

Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District

123 B Valley Road
Chalfant, CA. 93514

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carol Ann Mitchell, Chairperson

Phil West, Vice-Chairperson

Geri Bassett, Secretary

Andy Puhvel

Greg Allen

Ed Parkinson

Rhonda Duggan, Mono County District 2 Supervisor (Ex-Officio Member)

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, January, 25, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Benton Community Center

Highway 120, Benton, CA. 93514

Due to weather conditions PLEASE Check our website for cancellations www.tvgmd.org

1. TVGMD Advisory Board
 - A. Advisory Board Report and Comment.
 - B. Newsletter for Approval
2. Public Comment (on any matter within the District jurisdiction)
3. Discussion and possible action to approve the December 14, 2022 minutes. (Attachment A)
4. Oath of Office for Director Ed Parkinson.
5. Election of Officers for 2023
6. Approval of Warrants:
 - a. Payment to Inyo Register for publication of vacancy notice in the amount of 42.10
 - b. Payment to Sierra Reader for publication of vacancy notice in the amount of \$204.00
 - c. Authorization of payment for webpage for 2023 up to \$150.00.
7. Report and presentation from the Committee on the 2023 Strategic Plan and possible approval by the Board of Directors. (Attachment B)
8. Board Vacancy for Director A (domestic well) with a term of office to end November 30, 2024:
 - a. Letter of interest from Dennis Murphy to represent Hammil Valley. (Attachment C)
 - b. Letter of interest from Donald Moss to represent Hammil Valley. (Attachment D)
 - C. Interviews, discussion and possible action on Board vacancy and appointment.
9. Workshop by County Counsel on the Sustainable Groundwater Act and the District as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency.
10. Reports from the Board of Directors

TVGMD Jan. 25 2023

- 10a. Report by Director Bassett on Board terms of office.
11. Discussion and possible action regarding insurance coverage for the District.
12. Discussion and possible action on a request for funding from Mono County for TVGMD.
13. Resolution 23-01 authorizing remote teleconference meetings from January 25, 2023 to February 25, 2023.
14. Public Comment (on any matter).
15. Adjournment to Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 6:30 p.m., at the Chalfant Community Center.

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" 1B "



Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District Newsletter

February 2023 - April 2023

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Local Control of Tri-Valley Groundwater Achieved in 2022

By Director Carol Ann Mitchell

The Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District (TVGMD) was formed by the California State Legislature in 1990. The District operated under its enabling statute until 2014. In that year with ongoing concerns about drought and land subsidence in the Central Valley, the legislature passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). This law states the policy of the state is that groundwater resources be managed sustainably for long-term reliability and multiple economic, social, and environmental benefits for current and future beneficial uses. The law requires that sustainable groundwater management is best achieved locally through the development, implementation, and updating of plans and programs based on the best available science. TVGMD was considered an exclusive agency under that

law. In the ensuing years with encouragement from Inyo and Mono counties, TVGMD joined the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority Joint Powers Agreement. For several years, representatives from Tri-Valley attended meetings in Inyo County and took part in the preparation of a Groundwater Management Plan, which has been submitted to the State Department of Water Resources. Public Hearings and meetings were held by the TVGMD.

It became increasingly clear to the TVGMD Board of Directors that our concerns, suggestions, and policy issues with OVGA were not addressed in the OVGA Plan for the Tri-Valley area. The OVGA policy was to immediately require all residents to register their wells and to implement fees for groundwater uses in Tri-Valley. Another sticking point was the management of the Fish Slough area. The Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District withdrew from the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority in 2021 and reapplied to become a Sustainable Groundwater Management District with the Department of Water Resources. In November of 2022, TVGMD became a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) with all our original powers over any groundwater export but also with sustainability as a purpose. Mono County also withdrew from the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority and will become a GSA for parts of southern Mono County.

The groundwater of Tri-Valley is now managed by local people with concern for the viability of our groundwater supply in the challenging complexities of our weather and geography. We encourage all residents to attend meetings or become members of the District Advisory Board. You can find more information at www.tvgmd.org.

Upcoming TVGMD Board Meetings

6:30 PM

February 22, 2023 Chalfant

March 22, 2023 Benton

April 26, 2023 Chalfant

May 17, 2023 Benton (3rd Wed)

June 28, 2023 Chalfant

July 26, 2023 Benton

August 23, 2023 Chalfant

September 27, 2023 Benton

October 25, 2023 Chalfant

November 15, 2023 Benton *Changed for Thanksgiving*

December 20, 2023 Chalfant *Changed for Christmas*

Meetings generally are the 4th Wednesday of each month,
alternating between Chalfant & Benton

Groundwater Education

Understanding Groundwater Part 1: Evapotranspiration

By Andy Puhvel

I'm watering my vegetable garden, my lawn, with water from my well. I'm thinking, oh, I'm using groundwater but it's soaking back into the ground so I'm probably not really using up the groundwater, I'm recharging it by watering. It seems to make sense, yes? Well, yes and no.

