

**Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency**

# **AGENDA PACKAGE**

**Board Regular Meeting  
of  
February 25, 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**

## 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 **Wednesday, February 25, 2026**, in the **Board of Supervisors Hearing Room and via Zoom**, at the Ventura County Government Center, Hall of Administration, at **800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California**.

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89139780163?pwd=jQR3idpgKDszd4g3GFm5tmfaWYy1xV.1>

Passcode:550681

## FCGMA BOARD REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**February 25, 2026**  
**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.

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.

### **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.*

#### **CONSENT AGENDA – FCGMA Items**

8. **FCGMA Financial Status Report for January 2026 – (New Item)**  
**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive and file the monthly financial report.
9. **Approval of Agreement to Pay Surcharges and Interest in Installments with Eco-Farm, LLC – (New Item)** **RECOMMENDATION:** Approve a 12-month payment installment plan for Eco-Farm, LLC to pay \$140,731.52 in surcharges for exceeding its allocation by 51.937 AF, along with interest for late payment of surcharges assessed during Water Year 2022/2023.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA – LPV Watermaster Items**

10. **LPV Watermaster Financial Status Report for January 2026 – (New Item)**  
**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive and file the monthly financial report.

## **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**

11. **Update to a Revised Ordinance to Establish an Allocation System for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basins – (Returning Item)**  
**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive an updated presentation on revising “An Ordinance to Establish an Allocation System for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basins” (OPV Ordinance) to comply with the decision in *City of Oxnard v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency*, LASC Case No. 20STCP00929
12. **Resolution of Appreciation for Michael Craviotto – (New Item)**  
**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve proposed Resolution No. 2026-01 honoring Director Michael Craviotto, Agricultural Representative, for his service to the Agency.

## **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.*

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
14. **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
15. **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
16. **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/89139780163?pwd=iQR3idpgKDszd4g3GFm5tmfaWYy1xV.1>

Passcode:550681

Webinar ID: 891 3978 0163

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.*

3. Call in to listen to the meeting:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+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

Webinar ID: 891 3978 0163

Passcode: 550681

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:FCGMA@venturacounty.gov) and indicate the related Agenda item number in your email's subject line.

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**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](mailto: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.

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**Availability of Complete Agenda Package:** A copy of the complete Agenda package is available for examination at the FCGMA office during regular working hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday) beginning 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](mailto:FCGMA@venturacounty.gov).

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

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**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=G OV&part=1.&title=5](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?chapter=9.&division=2.&lawCode=G OV&part=1.&title=5).

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**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](mailto: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**

February 25, 2026

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

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive and file this informational report.

## FCGMA Reporting

- **Variance Processing** – Three OPV variance applications have received determination letters issuing requested Initial Extraction Allocation corrections. Twenty-one variance applications are in queue for final review.

In February, two promotional postcards were mailed to well owners and operators:

- A reminder to gather meter readings and photos for each well on March 31, 2026, including a note about set due dates for Semi-Annual Extraction Statements, to better help reporters plan ahead, and
- A “Save the Date” announcement for an upcoming informational workshop for stakeholders on FCGMA groundwater extraction reporting, available for in-person and remote attendance; topics covered will be helpful for all owners and operators, regardless of basin. [Learn more and RSVP on our website.](#) (This event will not cover reporting or assessments under the Las Posas Valley Adjudication Judgment; that information will be covered in a future workshop.)



# REMINDER

## Semi-Annual Extraction Statements Coming Soon!

- Gather meter readings and photos for each well every **March 31<sup>st</sup>** and **September 30<sup>th</sup>**
- Label each photo with date, CombCode, State Well Number, & Serial Number



Note: Photos must contain legible image of meter totalizer reading, units, and multiplier. Digital models with multiple displays may require more than one photo per meter to satisfy the photo requirement. See manufacturer specifications for details.

Scan QR Codes for more information

Extraction Reporting	Reporting Periods	User Guide
		

Statements are due every **May 15<sup>th</sup>** & **November 15<sup>th</sup>**

For additional information visit [www.fcgma.org](http://www.fcgma.org) or email [FCGMA.Report@venturacounty.gov](mailto:FCGMA.Report@venturacounty.gov)



### Save the Date!

**3/10/2026**  
**5:30 PM**

Tuesday, March 10, 2026  
5:30 - 6:45 PM

Ventura County Government Center  
Hall of Administration  
Lower-Plaza Assembly Room

Scan the QR Code to learn more:



## GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION REPORTING: INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR STAKEHOLDERS

**5:30 to 6:45 PM**  
**Tuesday, March 10, 2026**  
**Lower-Plaza Assembly Room**

Please join us for an overview of FCGMA groundwater extraction reporting procedures, from registering your well and updating your account, to best practices in extraction reporting and flowmeter maintenance, to transitioning your reporting to a new owner or operator. This informational workshop is your opportunity to meet the team, get information on best practices for compliant reporting and equipment, ask questions, and provide feedback.

Send questions and RSVP to [FCGMA@venturacounty.gov](mailto:FCGMA@venturacounty.gov).

**NOTE:** Extraction & Use Reporting and Basin Assessments under the Las Posas Valley Judgment will be covered in a future workshop.

**LPV Watermaster Basin Assessments**

- *2025-2 Basin Assessments* – \$558,202.27 has been collected to date. Of these fees:
  - \$54,503.62 Basin Optimization Project fees
  - \$503,699.03 Basin Assessment fees
  - 10% interest will be assessed on March 1, 2026, for non-payment.
- *2023-1 Basin Assessments Court Motion* – Settlement Agreement for WMIDs 1008 & 1009. Staff are working with outside counsel on terms of the settlement agreement.
- *Basin Assessment Delinquencies* – As of February 20, 2026, current delinquency lists are available, by Water Year under *Annual Allocations*, at: [https://fcgma.org/annual-allocations\\_lpv/](https://fcgma.org/annual-allocations_lpv/).

**LPVW Committee Consultations**

- On January 28, 2026, LPV Watermaster sent the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) a Request for Committee Consultation on the Las Posas Valley Basin Optimization Project, Regional Desalter Feasibility Study.
- On February 9, 2026, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) provided Watermaster with a requested Recommendation Report on the Draft Water Year 2025 LPV Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report.
- Also on February 9, TAC provided a requested Recommendation Report on the draft Basin Optimization Yield Study. Both reports were submitted with extensive comments.

**CONCLUSION:**

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

Sincerely,



John Demers  
Executive Officer

Attachment:

Item 6A – 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	<b>1:30 PM</b>	<b>MPR</b>
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, 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, 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**

*Quarterly, As Needed*

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@venturacounty.gov](mailto:FCGMA@venturacounty.gov) with your preferred email address to subscribe to the Agency notification list.

**KEY**

"As Needed"	Subject to Necessity
Row is Gray	Already Occurred
<del>Strikethrough</del>	Meeting Not Held
ACR	Atlantic Conference Room
BOS	Board of Supervisors Hearing Room
LPAR	Lower Plaza Assembly Room
MPR	Multi-Purpose Room

