

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), also sitting as watermaster for the Las Posas Valley Basin (LPV) and the groundwater sustainability agency for the Las Posas Valley Basin, the Pleasant Valley Basin, and the Oxnard Subbasin, will hold a **Fiscal Committee Meeting** at **10:00 A.M.** on **Tuesday, February 17, 2026** in the **Multi-Purpose Room**, at the Ventura County Government Center, Hall of Administration at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California.

FISCAL COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

February 17, 2026
10:00 A.M.

Members: Chair Eugene West
Vice Chair Tony Trembley

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Introductions**
- C. Public Comments** – Audience members may speak about matters not on today's Agenda.
- D. FCGMA Mid-Year Review of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Budget, and Development Study Session for FY 2026-27 Draft Budget** – Discuss and provide recommendations regarding the draft FY 2025-26 Mid-Year Review and draft FCGMA FY 2026-27 Budget considerations; opportunity to provide feedback or discuss recommendations for modifications.
- E. FCGMA Fiscal Reserve Policy** – Discuss and provide recommendations regarding the draft Reserve Policy.
- F. LPV Watermaster Mid-Year Review of FY 2025-26 Budget, and Development Study Session for FY 2026-27 Draft Budget** – Discuss and provide recommendations regarding the draft FY 2025-26 Mid-Year Review and draft LPV Watermaster FY 2026-27 Budget considerations; opportunity to provide feedback or discuss recommendations for modifications.
- G. Future Agenda Items and Next Meeting Date** – Tuesday, March 24, at 1:30 P.M.
- H. Adjourn Meeting.**

STANDING NOTICES

The FCGMA Board and its less-than-a-quorum advisory committees strive to conduct accessible, orderly, and fair meetings where everyone can be heard on the issues. The Committee Chair will conduct the meeting and establish appropriate rules and time limitations for each item.

Public Comments – Public comment is the opportunity for members of the public to participate in meetings by addressing the Fox Canyon Executive Committee in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items.

If you wish to make a written comment, please follow the steps below.

1. 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 Fiscal Committee Special Meeting. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov. Please indicate in the subject line of your email the agenda item number (e.g., Item No. 9). Your email will be read by the Committee members and placed in the record.
2. If you would like to make a general public comment (Item 4) 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, limited to 250 words or less, to the Clerk of the Board at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov. 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.

Administrative Record: Material presented as part of testimony will be made part of the Agency's record, and 10 copies should be left with the Board Clerk. This includes any memos, presentations, maps, etc. If possible, in advance of the meeting, email a PDF of your materials to FCGMA@venturacounty.gov.

ADA Accommodations: Persons who require accommodation for any audio, visual, or other disability in order to review an agenda or to participate in the Committee 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 emailing FCGMA@venturacounty.gov or via telephone by calling (805) 654-2014. Any such request should be made at least 24 hours prior to the meeting so staff can make the necessary arrangements.

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

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

Agency Information and Updates: Our website address is <https://fcgma.org/>. Information available online includes the Board's meeting schedule, a list of the Board members and staff, general information, and various Agency forms. To learn more about the Committee, please visit <https://fcgma.org/committee-meetings/>. If you would like to be added to our email notification list or speak to a staff member, please contact the FCGMA Clerk of the Board at (805) 654-2014 or via email at FCGMA@venturacounty.gov.

FCGMA FY 2025-26 BUDGET - MID-YEAR REVIEW
COMBINED

1	FY25-26 Combined Accounts	2022-23 Year-End Actuals	2023-24 Year-End Actuals	2024-25 Year-End Actuals	2025-26 Adopted Budget	2025-26 Actuals Through December 2025	2025-26 Projected Year End
2	<u>Revenues</u>						
3	Pump Charge ¹	\$801,486	\$841,816	\$1,062,395	\$800,000	295,983.35	\$800,000
4	Groundwater Sustainability Fee ²	\$1,626,366	\$2,756,100	\$3,568,028	\$2,904,000	\$1,979,107	\$2,904,000
5	Penalties / Interest	\$47,965	\$299,408	\$161,265	\$150,000	\$53,418	\$150,000
6	GMA Pumping Surcharges	\$1,027,229	\$895,179	\$1,085,523	\$1,000,000	\$667,103	\$1,000,000
7	GEMES (Reserve Fee) ³	\$1,776,295	\$2,137,678	\$2,486,964	\$2,420,000	\$1,370,216	\$2,420,000
8	SGM Impl Grant Round 1 (OPV) - DWR ⁴	\$0	\$0	\$2,577,800	\$0	\$0	\$0
9	SGM Impl Grant Round 1 (OPV) - Admin ⁵	\$0	\$92,944	\$46,472	\$51,502	\$51,501	\$51,501
10	Interest Earnings ⁶	\$88,098	\$277,445	\$320,171	\$130,000	\$0	\$230,000
11	LPV Watermaster Legal Fees for Rules Appeal ⁷	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
12	Misc. Revenue	\$2,950	\$163	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
13	Total Revenues	\$5,370,388	\$7,300,733	\$11,508,617	\$7,455,502	\$4,417,328	\$7,555,501
14	<u>Expenditures</u>						
15	Public Works Agency Charges ⁸	\$1,814,950	\$1,736,041	\$2,487,287	\$2,988,752	\$1,265,497	\$2,784,952
16	General Services Agency Charges ⁹	\$24,670	\$18,990	\$21,169	\$20,000	\$6,601	\$20,000
17	FCGMA Online Support / GIS ¹⁰	\$189,440	\$173,025	\$93,332	\$200,000	\$109,257	\$200,000
18	LAFCO Funding ¹¹	\$2,551	\$2,995	\$3,510	\$5,192	\$5,192	\$5,192
19	General Legal (County Counsel) ¹²	\$129,490	\$185,852	\$119,711	\$255,000	\$39,176	\$200,000
20	Special Counsel (Stoel, Shute MW, GMSR, Rutan Tucker)	\$2,049,926	\$1,466,690	\$1,001,490	\$1,560,000	\$514,745	\$1,160,000
21	County Counsel (Litigation) - GEMES	\$249,100	\$242,813	\$73,507	\$215,000	\$42,767	\$115,000
22	Board Member Insurance	\$3,796	\$4,118	\$4,085	\$5,045	\$5,430	\$5,430
23	Biennial Audit	\$16,000	\$4,000	\$26,820	\$20,848	\$13,505	\$13,505
24	Professional Dues / Symposium/Conference	3,973	\$2,501	\$2,891	\$3,000	\$1,815	\$3,000
25	Public Notices	\$880	\$991	\$1,111	\$1,500	\$1,093	\$1,500
26	GSP Annual Reports ¹³	\$19,798	\$59,085	\$65,248	\$138,000	\$0	\$138,000
27	Watershed Contributions / Match ¹⁴	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000
28	Computer Equipment, Software & Website	\$0	\$3,355	\$1,572	\$7,500	\$496	\$4,000
29	Office Equipment / Supplies / Printing	\$0	\$126	\$1,442	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,000
30	Misc Expense / Misc Payment	\$451	\$2,033	\$383	\$2,500	\$314	\$2,500
31	FCGMA Board Compensation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
32	<u>Special Expenditures</u>						
33	New FCGMA Data Management System ¹⁵	\$10,860	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
34	GSP Implementation ¹⁶	\$266,995	\$554,562	\$592,213	\$150,000	\$9,290	\$100,000
35	SGM Impl. Grant Monit Well Install (OPV) ¹⁷	\$0.0	\$0	\$3,039,718	\$0	\$0	\$0
36	SGM Impl. Grant Round 1 (OPV) - App. ¹⁸	\$56,560	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
37	SGM Impl. Grant Round 1 - Administration ¹⁹	\$14,011	\$68,705	\$102,393	\$44,800	\$130	\$130
38	SGM Round 2 Grant Application	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$0
39	Monitoring Network Improvement Planning	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$100,000
40	Public Outreach & Strategic Planning ²⁰	\$2,666	\$16,086	\$15,879	\$100,000	\$0	\$50,000
41	AMI Data Support	\$0	\$12,352	\$36,627	\$0	\$0	\$0
42	Oxnard Well Destruction	\$0	\$86,976	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,000
43	Rate Counsel & Consultant ²¹	\$93,176	\$12,623	\$1,976	\$25,000	\$0	\$0
44	Recruitment - Executive Officer	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
45	Total Expenditures²²	\$4,950,791	\$4,655,419	\$7,722,363	\$6,045,137	\$2,016,808	\$4,952,209
46	BEGINNING COMBINED FUND BALANCE	\$3,931,484	\$4,465,538	\$6,988,698	\$10,364,342	\$10,774,952	\$10,774,952
47	Net Combined Results	\$419,597	\$2,645,314	\$3,786,255	\$1,410,365	\$2,400,520	\$2,603,292
48	YEAR END COMBINED FUND BALANCE	\$4,351,081	\$7,110,852	\$10,774,952	\$11,774,707	\$13,175,472	\$13,378,244
49	OPERATING RESERVES	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000