Recharging an aquifer is a hydrological process of water moving downward from surface water to groundwater. Recharge is the primary method through which water enters an aquifer.

How much recharging of the aquifer are we doing as we water? Studies show that some of that water does replenish the aquifer, but much of the water is used up through plant transpiration and evaporation from the soil. This process is called evapotranspiration (ET), and it's been studied particularly in terms of growing alfalfa in different areas of the West.

ET refers to the process by which water is transferred from the land (groundwater) to the atmosphere by evaporation from the soil and by transpiration from plants. Put in other terms, it is the amount of water which is used to grow the plant and is not returned to the aquifer.

The main crop grown in the Tri-Valley area is alfalfa. Alfalfa is the largest agricultural user of water in California. In the Tri-Valley our water is pumped from groundwater in our aquifer. So with all the water required to be pumped from our aquifer to grow alfalfa, how much of this water makes its way back down into the aquifer to provide recharge to our groundwater?

Evapotranspiration rates depend on a number of factors. These are solar radiation, air temperature, relative humidity, crop state, wind speed and soil moisture. Our desert environment which generally has low soil moisture, hot summer temperatures, low relative humidity, and high solar radiation generally has a higher ET rate for a thirsty crop such as alfalfa.

According to a study by the College of Agriculture at UC Davis, alfalfa grown in California requires anywhere between 4-5.5 acre feet of water per season, or an average of 57 inches of water/acre. According to the same study the ET rate for alfalfa grown in California ranges between 33-58 inches depending on location, with an average ET rate of roughly 46 inches/acre. By using simple math we can determine that the percentage of water which is used to grow alfalfa that is not lost to

ET but is returned to the aquifer as recharge is roughly 20%. Similar studies have been done by numerous universities in the west including Univ. of Idaho, Univ. of New Mexico, UC Riverside, and others.

So to answer the question: How much of the alfalfa watering in the Tri-Valley returns the water to the aquifer from where it was pumped and how much is lost to evapotranspiration, the answer is that roughly 20% of the groundwater pumped for alfalfa production is recharging the aquifer, and roughly 80% of the water used is lost to evapotranspiration. This is important data to understand as we work to achieve a sustainability in our groundwater in the Tri-Valley area.

Sources:

alfalfa.ucdavis.edu – Article- “How Much Water Does Alfalfa Really Need?” by Blaine Hanson

https://ucmanagedrought.ucdavis.edu/Agriculture/Crop_Irrigation_Strategies/Alfalfa/

TVGMD Advisory Board

Need Advisory Board Members esp from Hammil and Benton!

Our lives here in the Tri-Valley depend on water. We all have a stake in assuring that our groundwater is being recharged and our water is clean. We have openings on the Advisory Board and would love to hear of your interest. The Advisory Board meets quarterly and is charged with connecting with each of the communities, soliciting and listening to their concerns, and reporting to the Board of Directors. Send your letter of interest to secretary@tvgmd.org.

High Desert Gardening Part 1

Harold McDonald, Inyo/Mono Master Gardener

To a first-time traveler to the Eastern Sierra region, it might seem that the Tri Valley area is just an extension of the Owens Valley. After all, if you take Highway 6 at the Y in Bishop you'll just continue straight as an arrow in the direction you've traveled all the way from Mojave. But, while the native vegetation has been largely unchanged for the past 100 miles, if you look closely, you'll notice that the sagebrush begins to disappear somewhere around Laws, and a few miles shy of Chalfant, the rabbitbrush is gone as well, leaving a landscape I jokingly refer to as being 90% composed of bushes that look 90% dead 90% of the year!

And those of us who live out in the wilds of the Tri-Valleys know the reason why. While US 395 takes a jog to the west and then continues along the base of the Sierra Nevada, US 6 nestles against the first of hundreds of ranges that stretch across the Great Basin in the Sierra Nevada's rain shadow. The towns of the Owens Valley are all situated along streams flowing down from the High Sierra, but the smaller streams draining the slopes of the White Mountains disappear and drop their sediment in huge alluvial fans far above the floors of Chalfant, Hammil and Benton Valleys.

