chair West asked for public comment at 1:42 P.M. Public comment was given by:

Jared Bouchard, General Manager, Pleasant Valley County Water District.

The Board directed Agency staff to prepare materials to rescind Resolution No. 2020-03 and to prepare a Resolution to replace Resolution No. 2020-03.

As this was an informational Item only, no Board action was taken.

16. Presentation on Draft Ordinance and Policy Authorizing Compensation and Reimbursement for the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Board of Directors 1:44 P. M.

Presenter: Jason Canger, Agency Counsel

Discussion Held and Assignments of Action Items and Deadlines:

² See also: <https://fcgma.org/committee-meetings/variance-ad-hoc-subcommittee/>

Chair West suggested that meetings of an appointed ad hoc committee or subcommittee meetings, which are not standing committees but are meetings of an advisory capacity, and which are noticed according to the Brown Act, should be added to the policy authorizing compensation and reimbursement. He noted that meetings with State legislators, or special meetings at the request of the Executive Officer should also be added to the policy.

Director Maulhardt Association of Water Agencies (AWA) events should be a broader category, not just the Water Issues Committee which is currently listed in the policy; for example, the Annual Water Symposium should be included.

Director Trembley noted that travel, meals, and lodging related to covered meetings would be reimbursable expenses in this context; other expenses should not be authorized. The Internal Review Service (IRS) rates of reimbursement are acceptable to be used in this context. Expense reports should be required and should be submitted within 30 days. Conference attendance should receive prior approval by the Executive Officer.

The Board agreed that they already individually take Ethics Trainings as part of their appointments to the boards of other entities.

The Board agreed that the Ordinance did not require a review element; they are comfortable to review the policy and Ordinance when a Director requested such.

Chair West asked for Public Comment at 2:00 P.M. Public comment was given by:

Bert Perello, City of Oxnard Councilmember and FCGMA Alternate Director

The Board agreed that any reimbursement for attending qualified meetings under this policy that is paid by another agency is ineligible for compensation by this Agency. Chair West suggested that Board members would have to submit to staff a reporting form that certifies on the bottom that none of the attended meetings were compensated by another agency.

As this was an informational Item only, no Board action was taken.

REGULAR AGENDA – LPV Watermaster

2:04 P.M.

17. Approval of Watermaster Response Report to LPV Policy Advisory Committee Recommendation Report Regarding LPV Basin Optimization Project; Purchase of Imported Water from Calleguas Municipal Water District for Basin Replenishment (Calleguas In-Lieu Program) Implementation

Presenter: Dr. Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager

Assisting Speaker: Executive Officer John Demers

Recommendation outlined in Dr. Kaseke's presentation:

- Approve the Watermaster Response Report to the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Recommendation Report

Discussion Held and Assignments of Action Items and Deadlines:

Director Trembley asked whether the Agency will receive more clarity from PAC on the capacity charge and ready to serve charges related to the high and low periods, and whether they may apply to the Calleguas In-Lieu Program cost, and he asked whether all the parties that are receiving In-Lieu water are current, pre-existing, paying customers of Calleguas Municipal Water District, meaning they have already paid annexation fees to Calleguas. Dr. Kaseke responded that the parties in question are Zone Mutual Water Company and Waterworks District, which are both already CMWD customers. Dr. Kaseke and Mr. Demers noted that they can confirm this information for the Board. Chair West clarified that the request for clarity is included in the response report to the PAC.

Director Craviotto asked why a carve-out provision for a Basin Assessment is included. Dr. Kaseke referred to the LPV Judgment, with regards to parties within United Water Conservation District's service area who are also responsible for UWCD replenishment fees; Dr. Kaseke noted that staff will need the PAC and the Board to weigh in on the amount to waive or whether or not to waive a Basin Assessment. Chair West asked whether UWCD has been consulted on whether they would consider contributing funds to this program that they have received from these stakeholders in question. Dr. Kaseke agreed to follow up with UWCD.

Motion: Director Trembley moved to approve the Watermaster Response Report to the Policy Advisory Committee Recommendation Report. Director Maulhardt seconded the motion. Chair West called for a vote of all in favor on the motion raised.

The motion passed with all in favor at 2:18 P.M.

18. Approval of Watermaster Response Report to LPV Technical Advisory Committee Recommendation Report Regarding Basin Optimization Yield Study Numerical Modeling Results 2:18 P.M.

Presenter: Dr. Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager

Recommendation outlined in Dr. Kaseke's presentation:

- Approve the Watermaster Response Report to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Recommendation Report

No Board discussion followed the presentation.

Motion: Director Craviotto moved to approve the Watermaster Response Report to the Technical Advisory Committee Recommendation Report. Director Trembley seconded the motion. Chair West called for a vote of all in favor on the motion raised.

The motion passed with all in favor at 2:25 P.M.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

2:25 P.M.

Chair West asked for public comment regarding the matters agendized in closed session. None was given. Chair West recessed into closed session at 2:25 P.M.

23. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: City of Oxnard v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCP00929

24. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI0059700

25. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: OPV Coalition et al v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI00555357

26. Adjournment

Chair West adjourned the meeting from closed session.

Submitted by:

Elka Weber
Clerk of the Board

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura
Michael Craviotto, Farmer, Agricultural Representative
Lynn Maulhardt, Director, United Water Conservation District
Tony Trembley, Councilmember, City of Camarillo

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

DRAFT MINUTES

Action minutes of the Friday, November 14, 2025, hybrid special meeting of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Board of Directors, also sitting as watermaster for the Las Posas Valley Basin and the groundwater sustainability agency for the Las Posas Valley Basin, the Pleasant Valley Basin, and the Oxnard Subbasin. The meeting occurred via Zoom and in-person in the Lower-Plaza Assembly Room, Hall of Administration, at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

1. Call to Order

12:31 P.M.

Chair Eugene F. West called the meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Director Maulhardt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Directors Present

Chair Eugene F. West
Director Lynn Maulhardt
Director Tony Trembley
Director Michael Craviotto
Director Kelly Long

Quorum status reached.

Alternate Directors Bert Perello and Keith Ford attended as members of the public.

Agency Staff Present

John Demers, Executive Officer
Jason Canger, Agency Counsel
Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager
Elka Weber, Clerk of the Board

4. Agenda Review

12:31 P.M.

No changes to the Agenda.

5. Public Comments

12:31 P.M.

No public comments were made.

6. Executive Officer's Comments

12:32 P.M.

Agency Executive Officer John Demers referred to the administrative report included in the Agenda package.

7. Board Member Comments

12:33 P.M.

Director Maulhardt announced that United Water Conservation District is preparing to file a petition to the Supreme Court regarding Federal overreach and its economic impact on the farming community and on local cities. He provided a handout to the Board¹ outlining UWCD's position and lobbying activity to garner support. He asked his fellow Directors to help spread the word to their constituents.

CONSENT AGENDA

12:40 P.M.