50 **Footnotes: (As reflected in adopted FY 25-26 Budget)**

(1) FY 25-26 projected pump charge revenue assuming 121,000 AFY extraction at \$6.00 per AF.

(2) Projected groundwater sustainability fee revenues at \$24/AF assuming 121,000 AF extractions and a recommended \$5 reduction in fee for FY 2025-26.

(3) Projected reserve fee (\$20/AF) revenues assuming 121,000 AFY extractions.

(4) Projected reimbursement from DWR for SGM Implementation Grant Round 1 funds for FCGMA projects in the Oxnard & Pleasant Valley Basins.

(5) Reimbursement from subgrantees City of Camarillo, UWCD, and PVCWD for consultant grant administration services per Board direction (7/20/2022).

(6) Annual interest earnings apportionments projected to be received from the County Pooled Investment Fund.

(7) Recommendation of Fiscal Committee for LPV Watermaster to repay 50% legal fees for LPV Watermaster Appeal.

(8) Projected PWA charges to implement FY 2025-26 Annual Workplan. Includes Executive Officer and Fiscal allocation and assumes all positions fully staffed.

(9) County General Services Agency (GSA) fees for conference room and AV fees, etc.

(10) FY 25-26 Estimate for IT services to support, maintain, and improve FCGMA Online Data Management System. Includes recommended additional 0.65 FTE for redundancy and additional tasks.

(11) Payment to LAFCO Per Govt. Code Sect. 56381 (b)(1).

(12) County Counsel services for regular FCGMA legal advisory services. Increased 50% to provide additional support and redundancy.

(13) GSP Annual Report expense. Modification dated 4/23/25 extended Dudek contract to 10/1/25.

(14) Includes contributions to Watershed Coalition of Ventura County (\$2,200) and Santa Clara Watershed Committee (\$1,500).

(15) New FCGMA data management system procurement planning-level projections; funding not allocated currently. IT staff improvements ("FCGMA Online Support / GIS") are more efficient and cost effective.

(16) Projected GSP implementation consultant costs (e.g. project coordination, analyze incentive programs)

(17) DWR SGM Implementation Grant Round 1 for Oxnard & Pleasant Valley Basins; this \$2.7mm will be moved as an asset on the balance sheet now that grant is closed out; line 46 shows a 50-year straight line depreciation.

(18) Consultant expenses for grant application for DWR SGM Implementation Grant Round 1 for projects in Oxnard & Pleasant Valley Basins.

(19) Consultant to assist with DWR SGM Implementation Grant Round 1 Administration for OPV Basins. Reimbursement from City of Camarillo, PVCWD, UWCD.

(20) FY 24-25 reflected Hallmark contract costs (staffing needs analysis); FY 25-26 line item cost estimate, independent of Hallmark, is per Board / Fiscal Committee recommendation to develop 5 year plan and build rampdown outreach strategy.

(21) Rate counsel and consultant for fee schedule development.

(22) Post adoption, additional line items may be added to Expenditures pending Fiscal Committee July 2025 review and discussion (Light Gabler contract estimate, Board Member Compensation estimate). Note: Not listed in the Combined Budget is the \$1,000,000 loan from Designated Surcharges Account to Operating Account approved by Board as part of FY 2022-23 Budget to be repaid in FY 2024-25. FY 24-25 Budget adoption postponed repayment to FY 25-26.

(23) Fiscal Committee recommends eliminating Contingency and instead allocating this line item as an annual staircase contribution to Reserves. This brings reserve allocation to \$1,250,000 for FY 2025-26.

**FCGMA FY 2025-26 BUDGET - MID-YEAR REVIEW
OPERATING ACCOUNT**

1	Operating Account	2022-23 Year-End Actuals	2023-24 Year-End Actuals	2024-25 Adopted Budget	2024-25 Year-End Actuals	2025-26 Adopted Budget	2025-26 Actuals Through December 2025	2025-26 Projected Year End
2	<u>Revenues</u>							
3	Pump Charge ¹	\$801,486	\$841,816	\$726,000	\$1,062,395	\$800,000	\$295,983	\$800,000
4	Groundwater Sustainability Fee ²	\$1,626,366	\$2,756,100	\$3,509,000	\$3,568,028	\$2,904,000	\$1,979,107	\$2,904,000
5	Penalties / Interest	\$47,965	\$299,408	\$130,000	\$161,265	\$150,000	\$53,418	\$150,000
6	SGM Impl Grant Round 1 (OPV) - DWR ³	\$0	\$0	\$2,577,800	\$2,577,800	\$0	\$0	\$0
7	SGM Impl Grant Round 1 (OPV) - Admin ⁴	\$0	\$92,944	\$46,472	\$46,472	\$51,502	\$51,501	\$51,501
8	Interest Earnings ⁵	\$11,453	\$36,068	\$287,000	\$320,171	\$130,000	\$0	\$230,000
9	Loan From Surcharges ⁶	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
10	Misc. Revenue	\$2,950	\$163	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
11	Total Revenues	\$3,490,220	\$4,026,499	\$7,276,272	\$7,736,130	\$4,035,502	\$2,380,009	\$4,135,501
12	<u>Expenditures</u>							
13	Public Works Agency Charges ⁷	\$1,814,950	\$1,736,041	\$3,382,544	\$2,487,287	\$2,988,752	\$1,265,497	\$2,784,952
14	General Services Agency Charges ⁸	\$24,670	\$18,990	\$25,000	\$21,169	\$20,000	\$6,601	\$20,000
15	FCGMA Online Support / GIS ⁹	\$189,440	\$173,025	\$247,061	\$93,332	\$200,000	\$109,257	\$200,000
16	LAFCO Funding ¹⁰	\$2,551	\$2,995	\$3,510	\$3,510	\$5,192	\$5,192	\$5,192
17	General Legal (County Counsel) ¹¹	\$129,490	\$185,852	\$170,000	\$119,711	\$255,000	\$39,176	\$200,000
18	Board Member Insurance	\$3,796	\$4,118	\$4,085	\$4,085	\$5,045	\$5,430	\$5,430
19	Biennial Audit	\$16,000	\$4,000	\$20,000	\$26,820	\$20,848	\$13,505	\$13,505
20	Professional Dues / Symposium/Conference	3,973	\$2,501	\$2,500	\$2,891	\$3,000	\$1,815	\$3,000
21	Public Notices	\$880	\$991	\$1,000	\$1,111	\$1,500	\$1,093	\$1,500
22	GSP Annual Reports (Dudek) ¹²	\$19,798	\$59,085	\$97,000	\$65,248	\$138,000	\$0	\$138,000
23	Watershed Contributions / Match ¹³	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000
24	Computer Equipment, Office Software & Website ¹⁴	\$0.00	\$3,355	\$5,000	\$1,572	\$7,500	\$496	\$4,000
25	Office Equipment / Supplies / Printing	\$0.00	\$126	\$1,000	\$1,442	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,000
26	Misc Expense / Misc Payment	\$451	\$2,033	\$2,500	\$383	\$2,500	\$314	\$2,500
27	FCGMA Board Compensation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
28	<u>Special Expenditures</u>							
29	New FCGMA Data Management System ¹⁵	\$10,860	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
30	GSP Implementation (Dudek) ¹⁶	\$266,995	\$554,562	\$989,000	\$592,213	\$150,000	\$9,290	\$100,000
31	SGM Impl. Grant Monitoring Well Install (OPV) ¹⁷	\$0	\$0	\$4,870,000	\$3,039,718	\$0	\$0	\$0
32	SGM Impl. Grant Round 1 - Administration ¹⁸	\$56,560	\$68,705	\$60,000	\$102,393	\$44,800	\$130	\$130
33	Monitoring Wells Network Improvement Planning	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$150,000	\$0	\$100,000
34	SGM Round 2 Grant Application ¹⁹	\$14,011	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$0
35	Public Outreach & Strategic Planning ²⁰	\$2,666	\$16,086	\$25,000	\$15,879	\$100,000	\$0	\$50,000
36	AMI Data Support	\$0	\$12,352	61,648	36,627	\$0	\$0	\$0
37	Oxnard Well Destruction ²¹	\$0	\$86,976	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$40,000
38	Rate & Fee Schedule Consultant (Jarvis Fay) ²²	\$93,176	\$12,623	\$17,000	\$1,976	\$25,000	\$0	\$0
39	Recruitment - Executive Officer	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
40	Repayment of Loan (Initiated FY 2022-23)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000
41	Contribution to Reserves ²³	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000
42	Total Expenditures	\$2,651,765	\$2,945,916	\$9,985,348	\$6,647,366	\$5,520,137	\$1,459,297	\$4,927,209
43	Net Operating Results	\$838,454	\$1,080,583	(\$2,709,076)	\$1,088,764	(\$1,484,635)	\$920,712	(\$791,708)
44	OPERATING RESERVES	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	1,000,000	1,250,000	1,000,000	1,250,000