*Updated 2/18/2026*

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
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	AP 06	AP 07
3	Financial Status Report as of January 2026				July'25	August'25	September'25	October'25	November'25	December'25	January'26
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	12,034,773.47	13,175,472.10
5	REVENUE:										
6	PUMP CHARGES	9790	P6020901	299,530.58	(173,699.81)	11,095.78	34,193.01	58,556.90	203,943.77	161,893.70	3,547.23
7	SURCHARGES	9790	P6020903	667,102.89	6,004.45	(0.01)	46,068.96	46,449.90	464,300.11	104,279.48	-
8	INTEREST/ PENALTIES	9790	P6020904	56,789.51	4,318.83	16,707.45	8,210.74	14,441.28	4,229.11	5,510.65	3,371.45
9	GEMES RESERVE FEE	9790	P6020907	1,382,782.21	34,326.70	2,290.85	63,657.06	160,233.29	679,210.15	430,498.12	12,566.04
10	SUSTAINABILITY FEE	9790	P6020908	1,996,219.07	49,087.88	3,322.15	83,345.14	232,397.15	985,320.96	625,633.47	17,112.32
11	FCGMA TECH SERVICES - GRANT	9708	P6020852	51,501.00	-	-	51,501.00	-	-	-	-
12	INTEREST EARNINGS (COUNTY POOLED INVESTMENT FUND)	8911	-	55,332.59	(145,562.29)	40,246.03	-	52,658.13	-	52,658.13	55,332.59
13	OTHER REV	9790	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>			<b>4,509,257.85</b>	<b>(225,524.24)</b>	<b>73,662.25</b>	<b>286,975.91</b>	<b>564,736.65</b>	<b>2,337,004.10</b>	<b>1,380,473.55</b>	<b>91,929.63</b>
15	EXPENDITURES:										
16	<b>SUPPORT</b>										
17	PUBLIC WORKS CHARGES	2205	-	1,412,477.26	113,748.03	197,137.77	241,772.81	318,922.61	191,077.74	168,338.36	181,479.94
18	PUBLIC WORKS CHARGES - CSD ALLOCATION	2199	P6020850	121,900.00	-	60,950.00	-	-	60,950.00	-	-
19	FCGMA ONLINE SUPPORT	2202	P6020850/70	25,477.21	-	7,231.02	3,599.27	3,785.45	3,702.97	3,538.01	3,620.49
20	WPD -SCR COORDINATOR	2199	P6020850	3,000.00	-	-	-	-	1,500.00	-	1,500.00
21	<b>GSA CHARGES</b>										
22	PURCHASING CHARGES ISF	2165	P6020850	1.96	-	-	-	1.12	0.28	-	0.56
23	GRAPHICS CHARGES ISF	2166	P6020850	676.26	-	-	35.00	353.26	288.00	-	-
25	SPECIAL SERVICES ISF	2206/2116	P6020850	5,138.95	-	-	1,394.12	455.56	407.56	532.56	2,349.15
26	VOICE DATA ISF	2032	P6020850	78.54	-	22.44	11.22	11.22	11.22	11.22	11.22
27	MAIL CENTER ISF	2164	P6020850	3,060.53	-	-	-	-	67.59	2,992.94	-
28	STORES ISF	2168	P6020850	6.00	-	-	-	6.00	-	-	-
29	<b>CONTRACT</b>										
30	CONSULTANT CONTRACT (DUDEK) - GSP Implementation	2183	P6020858	9,290.00	-	9,290.00	-	-	-	-	-
31	CONSULTANT CONTRACT (DUDEK) - Annual reports	2183	P6020858	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	<b>LEGAL</b>										
33	COUNTY COUNSEL	2185	P6020853	54,873.00	-	9,964.50	10,783.50	10,032.75	8,394.75	-	15,697.50
34	COUNTY COUNSEL (GEMES) - LPV Basin Adjudication	2185	P6020864	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	COUNTY COUNSEL (GEMES) - City of Oxnard v FCGMA	2185	P6020866	14,400.75	-	409.50	1,160.25	1,842.75	7,029.75	-	3,958.50
36	COUNTY COUNSEL (GEMES) - OPV Coalition v FCGMA	2185	P6020867	39,380.25	-	6,006.00	23,341.50	2,934.75	-	-	7,098.00
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	490.98	-	81.83	163.66	-	81.83	163.66	-
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	357,316.31	-	53,485.51	78,178.53	130,339.80	81,593.91	13,718.56	-
42	OTHER LEGAL FEES (GMSR LLP)(GEMES) - City of Oxnard v FCGMA	2185	P6020866	159,000.00	-	29,775.00	-	40,210.00	37,910.00	48,155.00	2,950.00
43	<b>GRANT</b>										
44	KENNEDY JENKS	2199	P6020852	130.00	130.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	<b>OTHER</b>										
46	ASSN OF WATER AGENCIES DUES	2159	P6020850	347.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	347.00
47	BIENNIAL AUDIT	2199	P6020850	13,505.00	-	8,990.00	4,515.00	-	-	-	-
48	BOARD MEMBERS INSURANCE	2072	P6020850	5,430.28	4,997.28	433.00	-	-	-	-	-
49	CONFERENCES / SEMINARS	2273	P6020850	1,114.00	-	-	-	-	-	1,074.00	40.00
50	GSP DEVELOPMENT - Monitoring Wells	2188	P6020858	866.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	866.00
51	LAFCO FUNDING	2159	P6020850	5,192.00	5,192.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
52	MISC OFFICE EXPENSE	2159/79	P6020850	313.90	18.00	-	-	80.40	-	215.50	-
53	PUBLICATIONS AND LEGAL NOTICES	2221	P6020850	1,287.89	-	-	-	449.34	449.35	194.60	194.60
54	SOFTWARE SUBSCRIPTIONS NON ISF (ZOOM)	2236	P6020850	595.62	-	99.27	99.27	99.27	99.27	99.27	99.27
55	TRAVEL EXPENSES	2292	P6020850	1,151.65	-	-	-	-	-	741.24	410.41
56	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>			<b>2,237,430.59</b>	<b>124,085.31</b>	<b>383,875.84</b>	<b>365,096.13</b>	<b>509,524.28</b>	<b>394,451.47</b>	<b>239,774.92</b>	<b>220,622.64</b>
57	<b>NET MONTHLY INCOME</b>				<b>(349,609.55)</b>	<b>(310,213.59)</b>	<b>(78,120.22)</b>	<b>55,212.37</b>	<b>1,942,552.63</b>	<b>1,140,698.63</b>	<b>(128,693.01)</b>
58	<b>ENDING CASH BALANCE</b>			<b>13,046,779.09</b>	<b>10,425,342.28</b>	<b>10,115,128.69</b>	<b>10,037,008.47</b>	<b>10,092,220.84</b>	<b>12,034,773.47</b>	<b>13,175,472.10</b>	<b>13,046,779.09</b>
59	<b>NOTES:</b>	Revenue decreased by \$1,288,543.92 (93.3%) in January compared to December as payments for Semi-Annual Groundwater Extraction Statements (SAES), 2025-2 and prior periods, continued. 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. \$55,332.59 in interest earnings were allocated from the County Pooled Investment fund this month. Expenses decreased by \$19,152.28 (7.9%) from December. The decrease was due to lower GSA charges and legal fees, as the Shute Mihaly & Weinberger LLP invoice did not process this month, and Greines Martin Stein & Richland LLP submitted lower Oxnard Litigation fees for November. Travel expenses for December and January cover transportation and lodging for the Executive Officer and Clerk of the Board to attend ACWA and CSDA conferences.									

# 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**

February 25, 2026

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

**SUBJECT: Approval of Agreement to Pay Surcharges and Interest in Installments with Eco-Farm, LLC – (New Item)**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve a 12-month payment installment plan for Eco-Farm, LLC to pay \$140,731.52 in surcharges for exceeding its allocation by 51.937 AF, along with interest for late payment of surcharges assessed during Water Year 2022/2023 (WY22/23).

## DISCUSSION:

Eco-Farm LLC (ECO) is an agricultural business owning wells in the Las Posas Valley Basin (LPV Basin), operating under CombCode ECO. Under the Las Posas Valley Allocation Ordinance, which operated prior to the Las Posas Valley Adjudication Judgment, wells identified with State Well Numbers 03N19W20N01 and 03N19W20P01 were granted a combined allocation of 40.906 acre-feet (AF) per year.

The designated well operator at that time reported extractions of 92.843 AF in WY22/23, resulting in an exceedance of 51.937 AF and corresponding surcharges \$102,350.27 in surcharges. A late payment interest charge of 1.5% per month has accrued, totaling \$38,381.25. ECO made a partial payment of \$4,268.17 toward extraction charges on November 22, 2023, a remaining balance of \$140,731.52.

### WY 2022/2023 Surcharge Calculation

Exceedance (AF)	Tier 1 Surcharges (25.000 AF x \$1,841)	Tier 2 Surcharges (26.937 AF x \$2,091)	Total Surcharges
51.937	\$46,025.00	\$56,325.27	<b>\$102,350.27</b>

### WY 2022/2023 Surcharge Interest Calculation

Due Date	Months Late	Monthly Interest 1.5%	Surcharge Interest
12/1/2023	25	\$1,535.25	<b>\$38,381.25</b>

800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009-1610  
 (805) 654-2014 <https://fcgma.org/>

Item 9 - Page 1 of 2

Item 9 – Approval of Installment Plan for Payment of Surcharges, ECO  
FCGMA Board Meeting, February 25, 2026

On January 13, 2026, ECO requested a 12-month installment plan (Exhibit 9A). Per Ordinance Code §5.8.6.1, the Board may allow up to 12 months for surcharge payment or approve installments up to 24 months. Please note that while Exhibit 9A refers to periods 2021-2 and 2023-2, this item only pertains to period 2023-2.

ECO also incurred \$60,294.95 in civil penalties and interest in accordance with Ordinance Code and Resolution 2019-1 for late reporting of 2021-1, 2021-2, 2022-1 and 2022-2 semi-annual extraction statements, under their prior Well Operator. To date \$23,978.39 toward these penalties have been paid. A request for consideration of civil penalty reduction for the remaining balance has been submitted for the Executive Officer to consider under the authority granted in Resolution 2019-1.

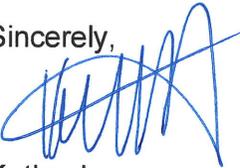
ECO has worked diligently with staff to resolve reporting discrepancies and violations and has since changed its authorized Well Operator to prevent further issues. While full payment is not financially feasible, ECO has demonstrated commitment to making payments as prescribed in the proposed installment plan.

**CONCLUSION:**

Staff recommends your Board approve the proposed 12-month payment plan (Exhibit 9B), consisting of 11 payments in the amount of \$11,730.00 plus the final payment of \$11,701.52, due monthly from March 1, 2026, through February 1, 2027, in accordance with payment schedule contained within the attached Exhibit.

This letter has been reviewed by Agency Counsel. If you have any questions, please contact me at (805) 645-1372.