This absence of life-giving streams deprives gardeners in our area of the two of the top three things plants need. Sunlight we still have plenty of, but water and well-developed soil are sorely lacking. Little wonder that Chalfant Big Trees Farm says, "If it grows in Chalfant, it will grow (almost) anywhere." Before moving to Chalfant from Bishop, I would never have guessed that 12 miles could make such a difference. Many of the garden stalwarts I brought with me struggled in their new home. And yet, there are plenty of plants that will thrive here, and that list goes well beyond Arizona cypress and cottonwoods.*

There are plenty of resources online that can help you find waterwise plants, but all gardening is hyper-local, so looking around, talking to neighbors and your own experience are your best guides. It has taken me 20 years, but I feel like I am finally getting the hang of what will grow in my own yard. That doesn't necessarily mean those plants will thrive in your yard, but they have a much better chance than the hundreds of inappropriate plants you'll find at big box home improvement centers! In coming issues of this newsletter, I'll highlight some star performers that don't require much of the Tri Valley's most precious resource—water.

In the meantime, since spring is coming, here's a short list of some of our favorites to look for in the next few months at local nurseries, online or at the CA Native Plant Society's spring plant sale. For now, don't get distracted with pretty flowers--start with the foundations: trees, shrubs and ornamental grasses that will provide year-round interest.

1. Mountain mahogany *Cercocarpus ledifolius* stays green year-round
2. Coffeeberry *Frangula californica* broad evergreen leaves
3. Desert olive *Forestiera neomexicana* this Eastside native is tough as nails
4. Skunk bush *Rhus trilobata* provides cover for quail, showy fall color
5. Fernbush *Chamaebatiaria millefolium* is another local that looks great all year
6. Rosemary not native, but green all year and can get by on almost no water
7. Pines: Jeffrey, pinyon, and Italian stone are three that work well here
8. Desert willow *Chilopsis linearis* flowers all summer
9. Grasses--deergrass and alkali sacaton are among hundreds of choices that offer year-round interest
10. And don't overlook these: sagebrush, rabbitbrush, bitterbrush, ephedra and saltbush might not be the most exciting on their own, but they can have their place in the landscape

*The cottonwood's fast growth comes at a number of costs, including their use of hundreds of gallons of water every day.

Summary of Progress on the 2022 Strategic Plan

Overview: This report will describe and evaluate the progress made on all of the key issues which were outlined in the TVGMD Strategic Plan for 2022. It includes an assessment of progress on Key Issues as well as updates on the Essential Projects which were outlined in the 2022 Strategic Plan.

TVGMD Core Vision: To preserve the groundwater within the boundaries of the District (Chapter 844 of 1989 California Statutes.)

Mission Statement: To comply with the California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (2014) and other applicable laws (government code, water code, etc.) as the law pertains to the District.

Key Issues in 2022:

1. Rebuild reputation with the community members of the Tri-Valley.

- This year saw a fairly substantial increase in community member involvement in groundwater related matters. Attendance averaged between 4-8 members of the public in addition to the Board members and Mono County representatives
- The establishment of the Tri-Valley Groundwater District Advisory Board was a major addition to community involvement in groundwater issues. The Advisory Board met a total of 4 times during 2022 and was instrumental in spearheading a number of new programs which the Board approved. These new programs included the Newsletter and the Key Well program. The Quarterly Newsletter was produced and distributed by Advisory Board Chair Betsy McDonald. Please email secretary@tvgmd.org to be on our Newsletter mailing list. The Key Well program was organized and implemented by Director Andy Puhvel. This program will take quarterly measurements on 4-5 domestic wells and supply the data to the board and the public. The Advisory Board is currently looking for new members for the 2023 term.
- In addition to the Advisory Board being established, the Board of Directors received new members in 2022. These members included Greg Allen, Director B position (100 gallons per minute well), Andy Puhvel Director A position (Domestic well), Ed Parkinson Director B position (100 gallons per minute well). Director Phil West changed his position from a Director A (domestic) position to a Director B position. There is a vacancy being advertised for a Director A position (domestic well) for January 2023.

2. Adopt values of mutual respect between the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board.--Both Boards seem to be communicating well and respect among members is present at all meetings.

3. Move forward as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency--As of Nov. 3, 2022 the TVGMD is officially a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) which has been acknowledged and approved by the State of California. More information on the California Sustainable Groundwater can be found at sgma.water.ca.gov

Essential Projects for Remainder of 2022:

- 1. Reinstate well monitoring program**--Director Geri Bassett has been measuring both dump wells regularly and has been entering the data onto the CASGEM website. Director Puhvel is currently in charge of doing domestic well measurements for the Key Well program. Mono County Legal Counsel Stacy Simon reviewed the TVGMD release of liability form and approved it for current use in the Key Well program.
- 2. Explore Funding for Groundwater Model:** Work with Mono County to obtain funding for groundwater model. Mono County applied for a grant from IRWM (Integrated Regional Water Management) for obtaining funding for a groundwater model for the Tri-Valley area. The grant will be approved for a Groundwater Model of the Tri-Valley area. The funding for

this grant is \$229,000. Funds will be approved by the winter of 2023. The next steps will be for the TVGMD and Mono County to jointly procure proposals from qualified hydrological firms in order to choose a company that will create the model.