CONSENT AGENDA – FCGMA Items

8. FCGMA Financial Status Report for October 2025

CONSENT AGENDA – LPV Watermaster Items

9. LPV Watermaster Financial Status Report for October 2025

Motion: Director Maulhardt moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Long seconded the motion. Chair West called for a vote of all in favor on the motion raised.

The motion passed with all in favor at 12:40 P.M.

REGULAR AGENDA – FCGMA

12:40 P.M.

10. Status of Semi-Annual Groundwater Extraction Statement Reporting for the Water Year 2024-25, 2025-2 Reporting Period, Due November 15, 2025.

Presenter: Dr. Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager
Assisting Speaker: John Demers, Executive Officer

¹ Review handout at: <https://ventura.primegov.com/viewer/preview?id=379276&uid=74642401-5f52-4766-aa3c-561d835f6e33&type=2>

Discussion Held and Assignments of Action Items and Deadlines:

Mr. Demers described the large scope of customer service work required to complete each Semi-Annual Extraction Statement reporting period and noted that staff have been looking at other options for filling in data gaps.

Chair West suggested that the Agency move away from self-reporting. He noted that the Agency will have the technology in the near future to pull data from other sources, which would save staff time and improve accuracy. Mr. Demers stated that the Agency needs to perform outreach with stakeholders to discover their preferences for extraction reporting. Director Long agreed.

Director Maulhardt noted that staff have been working hard on these iterations. He provided background for other Board members regarding self-reporting: FCGMA staff do not have permission to enter private property to read meters. Pushback from stakeholders was intense, which necessitated the Agency move to self-reporting. Director Maulhardt continued, noting that crops rotate unless they're long-term crops, and even then long term crops like trees require water over time. Elements like these would make estimates inaccurate over time. Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) has some issues with automation, and their digital photos are poor quality for AMI. Director Maulhardt then suggested the Agency review a cross-section of problem children and good reporters, and have both groups come in and test the reporting database; observe them and note where the flaws are in the system with regard to user experience.

Director Craviotto suggested that the Agency select and enforce a limited number of digital flowmeters, such as 5 types only, and offer incentives to people to switch to these meters.

Chair West asked for a second update in January on compliance data after two rounds of Notices of Violation (NOVs) have gone out.

As this was an informational Item only, no Board action was taken.

REGULAR AGENDA – FCGMA Items Continued

- 11. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-08 to Rescind Resolution No. 2020-03 and Eliminate the Variance Review Committee Requirement from the Process of Reviewing Variance Applications in the OPV Basin, Establishing a New Framework for Resuming the Processing of Variance Applications Under the OPV Allocation Ordinance**
1:23 P.M.

Presenter: John Demers, Executive Officer

Motion: Director Maulhardt moved to Adopt Resolution No. 2025-08 to rescind Resolution No. 2020-03 and eliminate the Variance Review Committee

requirement from the process for reviewing OPV Basin variance applications, establishing a new framework for resuming the processing of variance applications under the OPV Allocation Ordinance. Director Craviotto seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote Tally:

Director Craviotto – Yea
Director Trembley – Yea
Director Long – Yea
Director Maulhardt – Yea
Chair West – Yea

Via roll call vote, the motion passed with all in favor at 1:24 P.M.

12. Conduct a Public Hearing on Adoption of a Proposed Ordinance Authorizing Compensation for the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Board of Directors; Adopt the Proposed Ordinance; and Approve FCGMA Board Compensation and Reimbursement Policy 1:25 P.M.

Presenter: Jason Canger, Agency Counsel

Chair West called the public hearing to order and asked for public comment at 1:25 P.M.

Public Comment was given by:

Bert Perello, City of Oxnard Councilmember and FCGMA Alternative Director

Discussion Held:

Director Maulhardt stated that the trainings listed are mandated by law, and he does not want to have to repeat trainings for different boards. He requests that this be added to the Ordinance. Director Long noted that she receives a certification every 2 years after undergoing mandated trainings, not every 5 years, and she shares that certification with other boards. Director Long noted that section 7 of the policy needs to be updated accordingly. Mr. Canger clarified that the 5 year element referred to document retention, not cadence of training.

Motion: Director Trembley moved to adopt the proposed Ordinance authorizing Compensation for the FCGMA Board of Directors; and moved to approve the proposed accompanying FCGMA Board Compensation and Reimbursement Policy. Director Maulhardt seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote Tally:

Director Craviotto – Yea
Director Trembley – Yea

Director Long – Yea
Director Maulhardt – Yea
Chair West – Yea

Via roll call vote, the motion passed with all in favor at 1:32 P.M.

13. Approve the Hiring of Additional Agency Staff

1:33 P.M.

Presenter: John Demers, Executive Officer

Discussion Held and Assignments of Action Items and Deadlines:

Director Maulhardt asked what the level of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employees would be at the Agency once the two proposed staff positions are filled and asked after the timeline for hiring to get the Agency to the number of FTEs required to perform Agency tasks, as identified by the Hallmark Staffing Needs Analysis². Chair West clarified that today's action would bring the Agency to 13 FTEs only. Mr. Demers responded that the Agency is adding new staff 2 at a time and are continuing to assess staffing needs with each role added. Director Maulhardt signaled understanding and expressed support for the working progress today's proposal showed.

Chair West asked for Public Comment at 1:43 P.M. Public Comment was given by:

Kathy Janowski, Stakeholder (via Zoom)

Mr. Demers clarified that the existing budget supports this level of hiring.

Motion: Director Trembley moved to approve the addition of two new staff positions for the Agency, and to direct staff to work with County Human Resources to create a Groundwater Manager position and a new Business Operations Manager position and to initiate the hiring process for the two positions. Director Craviotto seconded the motion. Chair West called for a vote of all in favor on the motion raised.

The motion passed with all in favor at 1:47 P.M.

REGULAR AGENDA – LPV Watermaster

1:48 P.M.

14. Status Update on Water Year 2024-25 Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting Delinquencies

Presenter: Dr. Farai Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager

² https://s42135.pcdn.co/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/20250212_Agency-Staffing-Analysis-Report_Hallmark-Group.pdf

Assisting Speaker: Jason Canger, Agency Counsel

Discussion Held:

Director Craviotto asked how a Water Rights Holder might revise a statement if needed. Dr. Kaseke responded that they would contact Watermaster to authorize the reopening of the reporting in need of revision. Dr. Kaseke noted that if the party still has the link in their email inbox, they can access the reporting at any time. He added that this procedure is reviewed with people new to Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting during an introductory meeting.

Chair West reminded the Board that the LPV Judgment imposes the responsibility of due diligence, the onus of that, on the property owner, including new buyers.

As this was an informational Item only, no Board action was taken.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

2:12 P.M.

Chair West asked for public comment regarding the matters agendized in closed session. None was given. Chair West recessed into closed session at 2:12 P.M.