45 **Footnotes:**

- (1) FY 25-26 projected pump charge revenue assuming 121,000 AFY extraction at \$6.00 per AF.
- (2) Projected groundwater sustainability fee revenues assuming 121,000 AF extractions, and assuming fee is reduced by \$5 to \$24/AF for FY 2025-26 per Fiscal Committee.
- (3) Projected reimbursement from DWR for SGM Implementation Grant Round 1 funds for FCGMA projects in the Oxnard & Pleasant Valley Basins.
- (4) Reimbursement from subgrantees City of Camarillo, UWCD, and PVCWD for consultant grant administration services per Board direction (7/20/2022).
- (5) Annual interest earnings apportionments projected to be received from the County Pooled Investment Fund. As of FY 2024-25, all interest is allocated to Operating per Fiscal Committee.
- (6) Loan from Designated Surcharges Account approved by Board as part of FY 2022-23 Budget; Fiscal Committee recommends repaying loan in FF 2025-26.
- (7) Projected PWA charges to implement annual Work Plan. FY 2025-26 estimate includes PWA CS Fiscal allocation and FTE Executive Officer; does not include additional proposed roles.
- (8) County General Services Agency (GSA) fees for Board room and AV fees, etc.
- (9) FY 2025-26 Estimate for IT services to support, maintain, and technically improve FCGMA Online Data Management System and interface. IT Services and Support costs are split evenly between FCGMA and Watermaster. Staff proposes increasing FCGMA FTEs to 0.825 from 0.5 for FY 2025-26 (totals 1.7 FTEs for both).
- (10) Payment to LAFCO Per Govt. Code Sect. 56381 (b) (1).
- (11) County Counsel services for regular FCGMA legal services.
- (12) GSP Annual Report expense updated based on new Dudek scope approved by Board 12/9/2022 and amended 3/22/24; estimate accounts for Dudek rates adjusted up from 2022 levels, as contract will be renewed or modified October 2025, and will include revising reporting templates to comply with updated DWR guidelines.
- (13) Includes contributions to Watershed Coalition of Ventura County (\$2,200) and Santa Clara Watershed Committee (\$1,500).
- (14) Equipment cost related to computer hardware and software; a laptop was purchased as part of upgrades. Standard software licenses such as Adobe or MS Office; also includes website software (WordPress, Elementor).
- (15) New FCGMA data management system procurement planning-level projections not included in favor of upgrading current system per FY 2024-25 Operations Committee recommendation.
- (16) Projected GSP implementation consultant costs based on contract approved 12/9/2022 and subsequent amendments; FY 2024-25 expenses reflected 5-Year Periodic Evaluations.
- (17) Monitoring well installation in OPV basins projected expense. Majority funded by DWR SGM Implementation Grant.
- (18) Consultant to assist with DWR SGM Implementation Grant Round 1 administration for the OPV Basins. Reimbursement from City of Camarillo, PVCWD, and UWCD. FCGMA net share was \$9,748 annually.
- (19) Estimated grant application consultant expenses for DWR SGM Impl. Grant Round 2 for projects in Las Posas Valley Basin; projection based on routine grant application cost.
- (20) FY 2024-25 included Hallmark contract costs to complete staffing needs analysis; FY 2025-26 estimate is per Board / Fiscal Committee recommendation to develop stakeholder outreach strategy (Board would like to prioritize rampdown conversations) and to develop 5-year strategic plan.
- (21) FY 2023-24; Projected cost to destroy Oxnard well. Delayed due to interest from County Airport in taking over well.
- (22) Rate counsel and consultant for planned replenishment fee. Projected expense in FY 2024-25 for GEMES by Jarvis Fay.
- (23) FY 2025-26 contribution to reserves is \$250,000 reallocated from funds previously earmarked as contingency. Per Fiscal Committee, future budgets will include a 10% annual contribution of net operating reserve to fund the reserves until the target amount is met (50% of anticipated annual expenses, or \$2.5 mm).