Sincerely,



Kathy Jones  
Staff Services Specialist

Attachments:

- Item 9A – Letter from Eco-Farm, LLC requesting installment payment plan, dated January 13, 2026
- Item 9B – Proposed Installment Payment Agreement and Exhibit, Proposed Payment Schedule



January 13, 2026

Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency  
Attention: Board of Directors  
800 South Victoria Avenue L#1610  
Ventura, CA 93009-1610

**Subject: Request for Installment Payment Plan for Overdue Surcharges for the CombCode ECO on the 2023-2 SAES for Eco-Farm, LLC. Located at 12085 Clinton Street, Moorpark, CA, 93021**

Dear Members of the Board,

I am writing to respectfully request consideration for an installment payment plan to resolve the outstanding groundwater surcharges on our account, [Combocode Eco], associated with the property located at 12085 Clinton Street, Moorpark, CA 93021. This request applies to the following assessment periods: 2021-2 and 2023-2.

We acknowledge the overdue balance of \$140,731.52, which includes principal and accrued interest, and we fully understand our obligation to pay these assessments. However, due to circumstances beyond our control, we are currently unable to remit the full amount in a single payment.

Over the past three years, an unexpected and significant decline in lemon prices has resulted in a business downturn. Additionally, the severe and unforeseen weather conditions led to the loss of approximately 80% of our avocado crop last year, and recent wind and rainstorms indicate that a similar reduction in yield is expected this year as well. These factors have substantially impacted our financial capacity.

Given these challenges, we respectfully request the opportunity to enter into an installment payment plan that would allow us to meet our obligations in a manageable and timely manner. We are committed to working cooperatively with your office and would appreciate your guidance on the next steps or any documentation required to support this request.

To demonstrate our commitment to fulfilling this obligation, we propose the following payment schedule

**RECEIVED**

JAN 13 2026

Item 9A – Letter from ECO requesting installment payment plan, dated January 13, 2026  
FCGMA Board Meeting, January 28, 2026

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Monthly Payment	Monthly Payment Terms Principal Plus Interest \$140,731.52
12 Months	11 payments of \$11,730.00 + final payment of \$11,701.52

We believe this plan allows us to meet our financial responsibilities while managing our current situation. We are eager to work with the Agency to find a workable solution and avoid further penalties or actions.

In our pervious correspondence to the Esteem Members of Board on August 26, 2025, a letter was submitted requesting forgiveness of the penalty associated with the 2022-1-2 period in the amount of \$24,75.00.

We are available to discuss this proposal further or provide any additional documentation required. Please contact me at 714-289-0995 or email me at [mfiuzat@ecoinc.info](mailto:mfiuzat@ecoinc.info). Thank you for your time and consideration. We trust that you will find this request reasonable given the circumstance.

Sincerely,



Mitra Fiuzat  
President  
Eco-Farm LLC  
400 North Tustin Avenue Suite 365  
Santa Ana, California 92705  
Business (714) 289-0995 | Mobile (714) 325-6371  
Email: [mfiuzat@ecoinc.info](mailto:mfiuzat@ecoinc.info)

**Enclosed: Appeal Filing Fee of \$250 Check No.: 2236**

**AGREEMENT TO PAY SURCHARGES IN INSTALLMENTS  
[CombCode: ECO]**

This AGREEMENT TO PAY SURCHARGES IN INSTALLMENTS (Agreement) is made and entered into by and between Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) and \_\_\_\_\_ (Owner) as of the Effective Date. Hereinafter, FCGMA and Owner may be referred to individually as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties.”

**RECITALS**

A. FCGMA is a groundwater management agency created by the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Act, and is the exclusive groundwater sustainability agency for the groundwater basins within its statutory boundaries (including the Las Posas Valley Basin, Pleasant Valley Basin, and Oxnard Subbasin) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. [Wat. Code App., § 121-102 et seq., Wat. Code, § 10723(c).]

B. FCGMA is authorized to set extraction allocations for extraction facilities (wells), to levy charges on the extraction of groundwater, and to impose surcharges on extractions of groundwater in excess of the allocation assigned to an extraction facility (well). [Wat. Code App., §§ 121-1001, 121-1101; Wat. Code, §§ 10726.4(a)(2), 10730(a).]

C. On December 14, 2020, FCGMA enacted An Ordinance to Establish an Extraction Allocation System for the Las Posas Valley Groundwater Basin (LPV Allocation Ordinance) which, among other things, established annual allocations for all extraction facilities (wells) in the Las Posas Valley Groundwater Basin (LPV Basin). [LPV Allocation Ordinance, § 6.]

D. On June 26, 2002, FCGMA enacted the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Ordinance Code, which, as amended, establishes the requirements that owners of extraction facilities (wells) pay (i) charges for the extraction of groundwater from the LPV Basin; (ii) surcharges for the extraction of groundwater in excess of the extraction allocation assigned to the extraction facility; and (iii) a late penalty at the rate of 1.5 percent per month until surcharges are paid in full. [Agency Ord. Code, §§ 2.4, 5.8.]

E. The Agency Ordinance Code, as amended, also authorizes the FCGMA Board of Directors to “extend the time allowed to pay surcharges for a period of up to twelve months when circumstances exist that in the opinion of the Board warrant such extension. The Board may also approve the payment of surcharges in installments of up to 24 months with terms suitable to the Board.” [Agency Ord. Code, § 5.8.6.1.]

F. During Water Year 2023 (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023), the total combined FCGMA charge for extracting groundwater from the LPV Basin was \$55 per acre-foot (AF) and the surcharge rates for extracting 0 – 25 AF, 25 – 100 AF, and more

**Item 9B – Proposed Installment Payment Agreement and Exhibit, CombCode ECO  
FCGMA Board Meeting, February 25, 2026**

than 100 AF of groundwater in excess of an extraction allocation was \$1,841/AF, \$2,091/AF, and \$2,341/AF, respectively. [Resolution No. 2022-06.]

G. Owner owns the following extraction facilities (wells): State Well Number (SWN) 03N19W20N01 and SWN 03N19W20P01. Both extraction facilities (wells) are associated with CombCode<sup>1</sup>: ECO. Under the LPV Allocation Ordinance, SWNs 03N19W20N01 and 03N19W20P01 are assigned a combined annual extraction allocation of 40.906 AF. But during Water Year 2023, Owner extracted 92.843 AF (51.937 AF more than ECO's combined annual extraction allocation) and accrued a surcharge of \$102,350.27 (Surcharge Amount).

H. On November 23, 2023, Owner timely paid the extraction charges for the extraction of groundwater from SWNs 03N19W20N01 and 03N19W20P01 during Water Year 2023 but did not pay the Surcharge Amount or request to pay the Surcharge Amount in installments. On January 13, 2026, Owner requested to repay the Surcharge Amount in 12 installments; and FCGMA is willing to use the date of Owner's request as the end date for the accrual of interest to be charged as a late penalty on the surcharges owed for Water Year 2023. Owner accrued and now owes \$38,381.25 (Late Penalty Amount) in late penalties for failing to pay the Surcharge Amount for Water Year 2023. [See Agency Ord. Code, §§ 2.4, 5.8.]

I. In total, Owner owes the Settlement Amount (\$140,731.52), which consists of the Surcharge Amount (\$102,350.27) and the Late Penalty Amount (\$38,381.25); and FCGMA is willing to permit Owner to pay the Settlement Amount in installments according to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, covenants, terms and conditions hereinafter contained, the Parties agree as follows:

1. Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated into this Agreement as if fully set forth herein.

2. Payment of Settlement Amount. Owner shall pay the Settlement Amount (\$140,731.52) in 12 installments according to the terms and conditions of Attachment A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

3. Agreement Not to Enforce. FCGMA shall not commence or file any legal action to enforce its statutes, ordinances, and resolutions to collect the Settlement Amount while this Agreement is in effect. If any amount or part of the Settlement Amount remains unpaid upon termination of this Agreement, FCGMA shall have the immediate

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<sup>1</sup> A CombCode is a FCGMA account identifier assigned to extraction facilities (wells) and their respective owners and operators. A CombCode may be assigned to a group of extraction facilities (wells) owned by the same or different owners. However, a CombCode can have only one operator responsible for reporting groundwater extractions from all wells and paying fees for groundwater extractions from the extraction facilities (wells) assigned to the CombCode. CombCode: ECO includes only SWNs 03N19W20N01 and 03N19W20P01.

**Item 9B – Proposed Installment Payment Agreement and Exhibit, CombCode ECO  
FCGMA Board Meeting, February 25, 2026**

right to commence legal action to enforce its statutes, ordinances, and resolutions to collect the Settlement Amount.