- 23. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION** (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: City of Oxnard v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 20STCP00929
- 24. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION** (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI0059700
- 25. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION** (Gov. Code, §54956.9) PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9, SUBDIVISION (d), PARAGRAPH (1): NAME OF CASE: OPV Coalition et al v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. VENCI00555357

26. Adjournment

Chair West adjourned the meeting from closed session.

Item 11 – Draft November 14, 2025, Meeting Minutes
FCGMA Board Special Meeting, December 12, 2025

Submitted by:

Elka Weber
Clerk of the Board

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	FUND: 0170 UNIT: 5795	DETAIL BY ACCOUNTING PERIOD							
2	FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY	OBJ	PROGRAM	TOTAL	AP 01	AP 02	AP 03	AP 04	AP 05
3	Financial Status Report as of November 2025				July	August	September	October	November
4	BEGINNING CASH BALANCE			10,774,951.83	10,774,951.83	10,425,342.28	10,115,128.69	10,037,008.47	10,092,220.84
5	REVENUE:								
6	PUMP CHARGES	9790	P6020901	134,089.65	(173,699.81)	11,095.78	34,193.01	58,556.90	203,943.77
7	SURCHARGES	9790	P6020903	562,823.41	6,004.45	(0.01)	46,068.96	46,449.90	464,300.11
8	INTEREST/ PENALTIES	9790	P6020904	47,907.41	4,318.83	16,707.45	8,210.74	14,441.28	4,229.11
9	GEMES RESERVE FEE	9790	P6020907	939,718.05	34,326.70	2,290.85	63,657.06	160,233.29	679,210.15
10	SUSTAINABILITY FEE	9790	P6020908	1,353,473.28	49,087.88	3,322.15	83,345.14	232,397.15	985,320.96
11	FCGMA TECH SERVICES - GRANT	9708	P6020852	51,501.00	-	-	51,501.00	-	-
12	INTEREST EARNINGS	8911	-	(52,658.13)	(145,562.29)	40,246.03	-	52,658.13	-
13	OTHER REV	9790	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	TOTAL REVENUE			3,036,854.67	(225,524.24)	73,662.25	286,975.91	564,736.65	2,337,004.10
15	EXPENDITURES:								
16	SUPPORT								
17	PUBLIC WORKS CHARGES	2205	-	1,062,658.96	113,748.03	197,137.77	241,772.81	318,922.61	191,077.74
18	PUBLIC WORKS CHARGES - CSD ALLOCATION	2199	P6020850	121,900.00	-	60,950.00	-	-	60,950.00
19	FCGMA ONLINE SUPPORT	2202	P6020850/70	18,318.71	-	7,231.02	3,599.27	3,785.45	3,702.97
20	WPD - SCR Coordinator	2199	P6020850	1,500.00	-	-	-	-	1,500.00
21	GSA CHARGES								
22	PURCHASING CHARGES ISF	2165	P6020850	1.40	-	-	-	1.12	0.28
23	GRAPHICS CHARGES ISF	2166	P6020850	676.26	-	-	35.00	353.26	288.00
24	GIS - ISF	2203	P6020850	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	SPECIAL SERVCS ISF	2206	P6020850	2,257.24	-	-	1,394.12	455.56	407.56
26	VOICE DATA ISF	2032	P6020850	56.10	-	22.44	11.22	11.22	11.22
27	MAIL CENTER ISF	2169	P6020850	67.59	-	-	-	-	67.59
28	STORES ISF	2168	P6020850	6.00	-	-	-	6.00	-
29	CONTRACT								
30	CONSULTANT CONTRACT (DUDEK) - Implementation	2183	P6020858	9,290.00	-	9,290.00	-	-	-
31	CONSULTANT CONTRACT (DUDEK) - Annual reports	2183	P6020858	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	LEGAL								
33	COUNTY COUNSEL	2185	P6020853	39,175.50	-	9,964.50	10,783.50	10,032.75	8,394.75
34	COUNTY COUNSEL (GEMES) - LPV Basin Adjudication	2185	P6020864	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	COUNTY COUNSEL (GEMES) - City of Oxnard v FCGMA	2185	P6020866	10,442.25	-	409.50	1,160.25	1,842.75	7,029.75
36	COUNTY COUNSEL (GEMES) - OPV Coalition v FCGMA	2185	P6020867	32,282.25	-	6,006.00	23,341.50	2,934.75	-
37	COUNTY COUNSEL (GEMES) - OPV Coalition v FCGMA-Travel Expense	2292	P6020867	42.00	-	-	42.00	-	-
38	OTHER LEGAL FEES (Stoel) (GEMES) - LPV Basin Adjudication	2185	P6020864	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	OTHER LEGAL FEES (Stoel) (GEMES) - City of Oxnard v FCGMA	2185	P6020866	327.32	-	81.83	163.66	-	81.83
40	OTHER LEGAL FEES (Stoel) (GEMES) - OPV Coalition v FCGMA	2185	P6020867	887.25	-	-	-	-	887.25
41	OTHER LEGAL FEES (Shute Mihaly) (GEMES) - OPV Coalition v FCGMA	2185	P6020867	343,597.75	-	53,485.51	78,178.53	130,339.80	81,593.91
42	OTHER LEGAL FEES (GMSR) (GEMES) - City of Oxnard v FCGMA	2185	P6020866	107,895.00	-	29,775.00	-	40,210.00	37,910.00
43	GRANT								
44	KENNEDY JENKS	2199	P6020852	130.00	130.00	-	-	-	-
45	OTHER								
46	BOARD MEMBERS INSURANCE	2072	P6020850	5,430.28	4,997.28	433.00	-	-	-
47	BIENNIAL AUDIT	2199	P6020850	13,505.00	-	8,990.00	4,515.00	-	-
48	LAFCO FUNDING	2159	P6020850	5,192.00	5,192.00	-	-	-	-
49	PUBLICATIONS AND LEGAL NOTICES	2221	P6020850	898.69	-	-	-	449.34	449.35
50	SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTIONS NON ISF (ZOOM)	2236	P6020850	397.08	-	99.27	99.27	99.27	99.27
51	MISC OFFICE EXPENSE	2159/79	P6020850	98.40	18.00	-	-	80.40	-
52	TOTAL EXPENDITURES			1,777,033.03	124,085.31	383,875.84	365,096.13	509,524.28	394,451.47
53	NET MONTHLY INCOME				(349,609.55)	(310,213.59)	(78,120.22)	55,212.37	1,942,552.63
54	ENDING CASH BALANCE			12,034,773.47	10,425,342.28	10,115,128.69	10,037,008.47	10,092,220.84	12,034,773.47
55	<p>NOTES:</p> <p>The Semi-Annual Groundwater Extraction Statements (SAES), SAES-2025-2 for the reporting period 04/01/25-09/30/25, were released on October 01, 2025, and were due November 15, 2025. Revenue increased by \$1,772,267.45 (313.8%) in November compared to October, mostly driven by payments for SAES-2025-2. No interest earnings were allocated from the County Pooled Investment fund this month.</p> <p>Expenses decreased by \$115,072.81 (22.6%) from October. The main reason was the higher Agency labor cost recorded in October. October had three paydays (10/03, 10/17, and 10/31) recording payroll charges this month versus the usual two. Legal fees declined by 26.7% compared to the prior month, reflecting lower charges from County Counsel, OPV Coalition v FCGMA (Shute Mihaly & Weinberger LLP), and City of Oxnard v FCGMA (Greines Martin Stein & Richland LLP). Additional expenses processed in November included \$60,950 CSD quarterly allocation and \$1,500 for the Santa Clara River Watershed Coordinator for Fiscal Year 2025.</p>								