**FCGMA FY 2025-26 BUDGET - MID-YEAR REVIEW
 DESIGNATED ACCOUNTS**

	Designated Accounts	2022-23 Year-End Actuals	2023-24 Year-End Actuals	2024-25 Year-End Actuals	2025-26 Draft Budget	2025-26 Actuals Through December 2025	2025-26 Projected Year End
GEMES ACCOUNT							
<u>Revenues</u>							
GEMES Reserve Fee ¹	\$1,776,295	\$2,137,678	\$2,486,964	\$2,420,000	\$1,370,216	\$2,420,000	
LPV Watermaster legal fees for Rules Appeal			\$200,000				
<u>Expenditures</u>							
Special Counsel ²	(\$2,049,926)	(\$1,466,690)	(\$1,001,490)	(\$1,560,000)	(\$514,745)	(\$1,160,000)	
County Counsel ³	(\$249,100)	(\$242,813)	(\$73,507)	(\$215,000)	(\$42,767)	(\$115,000)	
Net Results	(\$522,731)	\$428,175	\$1,611,967	\$645,000	\$812,705	\$1,145,000	
SURCHARGES ACCOUNT							
<u>Revenues</u>							
GMA Pumping Surcharges ⁴	\$1,027,229	\$895,179	\$1,085,523	\$1,000,000	\$667,103	\$1,000,000	
Designated Acct. Interest Earnings ⁶	\$76,645	\$241,377					
Repayment of Loan to Operations ⁵				\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000	
<u>Expenditures</u>							
Loan to Operations ⁷	(\$1,000,000)						
Net Results	\$103,874	\$1,136,556	\$1,085,523	\$2,000,000	\$667,103	\$2,000,000	
<i>Footnotes:</i>							
(1) Reserve Fee of \$20.00 per AF to replenish GEMES Account per Resolution 2020-05 effective 1/1/2021, renewed for four years on 9/25/24 with Resolution 2024-05.							
(2) Special Counsel fees related to ongoing and anticipated litigation. Includes Stoel Rives, Shute Mihaly Wineberger (LPV Basin Adj., City Oxnard, OPV Coalition).							
(3) County Counsel costs for ongoing and anticipated litigation; Includes GEMES litigation (LPV Basin Adj., City Oxnard, OPV Coalition).							
(4) Projected surcharge revenue.							
(5) Repayment of loan (transfer from Designated Surcharges Fund to Operating Account in FY 2022-23).							
(6) Interest earnings reallocated to Operating Account per Fiscal Committee as of FY 2024-25.							
(7) Transfer from Designated Surcharges Fund to Operating Accounts in FY 2022-23.							

FCGMA FY 2025-26 MID-YEAR REVIEW STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION					
Account	2023-24 Year-End Actuals	2024-25 Year-End Actuals	2025-26 Adopted Budget	2025-26 Actuals Through December 2025	2025-26 Projected Year End
Designated GEMES Account	(\$1,048,955)	\$563,013	\$1,193,490	\$1,375,718	\$1,708,013
Designated Surcharges Account	\$4,474,411	\$5,559,934	\$7,559,934	\$6,227,037	\$7,559,934
Designated Operating Reserves	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,250,000
Operating Account	\$1,080,583	\$1,088,764	(\$1,484,635)	\$920,712	(\$791,708)
Operating Account Carryforward	\$1,604,813	\$2,563,241	\$3,255,918	\$3,652,005	\$3,652,005
Year End Total Fund Balance	\$7,110,852	\$10,774,952	\$11,774,707	\$13,175,472	\$13,378,244



FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

CASH RESERVE POLICY

ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ON _____, 2026

Table of Contents

CASH RESERVE POLICY	2
I. POLICY OBJECTIVE	2
II. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION	2
III. RESERVE DEFINITIONS	4
A. Operating Reserves	4
1. Working Capital Reserve	4
2. Water Supply Reliability Reserve	5
3. Rate Stabilization Reserve	6
B. Non-Operating Reserves	7
1. Debt Service Reserve	7
2. Project Reserve	7
3. Risk Management	7
IV. ADDITIONAL USES OF RESERVES	8
V. RESERVE TABLE SUMMARY	9

CASH RESERVE POLICY

I. POLICY OBJECTIVE

The purpose of Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (Agency) Cash Reserve Policy (Policy) is to ensure that the Agency will have adequate funding and liquidity in order to mitigate risk or uncertainty in revenue and expenses, to maintain a stable financial base to sustain the Agency's operations and provide for the timely replacement of critical infrastructure. The Policy is intended to be used in conjunction with the Agency's budgets and long-range financial plan. Properly designed policies demonstrate that the Board is committed to the Agency's long-term financial health.

They include:

- Establishing prudent fiscal reserve policies to ensure strong fiscal management to guide Agency decisions;
- Providing the ability to meet the Agency's short-term and long-term obligations and to ensure that the Agency maintains the ability to receive a high credit rating (AA or better)
- Ensuring funding is available for current and future replacement of assets; and
- Helping smooth rates from year-to-year while promoting long-term equity to ratepayers.

II. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

The complex nature of Fox Canyon's operations and its various legal and legislative requirements dictates a multifaceted and sophisticated financial structure. The Agency has implemented numerous operating programs to ensure it is meeting all requirements imposed by the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency Act, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), and other legal requirements.

To ensure the Agency satisfies its commitments under its numerous financial, regulatory, and contractual obligations, the Agency has developed and segregated several types of accounts. The prudent management of these accounts will provide assurance that the current levels of Agency performance will continue, and the Agency will be able to meet all statutory requirements.

These accounts can be broken out into two types: Operating and Designated. Currently, the Agency maintains the following accounts:

Account	Type	Purpose
Operating Account	Operating	Routine annual operation expenses as identified in Work Plan.
Groundwater Extraction Management Enforcement Surcharge (GEMES) Account	Designated	Fund litigation costs including Agency counsel and outside counsel.
Surcharges Account	Designated	For Board-directed uses only, not to be used for routine Agency operations.
Operating Reserves	Designated	Maintain a flat fee reserve balance based on Board direction.

During the adoption of the Agency's budget, a comprehensive assessment is conducted of all accounts and their respective prioritization and funding levels. In accordance with sound financial management practices, the strategic determination of the optimal level and distinct delineation of reserve subcategories is imperative for the fiscal well-being of the Agency. This policy establishes the mandated reserve types along with their corresponding funding thresholds, including defining new accounts.

This policy shall be reviewed annually during the budget development process, during which the Executive Officer shall provide a Reserve Status Report showing the current balance for each fund category.

III. RESERVE DEFINITIONS

A. Operating Reserves

The Operating Reserves are comprised of three (3) reserve funds with individual target levels based on the major classifications of risk to the Agency's operations. Certain revenues applicable to a particular component, such as surcharges to the Water Supply Reliability Reserve, are applied directly to the applicable reserve component to assist in funding the target level more quickly than would otherwise be available from general revenues. This expands upon the current Operating Reserves Account.

1. Working Capital Reserve

This reserve acts as the "base" reserve and is intended to provide sufficient liquidity from a cash-flow perspective to facilitate the normal dynamic of ongoing expenses and episodic revenue collection.

- a. **Funding Sources:** Operating revenues or Board-approved transfers from other funds.
- b. **Target Levels:** The target level for this reserve shall maintain a minimum balance equal to 120 days of the total annual operating budget and a maximum balance of 240 days of the total annual operating budget.
- c. **Events or Conditions Prompting the Use of the Fund:** This fund may be routinely utilized by staff to cover temporary cash flow deficiencies caused by timing differences between revenue and expenses or decreases in revenues and unexpected increases in expenses. Requires Executive Officer approval with a report to the Board.

d. **Replenishment:** Upon the drawing of moneys resulting in a balance at or below the target, staff will recommend a course of action to meet the target level. The recommendation will include:

- Identification of the cause of the draw-down.
- Incorporation of a Replenishment Line Item in the subsequent fiscal year's budget.
- A target of full restoration of the floor within 24 to 36 months.

2. Water Supply Reliability Reserve

This reserve helps mitigate the risk of short-term low- to moderate-drought impacts by funding unanticipated purchases of imported water resulting from reductions in local water supplies. This replaces the current Surcharges Account.

a. **Funding Sources:** Surcharges.

b. **Target Levels:** The Water Supply Reliability Reserve target is set at two (2) years' impact of estimated imported water costs resulting from a decrease in groundwater yield during a drought or other conditions which create imported water costs.

c. **Events or Conditions Prompting the Use of the Fund:** Used to supplement revenues during drought years or other conditions which create imported water costs. Use of this fund requires Board approval.

d. **Replenishment:** Upon the drawing of moneys resulting in a balance at or below the target, staff will recommend a course of action to meet the target level. The recommendation will include:

- Identification of the cause of the draw-down.
- Incorporation of a Replenishment Line Item in the subsequent fiscal year's budget.
- A target of full restoration of the floor within 24 to 36 months.