4. Tolling of Time-Based Defenses. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the period of time between the Effective Date and any termination or expiration of this Agreement (Tolling Period) shall not be included in computing the running of any statute of limitations applicable to any action by FCGMA to enforce its statutes, ordinances, and resolutions against Owner for the collection of the Settlement Amount, the Surcharge Amount, and the Late Penalty Amount related to the groundwater extractions made by Owner from SWNs 03N19W20N01 and 03N19W20P01 during Water Year 2023 (collectively, the Tolled Claims). Any defense of laches, estoppel, waiver, or other similar equitable defense to an FCGMA action to enforce the Tolled Claims and recover the Settlement Amount that is based on the running of any time period shall not include the Tolling Period. Owner shall not assert, plead, or raise against FCGMA in any fashion, whether by answer, motion, or otherwise, any defense of laches, estoppel, waiver, or any other similar equitable defense based on the running of any statute of limitations or the passage of time during the Tolling Period in any action brought on the Tolled Claims.

5. Effective Date. This Agreement shall become effective as of the date each Party's duly authorized representative executes this Agreement and shall remain in effect until it terminates pursuant to Section 6.

6. Termination. This Agreement shall automatically terminate upon Owner's payment of the Settlement Amount (\$140,731.52). FCGMA may terminate this Agreement for cause if Owner fails to timely make any payment as provided herein.

7. No Admission. This Agreement does not constitute an admission or acknowledgement of any fact, conclusion of law, or liability by either Party. This Agreement is prepared pursuant to Evidence Code section 1152 and shall not be introduced as evidence in any litigation or legal proceeding between the Parties except as required to enforce its terms.

8. Miscellaneous.

A. This Agreement contains the entire understanding of the Parties and supersedes any and all other written or oral understandings with respect to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may only be amended or modified by a subsequent writing that is executed by authorized representatives of the Parties.

B. The headings of the paragraphs of this Agreement are for convenience and reference only and in no way define, describe, or limit the scope of intent of this Agreement or any of the provisions hereof.

C. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be prohibited by or invalid under applicable law, such provision shall be ineffective only to the extent of such

**Item 9B – Proposed Installment Payment Agreement and Exhibit, CombCode ECO  
FCGMA Board Meeting, February 25, 2026**

prohibition or invalidity without invalidating the remainder of such provision or any remaining provision of this Agreement.

D. This Agreement, its terms and provisions, as well as the rights and duties of the Parties hereunder, shall be construed pursuant to and in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Venue for any action arising out of this Agreement shall be exclusively in the California Superior Court for the County of Ventura.

E. The failure of either Party to exercise any right, power, or remedy provided under this Agreement or otherwise available at law or equity, or to insist upon compliance by the other Party with its obligations under this Agreement, shall not constitute a waiver by such Party of its right to exercise any such or other right, power, remedy, or to demand such compliance.

F. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement through their duly authorized representatives as of the last date written below.

**FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER  
MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

**ECO-FARM, LLC**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: John Demers

Name: Mitra Fiuzat

Title: Executive Officer

Title: President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## EXHIBIT

### AGREEMENT TO PAY SURCHARGES IN INSTALLMENTS [CombCode: ECO]

Subject to the terms and conditions of the attached Agreement, Owner shall pay the Settlement Amount (\$140,731.52) according to the schedule set forth in this Exhibit A.

Installment No.	Amount	Due Date
1	\$11,730.00	March 1, 2026
2	\$11,730.00	April 1, 2026
3	\$11,730.00	May 1, 2026
4	\$11,730.00	June 1, 2026
5	\$11,730.00	July 1, 2026
6	\$11,730.00	August 1, 2026
7	\$11,730.00	September 1, 2026
8	\$11,730.00	October 1, 2026
9	\$11,730.00	November 1, 2026
10	\$11,730.00	December 1, 2026
11	\$11,730.00	January 1, 2027
12	\$11,701.52	February 1, 2027
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$140,731.52</b>

**Item 10 - LPV Watermaster Financial Status Report for January 2026**  
**FCGMA Board Meeting, February 25, 2026**

PREPARED BY: Daiva Pekinas

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1	FUND: 0171 UNIT: 5796	DETAIL BY ACCOUNTING PERIOD									
2	LPV WATERMASTER	OBJ	PROG	TOTAL	AP 01	AP 02	AP 03	AP 04	AP 05	AP 06	AP 07
3	Financial Status Report as of January 2026				July'25	August'25	September'25	October'25	November'25	December'25	January'26
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	1,218,793.74	1,137,716.91
5	REVENUE:										
6	BASIN ASSESSMENT FEE	9790	P6020670	837,777.50	(30,504.01)	2,782.43	-	368,021.33	130,008.05	64,854.20	302,615.50
7	BASIN ASSESSMENT INTEREST	9790	P6020671	9,552.30	275.23	278.24	-	1.55	79.12	6,114.41	2,803.75
8	LPV BOP ASSESSMENT	9790	P6020674	90,522.50	-	-	-	34,585.64	15,726.62	4,394.45	35,815.79
9	LPV BOP ASSESSMENT INTEREST	9790	P6020675	570.25	-	-	-	-	-	320.29	249.96
10	INTEREST EARNINGS (COUNTY POOLED INVESTMENT FUND)	8911	-	5,910.32	(25,765.00)	9,057.56	-	8,353.72	-	8,353.72	5,910.32
11	TOTAL REVENUE			944,332.87	(55,993.78)	12,118.23	-	410,962.24	145,813.79	84,037.07	347,395.32
12	EXPENDITURES:										
13	SUPPORT										
14	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV WATERMASTER ADMINISTRATION	2205	P6020660	51,989.18	3,838.18	8,463.88	7,911.22	14,349.86	7,172.28	5,325.42	4,928.34
15	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV ALLOCATIONS & RECORD KEEPING	2205	P6020661	56,729.11	2,848.08	4,313.43	3,740.50	12,529.81	12,158.01	15,153.32	5,985.96
16	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV BASIN MANAGEMENT	2205	P6020662	79,413.71	1,033.04	8,409.43	3,629.80	16,673.41	16,168.34	19,382.77	14,116.92
17	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV COMMITTEE COORDINATION & CONSULTATION	2205	P6020663	13,760.87	2,522.95	2,909.91	2,389.32	630.77	1,233.89	1,125.59	2,948.44
18	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV BUDGET & ASSESSMENTS	2205	P6020664	12,921.58	1,972.41	901.93	-	4,747.09	1,386.48	965.60	2,948.07
19	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV LEGAL SERVICES	2205	P6020666	2,867.58	408.82	543.25	-	847.05	635.29	-	433.17
20	PUBLIC WORKS ISF CHARGES - LPV IT SERVICE & SUPPORT	2205	P6020667	8,599.46	282.29	1,443.91	359.15	3,591.53	1,126.81	1,376.76	419.01
21	PUBLIC WORKS CHARGES - LPV IT SERVICE & SUPPORT (CSD IT)	2199	P6020667	87,400.00	-	43,700.00	-	-	43,700.00	-	-
22	PUBLIC WORKS CHARGES - FISCAL SUPPORT (CSD FISCAL)	2199	P6020664	12,450.00	-	6,225.00	-	-	6,225.00	-	-
23	LPV CALLEGUAS ASR STUDY GROUP PROJECT OPERATIONS	2205	P6020665	2,172.99	-	-	-	119.72	-	359.15	1,694.12
24	LPV PROJECT BASIN ASSESSMENT IMPLEMENTATION	2205	P6020668	23,279.22	-	-	3,893.36	1,054.60	2,920.01	6,975.64	8,435.61
25	LEGAL										
26	LPV LEGAL SERVICES - COUNTY COUNSEL	2185	P6020666	60,606.00	-	13,513.50	7,644.00	10,578.75	14,400.75	-	14,469.00
27	LPV LEGAL SERVICES - STOEL RIVES - LPV Water Rights	2185	P6020666	78,337.70	-	42,522.65	17,343.06	-	9,693.18	8,778.81	-
28	LPV LEGAL SERVICES - STOEL RIVES - GENERAL LEGAL	2185	P6020666	46,829.90	-	-	-	-	21,826.40	25,003.50	-
29	CONTRACTS										
30	RGS AUTHORITY	2199	P6020661	49,298.90	10,362.49	-	8,001.94	7,594.22	8,893.85	5,125.57	9,320.83
31	TODD GROUNDWATER-TAC	2199	P6020663	24,108.75	-	6,972.50	-	6,963.75	8,248.75	1,923.75	-
32	AQUILOGIC-TAC	2199	P6020663	13,866.27	-	1,520.00	-	3,420.00	-	8,546.27	380.00
33	AQUILOGIC-ASR STUDY GROUP	2199	P6020665	3,600.00	-	-	-	-	-	1,200.00	2,400.00
34	DANIEL B STEPHENS & ASSOCIATES-TAC	2199	P6020663	4,200.25	-	1,347.25	-	1,109.50	1,743.50	-	-
35	DANIEL B STEPHENS & ASSOCIATES-PAC	2199	P6020663	2,615.25	-	317.00	-	554.75	-	1,268.00	475.50
36	DUDEK (GSP Update Task 10.2.1 - Committee Review & Response, Periodic Evaluation)	2183	P6020662	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	DUDEK (Initial Basin Optimization Plan - Tasks 12.5 - 12.7)	2183	P6020662	442.50	-	442.50	-	-	-	-	-
38	DUDEK (2025 Basin Optimization Yield Study)	2183	P6020662	182,330.00	-	80,135.00	-	-	-	58,793.75	43,401.25
39	DUDEK (Task 13 - Technical Advisory Committee Watermaster Support Services)	2183	P6020663	13,380.00	-	13,380.00	-	-	-	-	-
40	OTHER										
41	AUDIT - BROWN ARMSTRONG ACCOUNTANCY CORP	2199	P6020664	11,286.00	-	-	-	-	1,882.00	3,810.00	5,594.00
42	TOTAL EXPENDITURES			842,485.22	23,268.26	237,061.14	54,912.35	84,764.81	159,414.54	165,113.90	117,950.22
43	NET MONTHLY INCOME				(79,262.04)	(224,942.91)	(54,912.35)	326,197.43	(13,600.75)	(81,076.83)	229,445.10
44	ENDING CASH BALANCE			1,367,162.01	1,186,052.32	961,109.41	906,197.06	1,232,394.49	1,218,793.74	1,137,716.91	1,367,162.01
45	NOTES:	<p>For Water Year 2025, your Board approved a \$60/AF Basin Assessment and a \$7.25/AF Basin Optimization Projects (BOP) Assessment, both invoiced in four equal installments. In January, LPV Watermaster recorded \$347,395.32 in revenue, a \$263,358.25 (313.4%) increase from December. This increase was primarily due to the 2nd quarter LPV-2025-2 Basin Assessment, dated 01/05/2026 and due 02/01/2026. Additionally, \$5,910.32 in interest earnings was allocated from the County Pooled Investment fund in January.</p> <p>In January, total expenses decreased by \$47,163.68 (28.6%) from December. This reduction is primarily due to lower charges for PWA support, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) representative services, and from lower legal services, as the Stoel Rives LLP invoices were not processed this month. Dudek submitted Basin Optimization Yield Study (BOYS) invoices for November and December, which was lower than the previous submittal. Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corp. submitted an invoice for the LPV Watermaster Fiscal Year 2025 Audit Review, which completed in December. The total cost for the audit review will be \$14,150, as per agreement.</p>									

# FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Eugene F. West**, Chair, Director, Camrosa Water District  
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**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**John Demers**

February 25, 2026

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

**SUBJECT: Update to a Revised Ordinance to Establish an Allocation System for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basins – (Returning Item)**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive an updated presentation on revising “An Ordinance to Establish an Allocation System for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basins” (OPV Ordinance) to comply with the decision in *City of Oxnard v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency*, LASC Case No. 20STCP00929

## BACKGROUND:

In October 2015, your Board directed that a new pumping allocation system be developed for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins (OPV Basins) consistent with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), with the expressed preference that proposals for a new allocation system be developed by stakeholders. Subsequent to that, numerous stakeholder meetings, presentations, and Board meetings with further direction were held. On October 23, 2019, your Board adopted the ordinance for a new allocation system in the OPV Basins. Allocations are based on average annual extractions during a 10-year base period, 2005 through 2014. The new allocations were effective October 1, 2020, moving to water-year reporting.

On December 2, 2019, the City of Oxnard (City) filed a petition for writ of mandate challenging the OPV Ordinance, alleging primarily that the OPV Ordinance violated Section 702 of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Act (Section 702) by providing additional extraction allocation and flexibility to Pleasant Valley County Water District (Pleasant Valley) and United Water Conservation District (United) without providing the same to the City. The City’s petition also alleged the OPV Ordinance

violated Water Code section 106 by prioritizing agricultural uses of water over domestic uses.

On August 31, 2023, the Los Angeles County Superior Court (Court) issued a peremptory writ of mandate ordering the Agency to rescind or revise the provisions of the OPV Ordinance that violate Section 702, and to set aside section 10.2 of the OPV Ordinance. Following issuance of the writ, the Agency decided to comply with the writ by amending the ordinance. On March 27, 2024, the Agency adopted An Ordinance Amending Articles 4 and 6 and Rescinding Section 10.2 of an Ordinance to Establish an Allocation System for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basins (Amended OPV Ordinance). The Amended OPV Ordinance rescinded section 10.2 of the OPV Ordinance and amended section 6 of the OPV Ordinance, which included the provisions that the court found violated Section 702. After the Agency filed the Amended OPV Ordinance with the Court, the City moved to compel compliance with the writ claiming the Amended OPV Ordinance did not resolve the Section 702 violations and thus did not comply with the August 2023 writ of mandate.

On September 30, 2024, the Court ruled that the Amended OPV Ordinance (specifically, its amendments to section 6 of the OPV Ordinance) sufficiently addressed the Section 702 violation related to the Conejo Creek Program. But the Court ruled that the Agency's attempt to correct the Section 702 violations related to the Santa Clara River Flex Program by adding a new Calleguas Flex Program continued to run afoul of Section 702 because the new Calleguas Flex Program did not include limitations on allocation reductions for Calleguas operators similar to those afforded to United operators in the Santa Clara River Flex Program.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Agency has been working to revise the Allocation Ordinance to both comply with the requirements set by the Court and ensure a fair and consistent allocation scheme is in place for all stakeholders. During the Board meeting held on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, an updated draft Allocation Ordinance was presented to your Board and entered into the public record. The draft was the product of staff research and input from stakeholders. Since that Board meeting, the Agency has received additional written input from interested stakeholders and has held meetings to discuss various elements contained in the draft to continue to improve the Ordinance and alleviate concerns that some stakeholders have. Additional revisions are annotated on the revised draft, attached as Exhibit 11A.

**CONCLUSION:**

It is recommended that your Board receive and file the presentation on the continuing process to revise the OPV Ordinance. Once your Board has provided direction and any additional stakeholder comments are considered, the Ordinance will be brought back before your Board for further consideration and eventual adoption.

Item 11 – OPV Allocation Ordinance Informational Update  
FCGMA Board Regular Meeting, February 25, 2026

This letter has been reviewed by Agency Counsel. If you have any questions, please contact me at (805) 650-4083 or [john.demers@venturacounty.gov](mailto:john.demers@venturacounty.gov).

Sincerely,



John Demers  
Executive Officer

Attachment:

Item 11A - Revised Ordinance to Establish an Allocation System for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basins, as of February 25, 2026

**A REVISED ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A  
REVISED ALLOCATION SYSTEM FOR THE  
OXNARD AND PLEASANT VALLEY  
GROUNDWATER BASINS**

Adopted\_\_\_\_, 2026

**ARTICLE 1. FINDINGS**

- 1.1. The Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basin and Oxnard Groundwater Subbasin of the Santa Clara River Basin (referred to herein as "Oxnard Basin"), collectively referred to as the OPV Basins, have been designated by the California Department of Water Resources as high priority groundwater basins that are subject to critical conditions of overdraft.
- 1.2. Ventura County's leadership and citizens have made it clear (in the County's General Plan update and adoption of "Save Our Agricultural Resources" [SOAR] initiatives) that they would like to maintain the agricultural character and economy of the region, including the OPV basins, while also ensuring a high quality of life for its citizens and improving environmental conditions. Currently available water supplies are insufficient to meet these goals, and groundwater quality is deteriorating in some areas, partly due to seawater intrusion that is a direct result of this shortage of water supplies.
- 1.3. The OPV Basins have been managed under groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) submitted to the California Department of Water Resources ("DWR") by the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency ("Agency") in January 2020, in conformance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), as amended by Periodic Evaluations submitted to DWR in January 2025.
- 1.4. The sustainable yield estimates in the 2020 GSPs for the OPV Basins were updated with new information submitted to DWR in January 2025 as part of the required GSP five-year evaluation process under SGMA. The new information included updated design and scheduling elements for water-supply projects that were included in the 2020 GSPs and the 2025 Periodic Evaluation Reports for the OPV Basins. A suite of projects being developed by stakeholders, if executed fully and on time, may achieve the Basins' sustainability goals, while also providing the additional water supplies required to meet projected demand, improve groundwater quality, and enhance the area's resilience to future droughts and climate change (per the goals of the FCGMA's GSPs, the Ventura County General Plan, and SOAR).
- 1.5. As noted in the 2007 Update to the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Groundwater Management Plan, "One of the most effective management strategies in reducing overdraft is to supply water directly to over-drafted areas. This in-lieu strategy has been very effective in the Upper Aquifer System, where Santa Clara River water delivered through the Pumping Trough Pipeline has helped to alleviate the pumping trough that has been present for several decades beneath the south Oxnard Plain."
- 1.6. Operators may be able to demonstrate that deliveries of surface water, imported water, treated

recycled water, or water from other non-groundwater sources (collectively “substitute water”) resulted in decreased groundwater extractions and be considered in-lieu water.