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	FUND: O171 UNIT: 5796	DETAIL BY ACCOUNTING PERIOD							
2	LPV WATERMASTER	OBJ	PROG	TOTAL	AP 01	AP 02	AP 03	AP 04	AP 05
3	Financial Status Report as of November 2025				July	August	September	October	November
4	BEGINNING CASH BALANCE			1,265,314.36	1,265,314.36	1,186,052.32	961,109.41	906,197.06	1,232,394.49
5	REVENUE:								
6	BASIN ASSESSMENT FEE	9790	P6020670	470,307.80	(30,504.01)	2,782.43	-	368,021.33	130,008.05
7	BASIN ASSESSMENT INTEREST	9790	P6020671	634.14	275.23	278.24	-	1.55	79.12
8	LPV BOP ASSESSMENT	9790	P6020674	50,312.26	-	-	-	34,585.64	15,726.62
9	INTEREST EARNINGS	8911	-	(8,353.72)	(25,765.00)	9,057.56	-	8,353.72	-
10	TOTAL REVENUE			512,900.48	(55,993.78)	12,118.23	-	410,962.24	145,813.79
11	EXPENDITURES:								
12	SUPPORT								
13	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV WATERMASTER ADMINISTRATION	2205	P6020660	41,735.42	3,838.18	8,463.88	7,911.22	14,349.86	7,172.28
14	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV ALLOCATIONS & RECORD KEEPING	2205	P6020661	35,589.83	2,848.08	4,313.43	3,740.50	12,529.81	12,158.01
15	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV BASIN MANAGEMENT	2205	P6020662	45,914.02	1,033.04	8,409.43	3,629.80	16,673.41	16,168.34
16	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV COMMITTEE COORDINATION AND CONSULTATIONS	2205	P6020663	9,686.84	2,522.95	2,909.91	2,389.32	630.77	1,233.89
17	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV BUDGET & ASSESSMENTS	2205	P6020664	9,007.91	1,972.41	901.93	-	4,747.09	1,386.48
18	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV LEGAL SERVICES	2205	P6020666	2,434.41	408.82	543.25	-	847.05	635.29
19	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV IT SERVICE & SUPPORT	2205	P6020667	6,803.69	282.29	1,443.91	359.15	3,591.53	1,126.81
20	PUBLIC WORKS CHARGES - LPV IT SERVICE & SUPPORT (CSD IT)	2199	P6020667	87,400.00	-	43,700.00	-	-	43,700.00
21	PUBLIC WORKS CHARGES - FISCAL SUPPORT (CSD FISCAL)	2199	P6020664	12,450.00	-	6,225.00	-	-	6,225.00
22	LPV CALLEGUAS ASR STUDY GROUP PROJECT OPERATIONS	2205	P6020665	119.72	-	-	-	119.72	
23	LPV PROJECT BASIN ASSESSMENT IMPLEMENTATION	2205	P6020668	7,867.97	-	-	3,893.36	1,054.60	2,920.01
24	LEGAL								
25	LPV LEGAL SERVICES - COUNTY COUNSEL	2185	P6020666	46,137.00	-	13,513.50	7,644.00	10,578.75	14,400.75
26	LPV LEGAL SERVICES - STOEL RIVES - LPV Water Rights	2185	P6020666	69,558.89	-	42,522.65	17,343.06		9,693.18
27	LPV LEGAL SERVICES - STOEL RIVES - GENERAL LEGAL	2185	P6020666	21,826.40	-	-	-	-	21,826.40
28	CONTRACTS								
29	RGS AUTHORITY	2199	P6020661	34,852.50	10,362.49	-	8,001.94	7,594.22	8,893.85
30	TODD GROUNDWATER-TAC	2199	P6020663	22,185.00	-	6,972.50	-	6,963.75	8,248.75
31	AQUILLOGIC-TAC	2199	P6020663	4,940.00	-	1,520.00	-	3,420.00	-
32	DANIEL B STEPHENS & ASSOCIATES-TAC	2199	P6020663	4,200.25	-	1,347.25	-	1,109.50	1,743.50
33	DANIEL B STEPHENS & ASSOCIATES-PAC	2199	P6020663	871.75	-	317.00	-	554.75	-
34	DUDEK (GSP Update Task 10.2.1 - Committee Review & Response, Periodic Evaluation)	2183	P6020662	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	DUDEK (Initial Basin Optimization Plan - Tasks 12.5 - 12.7)	2183	P6020662	442.50	-	442.50	-	-	-
36	DUDEK (2025 Basin Optimization Yield Study)	2183	P6020662	80,135.00	-	80,135.00	-	-	-
37	DUDEK (Task 13 - Technical Advisory Committee Watermaster Support Services)	2183	P6020663	13,380.00	-	13,380.00	-	-	-
38	OTHER								
39	AUDIT - BROWN ARMSTRONG ACCOUNTANCY CORP	2199	P6020664	1,882.00	-	-	-	-	1,882.00
40	TOTAL EXPENDITURES			559,421.10	23,268.26	237,061.14	54,912.35	84,764.81	159,414.54
41	NET MONTHLY INCOME				(79,262.04)	(224,942.91)	(54,912.35)	326,197.43	(13,600.75)
42	ENDING CASH BALANCE			1,218,793.74	1,186,052.32	961,109.41	906,197.06	1,232,394.49	1,218,793.74
43	<p>NOTES:</p> <p>For Water Year 2025 (October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026), the Board approved a \$60 per Acre-Foot (AF) Basin Assessment and a \$7.25/AF Basin Optimization Projects (BOP) Assessment, both to be invoiced in four equal installments. The LPV-2025-1 Basin Assessments were issued October 1, 2025, and were due by October 31, 2025. The statements included the new BOP Assessment at \$1.82/AF for the first installment. In November, LPV Watermaster recorded \$130,008.05 in Basin Assessment payments, \$15,726.62 in BOP Assessments and \$79.12 in Assessment interest. There were no interest earnings allocated from the County Pooled Investment fund this month.</p> <p>In November, total expenses increased by \$74,649.73 (88%) from October. The increase was due to the Central Services Department (CSD) quarterly allocation processed in November: \$6,225 for Fiscal and \$43,700 for IT support. Legal expenses increased by 77% due to invoices from Stoel Rives for August and September services being processed this month. Going forward there will be two Stoel Rives invoices per month for LPV Watermaster legal services: one invoice for representing FCGMA/Watermaster in court proceedings to defend the LPV Judgment, and another invoice for general legal advice to Watermaster on issues related to implementing the Judgment. The two separate invoices will provide greater detail on legal services expenses. Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation is currently conducting an LPV Watermaster audit review and has submitted the first invoice for \$1,882. Total for Fiscal Year 2025 audit review will be \$14,150 per contract.</p>								