FCGMA Reserve Policy, Adopted _____

3. Rate Stabilization Reserve

The Agency's Rate Stabilization Reserve provides broad protection against unexpected costs or loss of revenues and acts as the primary reserve when considering mitigating rate increases.

- a. **Funding Sources:** Operating revenues.
- b. **Target Level:** The Rate Stabilization Reserve shall have a minimum level of 60 days of annual budgeted operating costs and a maximum of 90 days of annual budgeted operating costs. This reserve may increase in order to plan for anticipated increases in operating costs.
- c. **Events or Conditions Prompting the Use of the Fund:** Used to cover funding for unanticipated major expenses during a year which may otherwise impact rates or fees charged. Requires Executive Officer approval with a report to the Board.
- d. **Replenishment:** Upon the drawing of moneys below the target level, staff will recommend a course of action within the budget and long-range financial planning process to meet the target level. The recommendation will include:
 - Identification of the cause of the draw-down.
 - Incorporation of a Replenishment Line Item in the subsequent fiscal year's budget.
 - A target of full restoration of the floor within 24 to 36 months.

B. Non-Operating Reserves

1. Debt Service Reserve

Not currently operative. The category will be defined should it be required in the future.

2. Project Reserve

The Project Reserve is used for the funding of new projects or for the funding of the replacement of assets (such as monitoring wells) when they reach the end of their useful lives. Replacement of capital assets shall include repair, rehabilitation, improvements, and/or extensions of existing capital assets.

- a. **Funding Source:** Non-operating revenue and operating revenue.
- b. **Target Level:** The Agency may set aside funds for certain identified projects until such time as work commences on the identified project.
- c. **Events or Conditions Prompting the Use of the Fund:** Staff will recommend new projects during the annual budget preparation. As projects are approved, funds will be appropriated from other reserve funds or available revenues. Requires Board approval.

3. Risk Management

Not currently operative. The category will be defined should it be required in the future.

FCGMA Reserve Policy, Adopted _____

IV. ADDITIONAL USES OF RESERVES

If reserve funds have reached their maximum target levels, the Board may instruct staff to utilize additional reserves in the following ways.

1. Advance fund any of the Agency's short-term or long-term liabilities, including but not limited to outstanding debt, lease obligations, State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans, interfund loans, or other loans.
2. In the event the Agency's budget process identifies large future spending plans, reserves can be transferred to fund the Project Reserve, other special purpose reserves for special projects or purchases, cash funding capital projects, and/or future capital commitments at the Board's discretion.
3. Consideration will be given to reducing fees and charges to ratepayers, or providing a rebate to ratepayers, should no other reasonable and timely use exist for the funds.

V. RESERVE TABLE SUMMARY

Reserve Fund	Minimum	Target	Maximum
Working Capital Reserve⁽¹⁾	120 days of total annual operating budget.	180 days of total annual operating budget.	240 days of total annual operating budget
Water Supply Reliability Reserve	N/A	Two (2) years' impact of estimated imported water costs	N/A
Rate Stabilization Reserve	60 days of annual budgeted operating costs	N/A	90 days of annual budgeted operating costs
Debt Service Reserve	Not currently operative.		
Project Reserve	N/A	At Board's discretion.	N/A
Risk Management Reserve	Not currently operative.		

(1) Base Reserves - Agency Minimum

Las Posas Valley Watermaster
FY 2025-26 Budget - Mid-Year Review
COMBINED

1	Description	Actuals FY 2023-24	Actuals FY 2024-25	Budget FY 2025-26	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26 (without 4th BA WY 2024-4) ¹	FY 2025-26 Actuals Through December 2025	FY 2025-26 Projected Year End	FY 2026-27 Draft Budget
2	REVENUES							
3	Operating:							
4	Basin Assessment Fee	\$ 1,259,607	\$ 1,898,016	\$ 2,468,375	\$ 1,851,281	\$ 535,162	\$ 1,851,281	\$ 1,932,211
5	Basin Assessment Interest	\$ 20,026	\$ 24,469	\$ 37,026	\$ 27,769	\$ 6,749	\$ 22,769	\$ 22,769
6	LPV BOP Assessment	-	-	-	-	\$ 54,707	\$ 164,120	\$ 6,356,938
7	LPV BOP Assessment Interest	-	-	-	-	\$ 320	\$ 961	\$ 1,000
8	Non-Operating:							
9	Investment Income (from County Pooled Investment fund)	\$ 9,846	\$ 62,157	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	-	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
10	Total REVENUES	\$ 1,289,479	\$ 1,984,642	\$ 2,530,401	\$ 1,904,051	\$ 596,938	\$ 2,079,132	\$ 8,352,918
11	EXPENSES							
12	PWA Labor Cost							
13	Watermaster Administration	\$ 66,034.35	\$ 127,392	\$ 89,653	\$ 89,653	\$ 47,061	\$ 93,475	\$ 99,579
14	Allocations & Record Keeping	\$ 3,071.70	\$ 57,360	\$ 121,144	\$ 121,144	\$ 78,696	\$ 144,137	\$ 168,503
15	Basin Management	\$ 3,936.87	\$ 50,579	\$ 26,257	\$ 26,257	\$ 37,344	\$ 58,637	\$ 20,000
16	Committee Coordination and Consultations	\$ 3,622.07	\$ 30,456	\$ 40,813	\$ 40,813	\$ 10,812	\$ 24,308	\$ 27,669
17	Budget and Assessments	\$ 4,768.26	\$ 30,565	\$ 58,429	\$ 58,429	\$ 9,974	\$ 27,943	\$ 29,340
18	IT Services and Support	\$ 3,338.46	\$ 18,204	\$ 23,794	\$ 23,794	\$ 8,180	\$ 18,455	\$ 22,237
19	Calleguas Aquifer Storage & Recovery Project	-	\$ 792	\$ 10,087	\$ 10,087	\$ 479	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,500
20	Staff time (ongoing or anticipated litigation)	-	\$ 2,360	\$ 8,507	\$ 8,507	\$ 2,434	\$ 7,073	\$ 7,427
21	Project Basin Assessment Implementation	-	-	-	-	\$ 14,844	\$ 25,000	\$ -
22	Total PWA Labor Cost²:	\$ 84,772	\$ 317,708	\$ 378,682	\$ 378,682	\$ 209,824	\$ 409,028	\$ 385,255
23	Contract Costs							
24	Allocations & Record Keeping							
25	Extraction Monitoring and Reporting ³ (Ex A ⁴ , Article V)	\$ 17,244	\$ 44,442	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 39,978	\$ 63,000	\$ -
26	Subtotal - Allocations & Record Keeping	\$ 17,244	\$ 44,442	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 39,978	\$ 63,000	\$ -
27	Basin Management							
28	Initial Basin Optimization Plan ⁵ (5.3)	-	\$ 78,840	-	-	\$ 443	\$ 443	\$ -
29	2025 Basin Optimization Yield Study ⁶ (4.10)	-	\$ 31,698	\$ 271,302	\$ 271,302	\$ 138,929	\$ 271,302	\$ -
30	GSP Update (Periodic Evaluation) ⁷	-	\$ 6,579	-	-	-	-	-
31	Annual Report ⁸	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	Watermaster Technical Support ⁹	-	-	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	-	\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000
33	Subtotal - Basin Management	\$ -	\$ 117,117	\$ 321,302	\$ 321,302	\$ 139,371	\$ 296,745	\$ 50,000
34	Committee Coordination and Consultations							
35	PAC Administrator ¹⁰	-	\$ 22,349	\$ 175,100	\$ 175,100	\$ 2,140	\$ 35,100	\$ 50,000
36	Technical Advisory Committee ¹¹ (6.11, Ex A Article IV)	-	\$ 66,694	\$ 100,363	\$ 100,363	\$ 13,380	\$ 85,363	\$ 85,000
37	TAC Member Cost ¹²	-	\$ 148,399	\$ 276,480	\$ 276,480	\$ 41,795	\$ 150,000	\$ 206,500
38	Insurance ¹³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	Subtotal - Committee Coordination and Consultations	\$ -	\$ 237,441	\$ 551,943	\$ 551,943	\$ 57,315	\$ 270,463	\$ 341,500
40	Budget and Assessments							
41	Basin Assessments (7.1-7.3, 7.6, Ex A 2.8)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	Processing Fees (7.4)	-	-	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	-	\$ 25,000	\$ -
43	Audits (7.7)	-	\$ 17,650	\$ 14,150	\$ 14,150	\$ 5,692	\$ 21,150	\$ 20,800
44	CSD Fiscal Services Staff ¹⁴	-	\$ 33,900	\$ 24,900	\$ 24,900	\$ 12,450	\$ 24,900	\$ 29,000
45	Subtotal - Budget and Assessments	\$ -	\$ 51,550	\$ 64,050	\$ 64,050	\$ 18,142	\$ 71,050	\$ 49,800
46	IT Services and Support							
47	Data Management and Support ¹⁵	-	\$ 90,200	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 87,400	\$ 185,000	\$ 220,000
48	Subtotal - IT Services and Support	\$ -	\$ 90,200	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 87,400	\$ 185,000	\$ 220,000
49	Calleguas Aquifer Storage & Recovery Project							
50	Calleguas ASR Project Operations Study ¹⁶ (8.4)	-	-	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	-	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
51	ASR Study Group Landowner Representative ¹⁷	-	-	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 15,000	\$ 60,000
52	Subtotal - Calleguas Aquifer Storage & Recovery Project	\$ -	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 115,000	\$ 160,000
53	BOP Projects							
54	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 20,000	5,704,438
55	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 10,000	147,500
56	Allocation Buyback and Reduction Program	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 30,000	230,000
57	In Lieu Deliveries to northern ELPMA Feasibility Study	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 10,000	106,000
58	Regional Desalter Feasibility Study	-	-	-	-	-	\$ 40,000	169,000
59	Subtotal - BOP Projects	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 110,000	\$ 6,356,938
60	Legal Services*							
61	Agency Counsel (Ventura County Counsel's Office)**	\$ 59,959	\$ 185,434	\$ 175,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 46,137	\$ 175,000	\$ 200,000
62	LPV WM Special Counsel (Stoel Rives)***	-	\$ 602,941	\$ 375,000	\$ 375,000	\$ 125,168	\$ 300,000	\$ 350,000
63	LPV Water Rules Appeal ¹⁸ (9.2)	-	\$ 200,000	-	-	-	-	-
64	Subtotal - Legal Services*	\$ 59,959	\$ 988,375	\$ 550,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 171,305	\$ 475,000	\$ 550,000
65	Total Contract Costs:	\$ 77,203	\$ 1,529,125	\$ 1,865,295	\$ 1,865,295	\$ 514,711	\$ 1,586,258	\$ 7,728,238
66	Contribution to Reserves:	-	\$ 184,683	\$ 224,398	\$ 224,398	\$ 70,969	\$ 186,029	\$ 175,656
67	TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 161,974	\$ 2,031,516	\$ 2,468,375	\$ 2,468,375	\$ 795,504	\$ 2,181,314	\$ 8,289,149
68	Net Operating Results	\$ 1,127,505	\$ (46,874)	\$ 62,026	\$ (564,325)	\$ (198,567)	\$ (102,182)	\$ 63,769