- 1.7. The 10-year period prior to January 1, 2015, the date SGMA became effective, (i.e., the Base Period) includes a complete climate cycle and is representative of annual average precipitation, groundwater extractions from the Basins and deliveries of substitute water.
- 1.8. The adoption of this ordinance is a necessary step in the transition from the Agency's current groundwater management programs to sustainable groundwater management under SGMA. As part of that transition, the Agency may, in the future, determine that it is necessary to move from a wellhead-based to a land-based allocation system. Such a transition would be required if significant reductions in extraction allocations were selected as a part of the Agency's approach to achieve sustainable management and if the Agency decided to set a minimum allocation based on area of land served by an extraction facility. However, implementation of a land-based allocation system is not feasible until such time as the Agency has developed sufficient parcel-based water-use data to allow for effective regulation of extractions on that basis, should such a change in allocation-basis be implemented in the future.
- 1.9. The measures set forth in this ordinance are necessary to improve and protect the quantity and quality of groundwater supplies within the Basins.
- 1.10. This ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Water Code section 10728.6 and CEQA Guidelines sections 15061(b)(3), 15307 and 15308.
- 1.11. The extraction allocations established under this ordinance are consistent with the land use elements of the applicable general plans to the extent that there is sufficient sustainable yield in the Basins to serve the land use designations therein.

## **ARTICLE 2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this ordinance is to facilitate adoption and implementation of the GSPs for the OPV Basins and to ensure that the Basins are operated within their sustainable yields. It is not the purpose of this ordinance to determine or alter water right entitlements, including those which may be asserted pursuant to California Water Code sections 1005.1, 1005.2 or 1005.4.

## **ARTICLE 3. PERIODIC REVIEW PROCEDURE**

The Board will periodically review the effectiveness of this ordinance toward meeting its purpose. This review shall occur at least once every year. If necessary, this ordinance will be amended to ensure that the sustainability goals of the GSPs are met.

## **ARTICLE 4. DEFINITIONS**

- 4.1 "Agency" shall mean the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency.

- 4.2 "Agricultural Operator" shall mean an owner or operator of an extraction facility used to produce groundwater for use on lands in the production of plant crops or livestock for market and uses incidental thereto.
- 4.3 "Assessor's Parcel Map" shall mean an official map designating parcels by Assessor's Parcel Number.
- 4.4 "Assessor's Parcel Number" shall mean the number assigned to a parcel by the County of Ventura for purposes of identification.
- 4.5 "Base Period" shall mean calendar years 2005 through 2014.
- 4.6 "Base-Period Conejo Creek Deliveries" shall mean the average annual amount of Conejo Creek Water Deliveries during the base period.
- 4.7 "Base-Period Extraction" shall mean the average annual groundwater extraction based on reported extractions during the base period, excluding any extractions that incurred surcharges.
- 4.8 "Base-Period PTP Deliveries" shall mean the average annual amount of PTP deliveries during the base period as reported to the Agency by United.
- 4.9 "Base-Period PV Deliveries" shall mean the average annual amount of PV deliveries during the base period as reported to the Agency by United.
- 4.10 "Basins" shall mean the Pleasant Valley Groundwater Basin and the Oxnard Groundwater Subbasin.
- 4.11 "Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Agency.
- 4.12 "Conejo Creek Project" shall mean the Conejo Creek Diversion structure and appurtenances owned and operated by Camrosa Water District through which recycled water discharged from the Hill Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant is diverted from Conejo Creek for delivery to Camrosa Water District and Pleasant Valley.
- 4.13 "Conejo Creek Water Deliveries" shall mean deliveries of water to Pleasant Valley from the Conejo Creek Project.
- 4.14 "Executive Officer" shall mean the individual appointed by the Board to administer Agency functions or his/her designee.
- 4.15 "Extraction Allocation" shall mean the amount of groundwater that may be obtained from an extraction facility during a given water year before a surcharge is imposed.
- 4.16 "Extraction Facility" shall mean any device or method (e.g. water well) for extraction of groundwater within the Basin for beneficial use (e.g., does not include tile drains or other facilities or systems used for the sole purpose of removing or diverting shallow nuisance groundwater from the root zone of crops or from human-built infrastructure).

- 4.17 "Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)" shall mean the plan or plans, and any amendment thereof, developed and adopted for the OPV Basins in accordance with SGMA.
- 4.18 "In-lieu recharge" shall mean accomplishing increased storage of groundwater by providing substitute water to a user who relies on groundwater as a primary supply, to accomplish groundwater storage through the direct use of that water in-lieu of pumping groundwater.
- 4.19 "Management Area" shall mean an area within the Basins for which the groundwater sustainability plan may identify different minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, monitoring or projects and management actions in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to chapter 10 of SGMA.
- 4.20 "Municipal and Industrial Operator" shall mean an owner or operator that supplied groundwater for domestic, industrial, commercial or other non-agricultural use.
- 4.21 "Municipal and Industrial (M&I) Use" shall mean any use other than agricultural irrigation.
- 4.22 "Mutual Water Company" shall mean a corporation organized for, or engaged in the business of, selling, distributing, supplying, or delivering water to its stockholders and members at cost for irrigation purposes or for M&I use.
- 4.23 "O-H Pipeline" means the water distribution system operated by United that supplies groundwater to contractors under the O-H Pipeline Agreement.
- 4.23 "O-H Pipeline Agreement" means the Water Supply Agreement for Delivery of Water Through the Oxnard/Hueneme Pipeline dated July 1, 1996, and any amendment thereto.
- 4.24 "Operator" shall mean a person operating an extraction facility. The owner of an extraction facility shall be conclusively presumed to be the operator unless a satisfactory showing is made to the Agency that the extraction facility actually is operated by some other person.
- 4.25 "Owner" shall mean a person owning an extraction facility or an interest in an extraction facility other than a lien to secure the payment of a debt or other obligation and shall include any mutual water company and incorporated ownership.
- 4.26 "Parcel" shall mean a lot or parcel shown on an Assessor's Parcel Map with an assigned Assessor's Parcel Number.
- 4.27 "Person" shall mean any state or local governmental agency, private corporation, firm, partnership, individual, group of individuals, or, to the extent authorized by law, any federal agency.
- 4.28 "Pleasant Valley" shall mean Pleasant Valley County Water District.
- 4.29 "Pleasant Valley's Service Area" shall mean all lands shown on the map of the boundaries of Pleasant Valley on file with the Ventura Local Agency Formation Commission.

- 4.30 "PTP Deliveries" shall mean deliveries of surface water from the Santa Clara River through United's Pumping Trough Pipeline.
- 4.31 "PV Deliveries" shall mean deliveries of surface water from the Santa Clara River through United's Pleasant Valley Pipeline.
- 4.32 "Sustainable Groundwater Management Act" or "SGMA" shall mean Part 2.74 of Division 6 of the California Water Code, sections 10720 et seq.
- 4.33 "Sustainable Yield" shall mean the maximum quantity of water that can be withdrawn annually from the Basins as provided in the GSP.
- 4.34 "United" shall mean United Water Conservation District.
- 4.35 "Water Market" shall mean a program which, by ordinance, allows the transfer of extraction allocations through a market administered by or on behalf of the Agency.
- 4.36 "Water Purveyor" shall mean a mutual water company, special district, or municipality that supplies water to others for agricultural or municipal and industrial use.
- 4.37 "Water Year" shall mean the period from October 1 of one calendar year through September 30 of the following calendar year.

## **ARTICLE 5. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 5.1 Notwithstanding any other Agency ordinance provision to the contrary, including article 2 of Emergency Ordinance E, the Executive Officer shall establish an operator's extraction allocation for each extraction facility located within the Basins as set forth herein. The alternative extraction allocations authorized under section 5.6 of the Agency Ordinance Code shall not be available to an operator for extracting groundwater from the Basins. Except as expressly provided herein, the provisions governing extraction allocations set forth in section of the Agency Ordinance Code shall apply to groundwater extractions from the Basins.
- 5.2 Except as provided in section 5.6, an extraction allocation established under this ordinance is assigned to an extraction facility. An operator with more than one extraction facility connected to a common conveyance structure (e.g., pipeline or irrigation ditch), or with separate (i.e., unconnected) extraction facilities that are used to supply water to a single parcel or multiple contiguous parcels, may combine the extraction allocations for the individual facilities.
- 5.3 The Board may limit the ability to combine extraction allocations assigned to extraction facilities in different management areas. Limitations on combining extraction facilities in different management areas shall be set forth in a Resolution adopted by the Board based on a determination that the limitation is necessary in order to implement the GSP.
- 5.4 All extraction allocations in excess of an allocation established by the ordinance shall be

subject to extraction surcharges in the same manner as provided in the Agency Ordinance Code for extractions that exceed the historical and/or baseline allocation.