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A State of California Water Agency



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, *Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District*
Kelly Long, *Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura*
Michael Craviotto, *Farmer, Agricultural Representative*
Lynn Maulhardt, *Director, United Water Conservation District*
Tony Trembley, *Councilperson, City of Camarillo*

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

December 12, 2025

Board of Directors
Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009-1600

SUBJECT: Approve and Authorize the Executive Officer to Execute a Modification to the Professional Services Contract with Regional Government Services to Provide Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting Services – (New Item)

RECOMMENDATION: Approve and authorize the Executive Officer to execute a modification to the professional services contract with Regional Government Services (RGS) to administer the Las Posas Valley (LPV) Adjudication Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting program and to provide related technical assistance and support.

BACKGROUND:

The LPV Adjudication Judgment (Judgment) requires that all parties that extract or use groundwater in a given Water Year submit a completed semi-annual Groundwater Extraction and Use Form to Watermaster that specifies the total amount of groundwater extracted and used by each party (Exhibit A, § 5.2). On March 26, 2024, your Board approved a \$53,000 annual contract with Regional Government Services (RGS) to administer groundwater extraction and use reporting in support of the Las Posas Valley Adjudication Judgment (Judgment). The scope of this contract included 19 separate tasks including accounting of carryover and overuse for Water Year (WY) 2024.

DISCUSSION:

On November 14, 2025, Watermaster staff informed your Board of the challenges staff and their consultant face while preparing the annual allocations accounting. These challenges include incomplete reporting, late reporting, non-reporting, requests for corrections, combining of WMID extractions, use of uncalibrated flowmeters, illegible photos and or photos that do not align with the reporting period. These reporting inconsistencies result in additional effort and cost to ensure staff capture accurate data essential for the annual accounting as required by the Judgment. In addition, staff informed your Board that 23.57% of parties required to report groundwater extraction and use to Watermaster for WY 2023 failed to do so for one or more reporting periods, making

it impossible to calculate either carryover or overuse for the affected WMIDs. Similarly, incomplete reporting in WY 2024 will compound the problem especially if delinquent reporters are different from those in the WY 2023 reporting.

Considering these challenges, staff and RGS have been proactive in trying to address these challenges, working with the affected parties to rectify missing, late, non-reporting, or inconsistent data, hence the increased costs. At the same time, Watermaster staff and RGS continue to refine time estimates and thus costs associated with this exercise. In addition, Watermaster staff anticipate additional support to iteratively update the survey tool for WY 2025 (Oct. 2025 – Sep. 2026) thus, staff anticipate the not-to-exceed cap to be reached in advance of the 12-month validity of the contract, hence the request for a \$30,000 contract modification to the existing contract.

The contract modification will include the following amendments summarized here and in the attached Exhibit 14A:

1. Increase the not-to-exceed limit by \$30,000 to a revised total not-to-exceed of \$83,000.
2. Amend the scope of services to include:
 - Audit and Follow-Up Activities
 - Survey Preparation and Testing for WY 2026
 - Final Reporting – Multi-Year Accounting
3. Ensure all other terms in the contract remain in full force and effect.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that your Board approve and authorize the Executive Officer to execute a modification to the professional services contract with RGS for Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting work, services, and related technical assistance and support, in an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$83,000 through March 31, 2026.

This letter has been reviewed by Agency Counsel. If you have any questions, please call me at (805) 654 2954.

Sincerely,



Kudzai Farai Kaseke (PhD, PH, PMP, CSM)
Assistant Groundwater Manager

Attachment:

Exhibit 14A – RGS Professional Services Contract Modification 1 and Exhibits



AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES

Contract Modification 1

This first amendment to the Agreement For Services between the **FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY** ("Agency") and Regional Government Services Authority, hereinafter called "RGS" is made and entered into this 12th day of December, 2025.

RECITALS

The Agency and RGS entered into an Agreement for services dated March 26, 2025. This Amendment is entered into with reference to the following facts and circumstances:

- A. **Section 3, Compensation / Attachment B**, is amended to increase the Not To Exceed (NTE) amount by \$30,000, to a revised total of \$83,000.
- B. **Attachment A, Scope of Services**, is amended to include the following additional services:
 - 1. **Audit and Follow-Up Activities:** RGS will facilitate audits and follow-up communications with multiple reporting parties to address inconsistencies between submitted reports and expected allocations or extraction levels. This shall include two audits completed during the first reporting period and one audit completed during the second reporting period.
 - 2. **Survey Preparation and Testing:** RGS will prepare, update, and test modifications to the survey instrument to ensure accuracy and clarity.
 - 3. **Final Reporting – Multi-Year Accounting:** RGS will prepare and include in the final report a multi-year accounting of carryover and cure.
- C. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Additional Services Amendment to be executed on the date first above written by their respective officers duly authorized in that behalf.

Dated: _____

Agency

Dated: _____

RGS

John Demers, Executive Officer

Chris Paxton, Chief Operating Officer

RGS is a public agency (a Joint Powers Authority) dedicated to improving local government and communities by delivering exceptional consulting services.

Main 650.587.7300 Fax 650.587.7311 P.O. Box 1350 Carmel Valley, CA 93924

Exhibit A
Contract Modification 1

Compensation.

1. **Fees.** Agency agrees to pay to RGS the hourly rates set forth in the tables below for each RGS employee providing services to Agency, which are based in part on RGS' full cost of compensation and support for the RGS employee(s) providing the services herein described.

RGS and Agency acknowledge and agree that compensation paid by Agency to RGS under this Agreement is based upon RGS' costs of providing the services required hereunder. The Parties further agree adjustments to the hourly bill rate shown below for "RGS Staff" will be made on July 1 of each year, when RGS' hourly bill rates will be adjusted by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index (Bureau of Labor Statistics, CPI for urban wage earners and clerical workers in the San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose area) ("CPI") for the twelve months through the end of December of the prior year. Irrespective of the movement of the CPI, RGS will not adjust its hourly rates downward; nor will RGS adjust its hourly rates upward in excess of a five percentage (5%) change, excepting instances where there was no increase in the prior year's hourly rates. In that event, RGS will adjust its hourly rates by the full percentage change in the CPI for the twelve months through the end of December of the prior year.