Las Posas Valley Watermaster
FY 2025-26 Budget - Mid-Year Review
COMBINED

Footnotes

- ¹ LPV-2024-4 Basin Assessment (4th Quarter, July - September 2025) falls into FY 2025-26.
- ² Labor cost estimate based on Ventura County Public Works Agency providing LPV Watermaster staff at actual rates for FY 2024-25. For FY 2025-26, Labor cost estimates are based on Ventura County Public Works Agency providing LPV Watermaster staff at actual rates, assuming a 10% increase from FY 2024-25 actual rates.
- ³ Contract costs for Regional Government Services assisting Extraction Monitoring and Reporting (approved 09/25/2024). The FY 2025-26 projection of \$53K is based on past actual contract spend plus estimates for the first and second Extraction and Use reporting periods.
- ⁴ Reference to LPV Adjudication Judgment section; "Ex A" is Exhibit A of the Judgment.
- ⁵ Contract costs for Dudek for assissting with preparation of BOP \$76,025 (approved 01/12/2024); projection based on actual contract spend.
- ⁶ Contract costs for Dudek for assissting with BOYS \$303,000 (modification approved 06/01/2025); projection based on actual contract spend.
- ⁷ Contract estimates for Dudek assisting with GSP Periodic Evaluation (Task 10.2.1, Committeee Evaluation Review and Response).
- ⁸ Annual Report costs are covered by FCGMA per the Fiscal Committee's recommendation.
- ⁹ Consultant to provide technical support to Watermaster as needed on Basin Management, proposed for FY 2025-26.
- ¹⁰ PAC Adminstrator contract \$170,000 (approved 09/25/2024).
- ¹¹ Contract cost estimate for Dudek for assissting as Watermaster TAC member \$97,440 (approved 05/22/2024). Assumes two meetings per month.
- ¹² Contract cost estimate for three TAC members including Administrator, and preparation of Recommendation Reports. Assumes two meetings per month.
- ¹³ PAC request for PAC and TAC members insurance; covered under FCGMA Budget.
- ¹⁴ CSD Fiscal services is an annual allocation. Costs are allocated quarterly between FCGMA and Watermaster; as of FY 2025-26, no longer an equivalent allocation but a split estimate based on past paid services.
- ¹⁵ IT Services and Support costs are split evenly between FCGMA and Watermaster. Increasing Watermaster FTEs to 0.825 from 0.5 proposed for FY 2025-26 (totals 1.7 FTEs for both).
- ¹⁶ Estimate provided by Calleguas Municipal Water District for \$100,000 for Watermaster's responsibility of 20% of ASR Study expenses with regard to total study cost.
- ¹⁷ Estimated expenses for ASR Study Group Landowner Representative; proposed for FY 2025-26 as recommended by PAC 07/17/2025.
- * Agency Counsel and Special Counsel FY 25-26 budget estimates are best estimates based on LPV WM legal work/services to date, current status of LPV ADJ, and experience in other similar matters. Estimates do include costs for work/services related to uncertainties/variables such as whether LPV ADJ overturned, and remand for further trial court proceedings.
- ** Agency Counsel services include advising on LPV ADJ implementation, administration, compliance, and enforcement; LPV WM Board, PAC, TAC meetings, staff reports, presentations; coordination with LPV WM Special Counsel.
- *** Special Counsel services include interpretation of LPV Judgment, Watermaster administration and Judgment implementation; initiation of compliance, enforcement actions; coordination with Agency Counsel.
- ¹⁸ Share of legal expenses for LPV Watermaster Rules Appeal (approved 9/13/2024).