- 5.5 Extraction allocations may be transferred or temporarily assigned only as provided in article 9 of this ordinance.
- 5.6 The extraction allocation assigned to extraction facilities operated by United to supply water through the O-H Pipeline is "held in trust [by United] for Any or All Contractors" as a "Suballocation" as those terms are defined in the O-H Pipeline Agreement. Upon termination of or withdrawal of any party from the O-H Pipeline Agreement, the distribution of the extraction allocation assigned to the O-H Pipeline extraction facilities shall be decided by mutual agreement of United and the affected parties or as determined by a court. Notwithstanding any such agreement or court determination or the O-H Pipeline Agreement, the extraction allocation assigned to the O-H Pipeline extraction facilities shall be subject to all applicable Agency rules and regulations for the use and adjustment of extraction allocations, including chapter 5 of the Agency Ordinance Code, and to any allocation reductions implemented in accordance with article 10 of this ordinance.
- 5.7 In the event that water supplies other than groundwater (e.g., surface water, imported water, treated recycled water, or treated brackish water) normally used by an operator become diminished for reasons beyond control of the operator (e.g., natural disaster, act of war, or contamination by pathogens or toxic chemicals), then the operator may request, and if approved by the Executive Officer, that extraction of groundwater by that operator as needed to partially or completely replace that source of supply during the subsequent six months will not be counted against their allocation as defined in Article 6. This grace period will be considered for extension every six months thereafter by the Board based on progress made to return these supplies to pre-disaster average rates.

## **ARTICLE 6. ALLOCATIONS**

- 6.1 Until, and if, such time as the reductions described in article 10 may be implemented and except as otherwise provided in this article, an operator's extraction allocation shall be the base-period extraction as reported to the Agency pursuant to chapter 2 of the Agency Ordinance Code. The extraction allocation established under this section is called "base period allocation."
- 6.2 Projects or programs put in place by water purveyors (districts, mutual water companies, and municipalities) that did not exist during the base period will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, as there is no base-period history to take account of, and an allocation will be determined based upon negotiations and written agreement between the purveyor and the Agency.
- 6.3 In order to encourage the coordinated use of groundwater from the Basins and in-lieu sources of supply, while eliminating overdraft and maintaining the sustainability goals established under SGMA, operators that can demonstrate to the Executive Officer's satisfaction that their use of in-lieu sources results in reduced groundwater extractions will receive an "in-lieu delivery adjustment" to their base-period allocation. The sum of the base period allocation and the in-lieu delivery adjustment is referred to as the "adjusted allocation." For those operators that can demonstrate reduced groundwater extractions, if availability of in-lieu deliveries in a

given water year is more or less than the base-period annual average in-lieu delivery quantity, the base-period allocation for that operator will be adjusted downward or upward, respectively, that year, by an amount equal to the base-period annual average in-lieu delivery rate minus the available volume of in-lieu sources that year. A positive in-lieu delivery adjustment will increase the operator's base period allocation that year, with a maximum in-lieu delivery adjustment equal to the base-period annual average in-lieu delivery rate. A negative in-lieu delivery adjustment will decrease the operator's base period allocation that year, to a minimum adjusted allocation of one-half of the operator's base period allocation. A positive in-lieu delivery adjustment will be available for use during the water year in which it is acquired and for the ~~three~~five subsequent water years, after which time it expires.

In-lieu sources of supply are considered "available" if they are physically present and can reasonably be obtained from their source (e.g., Santa Clara River, Conejo Creek, State Water Project, or a recycled water treatment plant), are of suitable quality or character for their intended use, and if demand exists for their use. In-lieu sources of supply may not be available for part or all of a water year if one or more of those conditions are not met.

If an operator proposes an in-lieu source and the base-period annual average in-lieu delivery rate cannot be calculated using historical data, the Agency will establish that base-period annual average in-lieu delivery rate based on information provided to the Agency staff by the operator.

Availability of in-lieu sources of supply shall be demonstrated in an annual report to be submitted by operators using in-lieu sources of supply, as described in Article 6.3.1.

~~Every year~~ Following adoption of this ordinance, Agency staff shall hold a meeting with operators with in-lieu sources of supply to review the effectiveness of the in-lieu deliveries at reducing pumping overall from the OPV Basins and developing recommendations for modifying the operators' ~~base period allocations~~ or in-lieu adjustments, if needed to continue making progress toward achievement of basin sustainability goals. Staff recommendations will be presented to the Board for consideration of amending this Ordinance.

6.3.1 Each operator using in-lieu sources of supply shall submit an annual report to the Agency describing its use of groundwater and in-lieu supplies during the preceding water year. The report shall state the source of all in-lieu water, the total volume of in-lieu sources used, the total volume of in-lieu sources that replaced groundwater extractions, and the total volume of in-lieu sources put to other uses. The report shall state these volumes in acre-feet, supported by meter readings, and include such other information determined by the Executive Officer to be reasonably necessary to carry out the intent of this article.

6.4 It is recognized that during the periodic droughts in the region, when surface water diversions from the Santa Clara River are significantly less than average volumes, United or Pleasant Valley may not have sufficient pumping capacity to fully utilize their adjusted allocations as described in Article 6.3. During such events, operators that have historically relied on PTP or PV deliveries to meet a significant portion of the irrigation demand on lands served by the PTP or PV conveyance systems have, in the past, been able to increase pumping from privately-owned extraction facilities to avoid crop failures or other related economic harm associated with insufficient water availability. However, such increased pumping could potentially exceed an operator's extraction allocation as defined in this Ordinance (base period extractions).

Therefore, to mitigate the potential harm to operators that face such circumstances, a simplified process for temporarily assigning extraction allocation from United or Pleasant Valley to operators of extraction facilities supplying agricultural lands that receive water from the PTP or PV systems, for the purpose of meeting shortfalls in water supply as described above without increasing total extraction allocations in the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins, is provided in Article 9.

- 6.5 It is recognized that during some water years, an agricultural, municipal, or domestic operator may need to extract more groundwater than usual to meet higher demand during a dry year, supplement supplies due to shutdown of an alternative source or respond to other unusual circumstances. Therefore, an operator in good standing with the Agency (i.e., has paid all past surcharges owed to the Agency and has submitted all required annual reports) that pumps 100.1 to 125.0 percent of their base period allocation (or their adjusted allocation, if applicable) in a given water year, may elect to reduce their extractions over the course of the subsequent two water years compared to the volumes that their base period or adjusted allocation would normally allow, instead of paying surcharges for the excess groundwater extraction. During this two-year period, the operator may use temporary assignments (transfers) or purchases of groundwater (from a future water market) as described in Article 9 to make up for some or all the excess extractions that would otherwise result in surcharges. An operator that elects to use this option (rather than pay surcharges) in a given water year will not be allowed to use it again during the subsequent two water years.

#### **ARTICLE 7. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING EXTRACTIONS**

In order to facilitate a transition from a wellhead-based to a land-based allocation system, operators in the Basins shall comply with the following reporting requirements in addition to those specified in the Agency Ordinance Code.

- 7.1 Agricultural operators not subject to section 7.2 shall report the following:
- 7.1.1 Each assessor's parcel number being supplied with groundwater produced by the operator's extraction facility;
  - 7.1.2 The number of irrigated acres within each parcel; and
  - 7.1.3 The source of all water used to irrigate those lands.
- 7.2 Mutual water companies, special districts and municipalities supplying groundwater or in-lieu deliveries for agricultural use shall report the following:
- 7.2.1 Total volume of water from each source being supplied by the mutual water company, special district, or municipality;
  - 7.2.2 Location and identifier of each agricultural turnout and meter owned by the mutual water company, special district, or municipality and located within the Basins or Agency boundary;

- 7.2.3 Monthly water deliveries to and meter readings from each agricultural turnout located within the Basins or Agency boundary;
  - 7.2.4 Monthly water deliveries to areas outside the Basins or Agency boundary;
  - 7.2.5 List of assessor's parcel numbers served by each agricultural turnout and meter located within the Basins or Agency boundary, and list assessor's parcel numbers (or GIS shape file) served by the mutual water company, special district or municipality outside the Basins or Agency boundary; and
  - 7.2.6 Customer name associated with each parcel located within the Basins or Agency boundary.
- 7.3 Mutual water companies, special districts and municipalities supplying groundwater or in-lieu deliveries for municipal and industrial use shall report the following:
- 7.3.1 Total volume of water from each source being supplied by the mutual water company, special district, or municipality;
  - 7.3.2 Monthly water deliveries for all water being supplied by the mutual water company, special district, or municipality; and
  - 7.3.3 List of assessor's parcel numbers (or a GIS shape file) served by the mutual water company, special district, or municipality.
- 7.4 Domestic and municipal and industrial well operators shall report the following:
- 7.4.1 Each assessor's parcel number being supplied with groundwater produced by the operator's extraction facility.

## ARTICLE 8. ALLOCATION CARRYOVER

Except as otherwise provided (e.g., Article 6.5) and subject to the provisions of this article, an unused extraction allocation may be carried over for use in a subsequent water year. A maximum of fifty one hundred percent of an extraction allocation shall be available for carryover. The first water extracted during any year shall be deemed to be an exercise of the carryover authorized by this article. The cumulative allocation carryover shall not exceed one hundred percent of an extraction allocation. Annual allocation carryover for extraction facilities combined under a single operator in accordance with section 5.2 shall be evenly divided among the combined extraction facilities. An allocation carryover may not be earned on unused positive in-lieu delivery adjustments, as those are accounted for separately as defined in article 6.3. ~~Carryover rights expire after five years.~~ The Board may otherwise limit the use of carryover allocations consistent with the provisions of the GSP, provided that any such limitation shall be imposed on all operators on an equal basis.