2. **Reimbursement of RGS' Direct Costs.** Agency shall reimburse RGS for direct external costs. Direct external costs, including such expenses as travel or other costs incurred for the exclusive benefit of the Agency are not included in the hourly bill rate and, will be invoiced to Agency when received and without mark-up. These external costs will be due upon receipt.
3. **Terms of Payment.** RGS shall submit invoices monthly for the prior month's services. Invoices shall be sent approximately 10 days after the end of the month for which services were performed and are due and shall be delinquent if not paid within 30 days of receipt. Delinquent payments will be subject to a late payment carrying charge computed at a periodic rate of one-half of one percent per month, which is an annual percentage rate of six percent, which will be applied to any unpaid balance owed commencing 7 days after the payment due date. Additionally, in the event the Agency fails to pay any undisputed amounts due to RGS within 15 days after payment due date, then Agency agrees that RGS shall have the right to consider said default a total breach of this Agreement and the duties of RGS under this Agreement may be terminated by RGS upon 5 working days' advance written notice.

Payment Process/Address. RGS prefers invoices be paid electronically.

RGS will reach out to your invoicing contact to establish and provide electronic payment instructions.

However, should you have questions or need other payment options, please contact:

Lindsay Rice, RGSA Accounting Manager
(650) 587-7300X12 | lrice@rgs.ca.gov

[EXHIBIT A CONTINUES ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

AGENCY CONTACTS

Agency Billing Contact. Invoices are sent electronically only. Please provide the contact persons to whom invoices should be sent:

NAME	EMAIL
Daiva Pekinas	daiva.pekinas@venturacounty.gov
Elka Weber	elka.weber@venturacounty.gov

Agency Insurance Contact. Please provide the contact persons to whom the certificate of coverage should be sent:

NAME	EMAIL
Daiva Pekinas	daiva.pekinas@venturacounty.gov
Elka Weber	elka.weber@venturacounty.gov

RGS STAFF RATES

TITLE	HOURLY RATE*
Strategic Services Consultant	\$186
Senior Advisor	\$157
Advisor	\$135
Technical Specialist	\$119
Administrative Specialist	\$106

**The Hourly Rate does not include direct external costs which will be invoiced to Agency with no markup and will fall outside of the not-to-exceed (if established) for services provided.*

Exhibit B
Contract Modification 1

Scope of Services. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Regional Government Services Authority (RGS) shall perform the work, services, and functions to accomplish groundwater extraction and reporting requirements in compliance with the Judgment as described below:

Tasks

1. To the extent feasible within project timeline shown below, enhance the electronic reporting tool that will allow a Party to the Judgment to report total groundwater extracted and used, including photos of flowmeter readings, to Watermaster pursuant to the Judgment (including but not necessarily limited to Section 4.5 of the Judgment and Section 5.2 of Exhibit A of the Judgment).
2. Upon receipt of a list of extractors' email addresses from the Agency, send a notice and reporting tool link to each reporting party with introductory information and instructions on how to complete reporting. Prepare introductory information, instructions and information to answer frequently asked questions to post on Agency web page.
3. Monitor completion or submission of such data by the parties to the Judgment;
4. Follow-up as needed via electronic communication with parties to ensure reporting compliance no later than May 1st (First Reporting period) and November 1st (Second Reporting period) per the Judgment;
5. Compile extraction and use data received from parties per reporting period into a .CSV file for Watermaster to use and provide assistance with data if needed.
6. Serve as primary customer support to respond to stakeholder questions regarding reporting requirements and the reporting tool, both email and telephone, with specific references to the Judgment.
7. Provide a spreadsheet containing the annual allocations accounting for Water 2024 (October 1, 2024 – September 31, 2025), and publication template for use if desired in presenting allocation accounting data in the WY 2024 Annual Report (Judgment, § 5.2.4.3).
8. Draft Annual Allocations Accounting for WY 2024 by December 15, 2025
9. **Audit and Follow-Up Activities: RGS will facilitate audits and follow-up communications with multiple reporting parties to address inconsistencies between submitted reports and expected allocations or extraction levels. This shall include two audits completed during the first reporting period and one audit completed during the second reporting period.**
10. **Survey Preparation and Testing: RGS will prepare, update, and test modifications to the survey instrument to ensure accuracy and clarity.**
11. **Final Reporting – Multi-Year Accounting: RGS will prepare and include in the final report a multi-year accounting of carryover and cure.**

Time Schedule

TASK	DESCRIPTION	DUE DATE
1	Develop enhancements for process and tools for reporting groundwater extraction and use data for first reporting period. Enhancements will be prioritized for inclusion by RGS based on feasibility; and FCGMA team will be notified prior to implementation.	March 28, 2025
2	Send email announcement of upcoming reporting	March 24, 2025
3	Send notice and reporting tool link to each reporting party	April 1, 2025
4	Send email reminder on reporting due date (2-week reminder)	April 17, 2025
5	Send final courtesy email reminder of due date	April 24, 2025
6	Collect and aggregate submission of data	May 1, 2025
7	Follow-up with reporting parties as needed via electronic communication as needed	June 1, 2025
8	Compile and analyze data received from reporting parties into a .CSV; provide PDF survey data files.	By June. 1, 2025
9	Develop enhancements for electronic process and tools for reporting groundwater extraction and use data for second reporting period. Enhancements will be prioritized for inclusion by RGS based on feasibility; and completed enhancements will be reviewed at least once with FCGMA team prior to implementation.	September 1, 2025
10	Send email announcement of upcoming reporting	September 15, 2025
11	Send notice and reporting tool link to each reporting party	October 1, 2025

TASK	DESCRIPTION	DUE DATE
12	Send email reminder on reporting due date (2-week reminder)	October 17, 2025
13	Send final curtesy email reminder of due date	October 24, 2025
14	Collect and aggregate submission of data	November 1, 2025
15	Compile and analyze data received from reporting parties into a .CSV; provide PDF survey data files.	November 30, 2025
16	Calculate carryover (Judgment, § 4.11)	December 15, 2025
17	Calculate overuse and cure (Judgment, § 4.15)	December 15, 2025
18	Calculate Annual Allocations accounting for WY2024 (Judgment, § 5.2.4.3)	December 15, 2024
19	Respond to stakeholder questions regarding reporting requirements and the reporting tool, both email and telephone, with specific references to the Judgment; follow-up with reporting parties as needed via electronic communication; maintain meter and extraction data.	Ongoing through April 30, 2026

Time Schedule is amended to include the following additional ongoing Tasks:

1. Audit and Follow-Up Activities: RGS will facilitate audits and follow-up communications with multiple reporting parties to address inconsistencies between submitted reports and expected allocations or extraction levels. This shall include two audits completed during the first reporting period and one audit completed during the second reporting period.

2. Survey Preparation and Testing: RGS will prepare, update, and test modifications to the survey instrument to ensure accuracy and clarity.

3. Final Reporting – Multi-Year Accounting: RGS will prepare and include in the final report a multi-year accounting of carryover and cure.