Las Posas Valley Watermaster
FY 2025-26 Budget - Mid-Year Review
OPERATING ACCOUNT

1	Description	Actuals FY 2023-24	Actuals FY 2024-25	Budget FY 2025-26	Adopted Budget FY 2025-26 (without 4th BA WY 2024-4) ¹	FY 2025-26 Actuals Through December 2025	FY 2025-26 Projected Year End	Draft FY 2026-27 Budget
2	REVENUES							
3	Operating:							
4	Basin Assessment Fee	\$ 1,259,607	\$ 1,898,016	\$ 2,468,375	\$ 1,851,281	\$ 535,162	\$ 1,851,281	\$ 1,932,211
5	Basin Assessment Interest	\$ 20,026	\$ 24,469	\$ 37,026	\$ 27,769	\$ 6,749	\$ 22,769	\$ 22,769
6	Non-Operating:							
7	Investment Income (from County Pooled Investment fund)	\$ 9,846	\$ 62,157	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	-	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
8	Total REVENUES	\$ 1,289,479	\$ 1,984,642	\$ 2,530,401	\$ 1,904,051	\$ 541,911	\$ 1,914,051	\$ 1,994,980
9	EXPENSES							
10	PWA Labor Cost							
11	Watermaster Administration	\$ 66,034.35	\$ 127,392	\$ 89,653	\$ 89,653	\$ 47,060.84	\$ 93,475	\$ 99,579
12	Allocations & Record Keeping	\$ 3,071.70	\$ 57,360	\$ 121,144	\$ 121,144	\$ 78,696.13	\$ 144,137	\$ 168,503
13	Basin Management	\$ 3,936.87	\$ 50,579	\$ 26,257	\$ 26,257	\$ 37,343.81	\$ 58,637	\$ 20,000
14	Committee Coordination and Consultations	\$ 3,622.07	\$ 30,456	\$ 40,813	\$ 40,813	\$ 10,812.43	\$ 24,308	\$ 27,669
15	Budget and Assessments	\$ 4,768.26	\$ 30,565	\$ 58,429	\$ 58,429	\$ 9,973.51	\$ 27,943	\$ 29,340
16	IT Services and Support	\$ 3,338.46	\$ 18,204	\$ 23,794	\$ 23,794	\$ 8,180.45	\$ 18,455	\$ 22,237
17	Calleguas Aquifer Storage & Recovery Project	-	\$ 792	\$ 10,087	\$ 10,087	\$ 478.87	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,500
18	Staff time (ongoing or anticipated litigation)	-	\$ 2,360	\$ 8,507	\$ 8,507	\$ 2,434.41	\$ 7,073	\$ 7,427
19	Total PWA Labor Cost²:	\$ 84,772	\$ 317,708	\$ 378,682	\$ 378,682	\$ 194,980	\$ 384,028	\$ 385,255
20	Contract Costs							
21	Allocations & Record Keeping							
22	Extraction Monitoring and Reporting ³ (Ex A ⁴ , Article V)	\$ 17,244	\$ 44,442	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 39,978	\$ 63,000	\$ -
23	Subtotal - Allocations & Record Keeping	\$ 17,244	\$ 44,442	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000	\$ 39,978	\$ 63,000	\$ -
24	Basin Management							
25	Initial Basin Optimization Plan ⁵ (5.3)	-	\$ 78,840	-	-	\$ 443	\$ 443	\$ -
26	2025 Basin Optimization Yield Study ⁶ (4.10)	-	\$ 31,698	271,302	\$ 271,302	\$ 138,929	\$ 271,302	\$ -
27	GSP Update (Periodic Evaluation) ⁷	-	\$ 6,579	-	-	-	-	-
28	Annual Report ⁸	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Watermaster Technical Support ⁹	-	-	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	-	\$ 25,000	\$ 50,000
30	Subtotal - Basin Management	\$ -	\$ 117,117	\$ 321,302	\$ 321,302	\$ 139,371	\$ 296,745	\$ 50,000
31	Committee Coordination and Consultations							
32	PAC Administrator ¹⁰	-	\$ 22,349	\$ 175,100	\$ 175,100	\$ 2,140	\$ 35,100	\$ 50,000
33	Technical Advisory Committee ¹¹ (6.11, Ex A Article IV)	-	\$ 66,694	\$ 100,363	\$ 100,363	\$ 13,380	\$ 85,363	\$ 85,000
34	TAC Member Cost ¹²	-	\$ 148,399	\$ 276,480	\$ 276,480	\$ 41,795	\$ 150,000	\$ 206,500
35	Insurance ¹³	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	Subtotal - Committee Coordination and Consultations	\$ -	\$ 237,441	\$ 551,943	\$ 551,943	\$ 57,315	\$ 270,463	\$ 341,500
37	Budget and Assessments							
38	Basin Assessments (7.1-7.3,7.6, Ex A 2.8)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	Processing Fees (7.4)	-	-	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	-	\$ 25,000	\$ -
40	Audits (7.7)	-	\$ 17,650	\$ 14,150	\$ 14,150	\$ 5,692	\$ 21,150	\$ 20,800
41	CSD Fiscal Services Staff ¹⁴	-	\$ 33,900	\$ 24,900	\$ 24,900	\$ 12,450	\$ 24,900	\$ 29,000
42	Subtotal - Budget and Assessments	\$ -	\$ 51,550	\$ 64,050	\$ 64,050	\$ 18,142	\$ 71,050	\$ 49,800
43	IT Services and Support							
44	Data Management and Support ¹⁵	-	\$ 90,200	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 87,400	\$ 185,000	\$ 220,000
45	Subtotal - IT Services and Support	\$ -	\$ 90,200	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 87,400	\$ 185,000	\$ 220,000
46	Calleguas Aquifer Storage & Recovery Project							
47	Calleguas ASR Project Operations Study ¹⁶ (8.4)	-	-	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	-	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000
48	ASR Study Group Landowner Representative ¹⁷	-	-	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 15,000	\$ 60,000
49	Subtotal - Calleguas Aquifer Storage & Recovery Project	\$ -	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 115,000	\$ 160,000
50	Legal Services*							
51	Agency Counsel (Ventura County Counsel's Office)**	\$ 59,959	\$ 185,434	\$ 175,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 46,137	\$ 175,000	\$ 200,000
52	LPV WM Special Counsel (Stoel Rives)***	-	\$ 602,941	\$ 375,000	\$ 375,000	\$ 125,168	\$ 300,000	\$ 350,000
53	LPV Water Rules Appeal ¹⁸ (9.2)	-	\$ 200,000	-	-	-	-	-
54	Subtotal - Legal Services *	\$ 59,959	\$ 988,375	\$ 550,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 171,305	\$ 475,000	\$ 550,000
55	Total Contract Costs:	\$ 77,203	\$ 1,529,125	\$ 1,865,295	\$ 1,865,295	\$ 514,711	\$ 1,476,258	\$ 1,371,300
56	Contribution to Reserves:	-	\$ 184,683	\$ 224,398	\$ 224,398	\$ 70,969	\$ 186,029	\$ 175,656
57	TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ 161,974	\$ 2,031,516	\$ 2,468,375	\$ 2,468,375	\$ 780,661	\$ 2,046,314	\$ 1,932,211
58	Net Operating Results	\$ 1,127,505	\$ (46,874)	\$ 62,026	\$ (564,325)	\$ (238,750)	\$ (132,263)	\$ 62,769

Las Posas Valley Watermaster
FY 2025-26 Budget - Mid-Year Review
OPERATING ACCOUNT