## ARTICLE 9. ALLOCATION TRANSFERS

9.1 Allocation transfers may be necessary to provide flexibility during and after the transition from the Agency's current groundwater management program to sustainable groundwater management under SGMA. Notwithstanding section 5.3 of the Agency Ordinance Code, transfers of allocation established under this ordinance shall comply with the provisions of this article or be allowed under an Agency-approved water market.

9.2 United and Pleasant Valley may temporarily assign a portion of their respective extraction allocations for the PTP and PV systems (including adjustments related to Conejo Creek and Santa Clara River deliveries) to operators of extraction facilities supplying agricultural lands that receive water from the PTP or PV systems, for the purpose of meeting shortfalls in water supply as described in Article 6.4, without the prior approval from the FCGMA described in paragraph 9.7 of this Article. All such temporary assignments shall be reported to FCGMA by United or Pleasant Valley by letter within 30 days of such transfer occurring, and in the annual reports required in Article 6.3.1. The Board may limit such transfers as necessary to achieve the goals of the GSPs for the OPV Basins.

9-29.3 Similar to article 9.2, if an operator who is connected to either the PTP or PV system does not use their entire allocation in any year due to a well failure or other situation that limits their ability to extract water, that operator may transfer the unused portion of their allocation to United or Pleasant Valley, respectively, upon request of those purveyors. All such temporary assignments shall be reported to FCGMA by United or Pleasant Valley by letter within 30 days of such transfer occurring, and in the annual reports required in Article 6.3.1. The specific reason that the operator did not use their entire allocation must be listed and is subject to the approval of the Agency. The Board may limit such transfers as necessary to achieve the goals of the GSPs for the OPV Basins.

9-39.4 An operator may temporarily assign all or a portion of the allocation for an extraction facility they operate to another separate (unconnected) extraction facility they operate within the same groundwater basin and management area without the prior approval from the FCGMA described in paragraphs 9.7 of this Article. All such temporary assignments shall be reported to FCGMA by the operator with their semi-annual extraction statements to FCGMA. The Board may limit such transfers as necessary to achieve the goals of the GSPs for the OPV Basins.

9-49.5 Except as otherwise provided, transfers or temporary assignments of an extraction allocation (other than those described in articles 9.2 and 9.3) are authorized provided the Agency finds that it does not impede achievement of the sustainability goals of the GSP and would not be detrimental to an Agency-approved water market. In making this determination, the Agency shall, at a minimum, consider the location of the extraction facilities, the total quantity of groundwater extracted in any year, groundwater quality impacts of the transfer and whether the proposed transfer or temporary assignment could be approved under an Agency-approved water market. Requests for the 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. To ensure consistency with the sustainability goals of the GSP, transfers or temporary assignments of an extraction allocation shall be subject to conditions as determined by the Executive Officer. A temporary assignment of allocation shall not exceed one year.

9-59.6 Where there is a sale or transfer of a part of the acreage served by any extraction facility, the extraction allocation for that facility shall be equitably apportioned between the real property

retained and the real property transferred by the owner of the extraction facility. This apportionment shall be approved by the Executive Officer who may modify the apportionment to assure equity.

9-69.7 When irrigated acreage changes to M&I use, the extraction allocation used to irrigate the acreage shall be transferred from the agricultural operator to the M&I operator on a one-to-one basis.

9-79.8 Transfers or temporary assignments of allocations between extraction facilities located within the same groundwater basin shall be considered for approval by the Executive Officer. All other requests for transfers or temporary assignments shall be submitted to the Board for approval.

## **ARTICLE 10. REDUCTION OF ALLOCATIONS**

10.1 Modeling of the updated list of Stakeholder projects included in the 2022 Annual Reports of the Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the Basins indicates that sustainable yield may be achieved before 2040 without pumping reductions. However, if the proposed projects fail to meet the new interim objectives for achieving sustainability as planned, then extraction allocations, adjusted or otherwise, may be reduced according to a schedule and method to be determined by the Board. An operator's use of substitute water in-lieu of groundwater after the effective date of this ordinance shall not subject that operator to a greater allocation reduction than is imposed on other operators.

## **ARTICLE 11. VARIANCES**

The Executive Officer may, on written request from a landowner or operator, grant a variance from the requirements of this ordinance based on the standards set forth in this article.

11.1 Variance Purpose and Standards - The sole purpose of any variance shall be to enable an owner or operator to make reasonable use of groundwater in the same manner as other users of groundwater in the Basins. Before any variance may be granted, the owner or operator must establish, and the Agency must determine that all the following standards are met:

11.1.1 That there are special circumstances or exceptional characteristics applicable to the owner or operator which do not apply generally to comparable owners or operators in the Basins; and

11.1.2 That granting a variance will not confer a special privilege inconsistent with the limitations upon other owners and operators in the Basins; and

11.1.3 That denial of a variance will result in practical difficulties or unnecessary hardships inconsistent with the general purpose of this ordinance; and

11.1.4 That the granting of a variance will not be inconsistent with the GSP or the provisions of SGMA or with other regulations or ordinances of the Agency or detrimental to

the Agency's ability to improve and protect the quantity or quality of groundwater supplies within the Basins; and

11.1.5 That the granting of a variance will not substantially impede the Agency's ability to achieve sustainable groundwater management or the actual sustainability of groundwater in the Basins.

11.2 Burden of Proof - A person seeking a variance shall have the burden of proving to the satisfaction of the Executive Officer that the above standards can be met.

11.3 The Agency may recognize and consider other mitigating factors demonstrated or proposed by the applicant. The Agency at its discretion may include and impose those or other factors as conditions of granting the variance request.

11.4 The Executive Officer may consider any prior requests, permits, other Agency decisions, or enforcement actions associated with the owner or operator.

11.5 Any new or increased extraction allocation granted by the Agency pursuant to a variance request may not be transferred without prior Agency approval.

11.6 Variance Procedures - All requests for a variance shall be filed in writing with the Agency.

11.7 Application Period - Variances may be applied for by June 30 for use in the following the water year.

11.8 Review Period - The Executive Officer shall make reasonable efforts to render a decision on all applications within 90 days from the date the variance is requested. The Executive Officer's decision shall be in writing and include the findings made relative to the standards set forth in section 11.1.

11.9 Appeals - The Executive Officer's decision under this article is appealable in accordance with chapter 6.0 of the Agency Ordinance Code.

## **ARTICLE 12. CONFLICTS**

Should any conflicts occur between the provisions of this ordinance and any other duly enacted Agency code or ordinance, the provisions of this ordinance shall govern.

## **ARTICLE 13. SEVERABILITY**

Should any provision, section, subsection, paragraph, sentence or word of this ordinance be rendered or declared invalid by any final court action in a court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, the remaining provisions, sections, subsections, paragraphs, sentences or words of this ordinance as hereby adopted shall remain in full force and effect.

**ARTICLE 14. EFFECTIVE DATE; OPERATIVE DATE**

This ordinance and amendments hereof shall become effective on the thirty-first day after adoption.

DRAFT

# 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**

February 25, 2026

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

**SUBJECT: Resolution of Appreciation for Michael Craviotto – (New Item)**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve proposed Resolution No. 2026-01 honoring Director Michael Craviotto, Agricultural Representative, for his service to the Agency.

## DISCUSSION:

Since September 2022, Michael Craviotto has served the Agency behalf of the farmers, initially joining your Board as Alternate Director, then in 2024 as Director. His dedication and commitment to his constituents and to all Agency stakeholders demonstrates the highest standards of public service. Staff recommends your Board honor Michael Craviotto upon his departure from the Agency by adopting proposed Resolution No. 2026-01 (Exhibit 12A).

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

Sincerely,

John Demers  
Executive Officer

Attachment:

Item 12A – Proposed Resolution 2026-01



**RESOLUTION 2026-01**  
OF THE  
**FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER**  
**MANAGEMENT AGENCY**  
HONORING  
**MICHAEL CRAVIOTTO**

**WHEREAS**, Michael Craviotto has faithfully served on the Board of Directors of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, from September 2024 to February 2026, as Director appointed to represent the Agricultural constituency, first joining the Board's governance as Alternate Director in September 2022 then assuming the mantle of Director mid-term to ensure his stakeholders' representation, and

**WHEREAS**, while exemplifying a commitment to public service for the preservation of and sustainable use of groundwater basins the Agency oversees, Director Craviotto has given freely of his time, experience, and knowledge to contribute to the success and accomplishments of the Agency, its Board of Directors, its Committees, and

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure, Director Craviotto has brought a thoughtful, measured voice to the Board's deliberations, serving with dignity and distinction, and has contributed significantly to the successful operation of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, especially as it relates to farming interests,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency take great pleasure in honoring **Michael Craviotto** for his dedicated service.

**PRESENTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS THIS 25<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eugene West, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kelly Long, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lynn Maulhardt, Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Trembley, Director

# 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