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura
Michael Craviotto, Farmer, Agricultural Representative
Lynn Maulhardt, Director, United Water Conservation District
Tony Trembley, Councilmember, City of Camarillo

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

December 12, 2025

Board of Directors
Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009-1600

SUBJECT: Agency Board Meeting, Special Meeting, and Committee Meeting Schedules for Calendar Year 2026 – (New Item)

RECOMMENDATIONS: (1) Approve the 2026 Board Regular Meeting Schedule as submitted or as modified by the Board; (2) Approve the 2026 Board Special Meeting Schedule as submitted or as modified by the Board; and (3) Approve the 2026 Committee Meeting Schedules as submitted or as modified by the Board.

BACKGROUND:

Annually, usually during the month of December, the Board of Directors considers a proposed schedule of Board meetings for the following year.

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to Agency practice, staff has developed a proposed schedule of Board Regular meetings and reserved time for Board Special meetings for calendar year 2026 for your consideration and approval during today's meeting (official meeting schedules for posting are attached as Exhibits 15A and 15B). The schedule of special meetings is proposed to ensure Board members and facilities are available if there is need for a special meeting.

Agency staff have also developed schedules for the Executive, Fiscal, and Operations Committees for calendar year 2026 for your consideration and approval (official meeting schedules for posting are attached as Exhibits 15C, 15D, and 15E) which will be posted publicly once finalized.

Of note: the July Board Regular meeting is scheduled in the Multi-Purpose Room, with a start time of 1:30 PM, due to conference room availability. Other Board Regular meetings share the same start time and room: 12:30 PM in the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room. In addition, the proposed calendar year 2026 Board Regular meeting schedule prepared by Agency staff continues the practice of the Board going "Dark" during November (since the fourth Wednesday is the day before the Thanksgiving Holiday). The Board Regular meeting in December is scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2026. This meeting is

Item 15 – Calendar Year 2026 FCGMA Board and Committee Meeting Schedules
FCGMA Board Special Meeting, December 12, 2025

suggested to occur earlier in the month to avoid possible scheduling conflicts with the holiday season. See also Exhibit 15F (attached), Scheduled Meetings for Calendar Year 2026.

CONCLUSION:

Based on your Board's action today, Agency staff will publish the final adopted year 2026 Board Regular Meeting Schedule, Board Special Meeting Schedule and 2026 Committee Meeting Schedules in accordance with applicable notification requirements found in the Ralph M. Brown Act and standard Agency information posting policies and procedures. The schedules will be added to the Agency website's Events tab at <https://fcgma.org/events/>. For more information about Board meetings and materials, please visit <https://fcgma.org/board-agendas-broadcasts-minutes/>.

This letter has been reviewed by Agency Counsel. If you have any questions, please call me at (805) 650-4083.

Sincerely,



John Demers
Executive Officer

Attachments:

- Exhibit 15A – 2026 FCGMA Board Regular Meeting Schedule
- Exhibit 15B – 2026 FCGMA Board Special Meeting Schedule
- Exhibit 15C – 2026 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule
- Exhibit 15D – 2026 Fiscal Committee Meeting Schedule
- Exhibit 15E – 2026 Operations Committee Meeting Schedule
- Exhibit 15F – Scheduled Meetings for Calendar Year 2026

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura
Michael Craviotto, Farmer, Agricultural Representative
Lynn Maulhardt, Director, United Water Conservation District
Tony Trembley, Councilmember, City of Camarillo

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

FOR POSTING: FCGMA BOARD REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) has scheduled Board Regular meetings for calendar year 2026 according to the following table. Board Regular meetings are held on the fourth (4th) Wednesday of each month except as noted below.

DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
January 28	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room
February 25	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room
March 25	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room
April 22	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room
May 27	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room
June 24	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room
July 22	Wednesday	1:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
August 26	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room
September 22	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room
October 28	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room
November	NONE	N/A	N/A
December 9	Wednesday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Board of Supv. Hearing Room

The November and December meetings are typically combined to accommodate holiday schedules.

All meetings will be held at the Ventura County Government Center, Administration Building, in the County Board of Supervisors Hearing Room (*off the main lobby*) at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California, unless noted.

The following exceptions or alterations may be necessary:

Alterations of the time or room are possible, so please check for facility or start time changes each month. To ensure that you are included in our notification email list, please send a request to the Clerk of the Board at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov with your preferred contact information.

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura
Michael Craviotto, Farmer, Agricultural Representative
Lynn Maulhardt, Director, United Water Conservation District
Tony Trembley, Councilmember, City of Camarillo

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

FOR POSTING: FCGMA BOARD SPECIAL MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) has reserved time in case Board special meetings are needed in calendar year 2026 according to the following table. Board special meetings, if officially noticed per the Ralph M. Brown Act, are held on the second (2nd) Friday of each month, as needed.

Special meetings are held on an as-needed basis and will be held only if they are officially noticed per the Brown Act.

DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
February 13	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
March 13	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
April 10	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
May 8	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Lower-Plaza Assembly Room
June 12	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
July 10	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
August 14	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
September 11	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
October 9	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
November 13	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
December 11	Friday	12:30 to 4:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room

All meetings will be held at the Ventura County Government Center, Administration Building, in the Multi-Purpose Room at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California, unless noted.

The following exceptions or alterations may be necessary:

Alterations of the time or room are possible, so please check for facility or start time changes each month. To ensure that you are included in our notification email list, please send a request to the Clerk of the Board at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov with your preferred contact information.

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura
Michael Craviotto, Farmer, Agricultural Representative
Lynn Maulhardt, Director, United Water Conservation District
Tony Trembley, Councilmember, City of Camarillo

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

FOR POSTING: FCGMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) has scheduled Executive Committee meetings for calendar year 2026 according to the following table. Executive Committee meetings are held on an as-needed basis, and will be held if they are officially noticed per the Ralph M. Brown Act.

DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
January 20	Tuesday	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM	Atlantic Conference Room
April 21	Tuesday	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM	Atlantic Conference Room
August 11	Tuesday	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM	Atlantic Conference Room
November 10	Tuesday	10:30 AM to 12:30 PM	Atlantic Conference Room

All meetings will be held at the Ventura County Government Center, Administration Building, at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California, unless noted.

The following exceptions or alterations may be necessary:

Alterations of the time or room are possible, so please check for facility or start time changes each month. To ensure that you are included in our notification email list, please send a request to the Clerk of the Board at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov with your preferred contact information.

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura
Michael Craviotto, Farmer, Agricultural Representative
Lynn Maulhardt, Director, United Water Conservation District
Tony Trembley, Councilmember, City of Camarillo

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

FOR POSTING: FCGMA FISCAL COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) has scheduled Fiscal Committee meetings for calendar year 2026 according to the following table. Fiscal Committee meetings are held on an as-needed basis, and will be held if they are officially noticed per the Ralph M. Brown Act.

DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
February 17	Tuesday	10:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
March 24	Thursday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
April 28	Tuesday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Lower Plaza Assembly Room
May 26	Tuesday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Atlantic Conference Room
June 23	Tuesday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
July 28	Tuesday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Multi-Purpose Room
August 18	Tuesday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Lower Plaza Assembly Room

All meetings will be held at the Ventura County Government Center, Administration Building, at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California, unless noted.

The following exceptions or alterations may be necessary:

Alterations of the time or room are possible, so please check for facility or start time changes each month. To ensure that you are included in our notification email list, please send a request to the Clerk of the Board at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov with your preferred contact information.

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District
Kelly Long, Vice Chair, Supervisor, County of Ventura
Michael Craviotto, Farmer, Agricultural Representative
Lynn Maulhardt, Director, United Water Conservation District
Tony Trembley, Councilmember, City of Camarillo

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

John Demers

FOR POSTING: FCGMA OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) has scheduled Operations Committee meetings for calendar year 2026 according to the following table. Operations Committee meetings are held on an as-needed basis, and will be held only if they are officially noticed per the Brown Act.

DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION
February 2	Tuesday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Atlantic Conference Room
May 4	Thursday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Atlantic Conference Room
August 3	Tuesday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Atlantic Conference Room
November 2	Tuesday	1:30 to 3:30 PM	Atlantic Conference Room

All meetings will be held at the Ventura County Government Center, Administration Building, at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California, unless noted.

The following exceptions or alterations may be necessary:

Alterations of the time or room are possible, so please check for facility or start time changes each month. To ensure that you are included in our notification email list, please send a request to the Clerk of the Board at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov with your preferred contact information.



Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) Scheduled Meetings for Calendar Year 2026

Board Regular Meetings

Fourth Wednesday, Monthly

Date	Start Time	Room
Wednesday, January 28	12:30 PM	BOS
Wednesday, February 25	12:30 PM	BOS
Wednesday, March 25	12:30 PM	BOS
Wednesday, April 22	12:30 PM	BOS
Wednesday, May 27	12:30 PM	BOS
Wednesday, June 24	12:30 PM	BOS
Wednesday, July 22	1:30 PM	MPR
Wednesday, August 26	12:30 PM	BOS
Wednesday, September 23	12:30 PM	BOS
Wednesday, October 28	12:30 PM	BOS
Wednesday, December 9	12:30 PM	BOS

Board Special Meetings

Second Friday, Monthly, As Needed

Friday, February 13	12:30 PM	MPR
Friday, March 13	12:30 PM	MPR
Friday, April 10	12:30 PM	MPR
Friday, May 8	12:30 PM	LPAR
Friday, June 12	12:30 PM	MPR
Friday, July 10	12:30 PM	MPR
Friday, August 14	12:30 PM	MPR
Friday, September 11	12:30 PM	MPR
Friday, October 9	12:30 PM	MPR
Friday, November 13	12:30 PM	MPR
Friday, December 11	12:30 PM	MPR

Executive Committee Meetings

Quarterly, As Needed

Tuesday, January 20	10:30 AM	ACR
Tuesday, April 21	10:30 AM	ACR
Tuesday, August 11	10:30 AM	ACR
Tuesday, November 10	10:30 AM	ACR

Fiscal Committee Meetings

As Needed

Tuesday, February 17	10:00 AM	MPR
Tuesday, March 24	1:30 PM	MPR
Tuesday, April 28	1:30 PM	LPAR
Tuesday, May 26	1:30 PM	ACR
Tuesday, June 23	1:30 PM	MPR
Tuesday, July 28	1:30 PM	MPR
Tuesday, August 18	1:30 PM	LPAR

Operations Committee Meetings

First Monday as of February, Quarterly, As Needed

Monday, February 2	1:30 PM	ACR
Monday, May 4	1:30 PM	ACR
Monday, August 3	1:30 PM	ACR
Monday, November 2	1:30 PM	ACR

ABOUT SCHEDULED MEETINGS

- All meetings will be held at the Ventura County Government Center, Administration Building, at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California, unless otherwise noted.
- Special meetings and committee meetings are subject to necessity and may be rescheduled or may not be noticed to occur.**
- When a meeting is officially noticed per the Ralph M. Brown Act, it is confirmed to occur.
- To stay up to date, contact FCGMA@ventura.org to subscribe to our notification list.
- Alterations of the time or room are possible, so please check for facility or start time changes each month.
- Meeting schedules are online at <https://fcgma.org/events/>.

KEY

"As Needed"	Subject to Necessity
Row is Gray	Already Occurred
Strikethrough	Meeting Not Held
ACR	Atlantic Conference Room
BOS	Board of Supervisors Hearing Room
LPAR	Lower Plaza Assembly Room
MPR	Multi-Purpose Room
PCR	Pacific Conference Room, in the Hall of Justice Building

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DIRECTORS

Eugene F. West (Chair) – Small Water Districts (805) 657-2121 (*Term Exp 2-28-27*)
Executive Committee, Fiscal Committee

Kelly Long (Vice Chair) – Ventura County Board of Supervisors (805) 654-2276 (*Term Exp 2-28-27*)
Executive Committee

Michael Craviotto – Farming Interests (805) 766-9602 (*Term Exp 2-28-26*)
Operations Committee, Flynn Award Selection Subcommittee

Lynn Maulhardt – United Water Conservation District (805) 982-0780 (*Term Exp 2-28-27*)
Operations Committee

Tony Trembley – Five Cities (805) 388-5307 (*Term Exp 2-28-26*)
Fiscal Committee, Flynn Award Selection Subcommittee

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

Reddy Pakala – Small Water Districts (805) 990-6809 (*Term Exp 2-28-27*)

Vianey Lopez – Ventura County Board of Supervisors (805) 654-2613 (*Term Exp 2-28-27*)

David Borchard – Farming Interests (805) 485-3525 (*Term Exp 2-28-26*)

Keith Ford – UWCD (805) 207-9062 (*Term Exp 2-28-27*)

Bert Perello – Five Cities (805) 240-6194 (*Term Exp 2-28-26*)

STAFF

John Demers – Executive Officer (805) 650-4083

Jason Canger – Agency Counsel (805) 654-2879

Farai Kaseke – Assistant Groundwater Manager II (805) 654-2954

Arne Anselm – Groundwater Specialist Ret. PT (805) 654-3942

Kathleen Riedel – Groundwater Specialist Ret. PT (805) 654-2064

Robert Hampson – Groundwater Specialist (805) 654-3952

Raya Nour – Engineer II (805) 654-2454

Kathy Jones – Staff Services Specialist (805) 645-1372

Cynthia Rodriguez – Administrative Assistant (805) 662-6831

Erin Ware – Administrative Assistant (805) 654-2032

Fatima Perez – Management Assistant (805) 650-4073

Kylen Wooley – Water Resources Compliance Specialist (805) 658-4374

Briana Barajas – Water Resources Specialist (805) 654-2021

Elka Weber – Clerk of the Board (805) 654-2014