Footnotes

- 1 LPV-2024-4 Basin Assessment (4th Quarter, July - September 2025) falls into FY 2025-26.
- 2 Labor cost estimate based on Ventura County Public Works Agency providing LPV Watermaster staff at actual rates for FY 2024-25. For FY 2025-26, Labor cost estimates are based on Ventura County Public Works Agency providing LPV Watermaster staff at actual rates, assuming a 10% increase from FY 2024-25 actual rates.
- 3 Contract costs for Regional Government Services assisting Extraction Monitoring and Reporting (approved 09/25/2024). The FY 2025-26 projection of \$53K is based on past actual contract spend plus estimates for the first and second Extraction and Use reporting periods.
- 4 Reference to LPV Adjudication Judgment section; "Ex A" is Exhibit A of the Judgment.
- 5 Contract costs for Dudek for assisting with preparation of BOP \$76,025 (approved 01/12/2024); projection based on actual contract spend.
- 6 Contract costs for Dudek for assisting with BOYS \$303,000 (modification approved 06/01/2025); projection based on actual contract spend.
- 7 Contract estimates for Dudek assisting with GSP Periodic Evaluation (Task 10.2.1, Committee Evaluation Review and Response).
- 8 Annual Report costs are covered by FCGMA per the Fiscal Committee's recommendation.
- 9 Consultant to provide technical support to Watermaster as needed on Basin Management, proposed for FY 2025-26.
- 10 PAC Administrator contract \$170,000 (approved 09/25/2024).
- 11 Contract cost estimate for Dudek for assisting as Watermaster TAC member \$97,440 (approved 05/22/2024). Assumes two meetings per month.
- 12 Contract cost estimate for three TAC members including Administrator, and preparation of Recommendation Reports. Assumes two meetings per month.
- 13 PAC request for PAC and TAC members insurance; covered under FCGMA Budget.
- 14 CSD Fiscal services is an annual allocation. Costs are allocated quarterly between FCGMA and Watermaster; as of FY 2025-26, no longer an equivalent allocation but a split estimate based on past paid services.
- 15 IT Services and Support costs are split evenly between FCGMA and Watermaster. Increasing Watermaster FTEs to 0.825 from 0.5 proposed for FY 2025-26 (totals 1.7 FTEs for both).
- 16 Estimate provided by Calleguas Municipal Water District for \$100,000 for Watermaster's responsibility of 20% of ASR Study expenses with regard to total study cost.
- 17 Estimated expenses for ASR Study Group Landowner Representative; proposed for FY 2025-26 as recommended by PAC 07/17/2025.
- * Agency Counsel and Special Counsel FY 25-26 budget estimates are best estimates based on LPV WM legal work/services to date, current status of LPV ADJ, and experience in other similar matters. Estimates do include costs for work/services related to uncertainties/variables such as whether LPV ADJ overturned, and remain for further trial court proceedings.
- ** Agency Counsel services include advising on LPV ADJ implementation, administration, compliance, and enforcement; LPV WM Board, PAC, TAC meetings, staff reports, presentations; coordination with LPV WM Special Counsel.
- *** Special Counsel services include interpretation of LPV Judgment, Watermaster administration and Judgment implementation; initiation of compliance, enforcement actions; coordination with Agency Counsel.
- 18 Share of legal expenses for LPV Watermaster Rules Appeal (approved 9/13/2024).

Las Posas Valley Watermaster
FY 2025-26 Budget - Mid-Year Review
BOP PROJECTS

BOP Project ID No.	Project Name	Budget FY 2025-26	FY 2025-26 Actuals Through December 2025	FY 2025-26 Projected Year End	Draft FY 2026-27 Budget
	REVENUES				
	LPV BOP Assessment	\$ 54,707	\$ 164,120	\$ 6,356,938	
	LPV BOP Assessment Interest	\$ 320	\$ 961	\$ 1,000	
	Total REVENUES	\$ 55,027	\$ 165,081	\$ 6,357,938	
	EXPENSES				
	Initial Project Implementation Planning	\$ 25,000	\$ 14,844	\$ 25,000	\$0
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD				
	Program Development	\$ 45,000			
	Administration	\$ 5,000			
	Total Cost	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 5,704,438
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition				
	Agreement Negotiation with the City of Simi Valley	\$ 45,000			
	Total Cost	\$ 45,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 147,500
8	Allocation Buyback and Reduction Program				
	Program Development	\$ 55,000			
	Consultant Development of Transaction Mechanics	\$ 40,000			
	Total Cost	\$ 95,000	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ 230,000
7	In Lieu Deliveries to northern ELPMA Feasibility Study				
	Develop Scope of Work and Request for Proposal	\$ 35,000			
	Total Cost	\$ 35,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 106,000
9	Regional Desalter Feasibility Study				
	Purveyor engagement, Development of Scope of Work and Request for proposal	\$ 40,000			
	Total Cost	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ 40,000	\$ 169,000
	Total EXPENSES	\$ 290,000	\$ 14,844	\$ 135,000	\$ 6,356,938
	Net Operating Results		\$ 40,183	\$ 30,081	\$ 1,000

Las Posas Valley Watermaster
Draft FY 2026-27 Budget
BOP PROJECT ASSESSMENT SCENARIOS

1	Project	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3
2	Purchase of imported water from CMWD	\$ 5,704,438	\$ 2,852,219	\$ 1,816,700
3	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition	\$ 147,500	\$ 147,500	\$ 147,500
4	Allocation Buyback and Reduction Program	\$ 230,000	\$ 230,000	\$ 230,000
5	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA Feasibility Study	\$ 106,000	\$ 106,000	\$ 106,000
6	Regional Desalter Feasibility Study	\$ 169,000	\$ 169,000	\$ 169,000
7	Total Expenses	\$ 6,356,938	\$ 3,504,719	\$ 2,469,200

8 Scenario costs

9	Cost per AF if spread evenly over 40,000 AF	\$ 158.92	\$ 87.62	\$ 61.73
10	Cost per AF excluding WWLP	\$ 198.65	\$ 109.52	\$ 77.16
11	Cost per AF assuming WWLP fee is reduced 50%	\$ 176.58	\$ 97.35	\$ 68.59
12	Cost per AF for WWLP assuming fee is reduced 50%	\$ 88.29	\$ 48.68	\$ 34.29
13	CMWD rate per AF effective January 2026	\$ 2,058.00		
14	Assumption 15% combined RTS and CC	\$ 308.70		
15	Assumed CMWD total cost per AF	\$ 2,366.70		
16	Watermaster incentive per AF	\$ 1,816.70		

17 Scenario Notes

18 Scenario 1 assumes 3,140 AF purchase from CMWD
19 Scenario 2 assumes 1,570 AF purchase from CMWD
20 Scenario 3 assumes 1,000 AF purchase from CMWD

Las Posas Valley Watermaster
FY 2025-26 Budget - Mid-Year Review
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

1	Account	Actuals FY 2023-24	Actuals FY 2024-25	Draft Budget FY 2025-26	Budget FY 2025- 26 (without 4th BA WY 2024-4) ¹	FY 2025-26 Actuals Through December 2025	FY 2025-26 Projected Year End
2	Operating Account	\$ 1,127,505	\$ 1,080,631	\$ 1,142,657	\$ 516,307	\$ 841,881	\$ 948,368
3	BOP Assessment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,183	\$ 164,120
4	Reserves	\$ -	\$ 184,683	\$ 409,081	\$ 409,081	\$ 255,652	\$ 370,712
5	Year End Total Fund Balance	\$ 1,127,505	\$ 1,265,314	\$ 1,551,738	\$ 925,388	\$ 1,137,717	\$ 1,483,200

*

6	AF	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26
7	Total Annual Allocation (AF):	40,000	40,000
8	Basin Assessment per AF³:	\$ 64.58	\$ 60.00
9	Quarterly Assessment	\$ 16.14	\$ 15.00

Footnotes:

- 1 LPV-2024-4 Basin Assessment (4th Quarter, July - September 2025) falls into FY 2025-26.
- 2 Operating reserves are calculated at 10% of annual budget and are cumulative.
- 3 Basin Assessment calculation based on the FY 2025-26 budget.



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

Board Regular Meetings

Fourth Wednesday, Monthly

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

Board Special Meetings

Second Friday, Monthly, As Needed

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

Executive Committee Meetings

Quarterly, As Needed

Tuesday, 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 with your preferred email address to subscribe to the Agency notification list.

KEY

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

Updated 2/11/2026