3. **District Finance: Develop options for funding of District operations.** Options for district financing include asking Mono County to allocate a small yearly amount of money to the Board for basic operations and exploring opportunities to tax or collect regulatory or other fees to offset actual operating expenses of TVGMD.
4. **Work on multi-year Strategic Plan for use in a future GSP (Groundwater Sustainability Plan)**--A subcommittee of Advisory Board and Board members was assigned at the Nov. 30 meeting to begin work on the 2023 Strategic Plan.
5. **Other Significant Developments which were not in the 2022 Strategic Plan.**--A General Liability insurance policy will be activated in order to protect the Board from any lawsuits which may arise. If the insurance cost is roughly around \$500.00 it shall be paid from the District's general fund. And the Board voted at the Oct. 26th meeting to adopt a new official District map which was produced by Chalfant resident Denver Billing who is a professional cartographer. This new map clearly delineates the boundaries of the district.



Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District

2023 STRATEGIC PLAN

Adopted

The plan is to revise and expand this strategic plan each year. Input from community members welcome and encouraged.

TVGMD Core Vision: To preserve the ground water within the boundaries of the District (Chapter 844 of 1989 California Statutes).

Mission: To comply with the California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (2014) and other applicable laws (government code, water code etc.) as the law pertains to the District. This plan will be reviewed by the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis and may be amended as needed.

Contacts and Links

[TVGMD Website](#) for more information

For meeting reminders, etc. email: secretary@tvgmd.org

TVGMD Board of Directors

DIRECTOR A—Domestic Well

- Carol Ann Mitchell term expires 11/30/2026

- Andy Puhvel (newly appointed) term expires 11/30/2026
- Geri Bassett term expires 11/30/2024
- Vacant (TBD Jan 2023), term expires 11/30/2024

DIRECTOR B—Resident/(Agricultural/100 GPM Well)

- Edward Parkinson term expires 11/30/2026
- Phil West term expires 11/30/2024
- Greg Allen term expires 11/30/2024

DIRECTOR EX-OFFICIO

- Mono County District 2 Supervisor Rhonda Duggan

Advisory Board Members

Chalfant

Gina Barsi

Betsy McDonald

Amy Saladin


Benton

Hammil

Dennis Murphy

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MINUTES

MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT Regular Meeting of December 14, 2022 6:30 P.M. Chalfant Community Center

Chairperson Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M. on December 14, 2022. Meeting was held in-person.

Roll Call:

Directors Present: Mitchell, West, Allen, Puhvel, Parkinson, Duggan, and Bassett.

Directors Absent: none; 1 vacant position

Advisory board present: Betsy McDonald, Dennis Murphy.

Mono County (M.C.) Personnel in attendance: Assistant County Counsel (A.C.C.) Chris Beck

1. Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District (TVGMD) Advisory Board (A.B.)

A. Advisory Board Report and Comment.

A.B. McDonald reported that:

- a. the Strategic Plan review (Agenda item #5) appears to be detailed, complete, and accurate.
- b. the A.B. would like to do Zoom meetings and asked what process they would need to go through to comply with the Brown Act. A.C.C. Beck replied that he can give a presentation on the process to them at an in-person meeting.
- c. she wants to put the newest District map in the newsletter. This was approved by the Board.
- d. there is a DWR grant in the works to pay growers to fallow land. She will send the information to Director Mitchell for disbursement.

Peter Stickells (Hammill/Bishop) commented that he has information from an alfalfa convention that he would like put in the newsletter. He will send it to A.B. McDonald.

2. Public Comments (on any matter within the jurisdiction of the District).

Lynn Bolton (Sierra Club - Range of Light Group, Toiyabe Chapter) commented that she has seen/heard comments at the TVGMD meetings that the pumping that the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is doing is affecting Fish Slough. She stated that LADWP is not pumping at Wells # 385 and 386, near Five Bridges Road and the Granite Construction plant. She asked where people think that LADWP is doing this pumping and how much does the LADWP pumping at Laws affect Fish Slough.

Director Allen replied that we need the Groundwater Model data to say what is going on with groundwater recharge and extraction in the District. But, everything being pumped south of Fish Slough is most likely affecting Fish Slough. He added that he has seen instances where LADWP has, in the process of replacing an old well casing, actually put in a larger casing, thereby having the potential to pump greater volumes of water.

Director Allen added that the Board shouldn't single out any one ranch, property owner, or business as being a cause for well levels dropping. He added that larger operations potentially benefit a large amount of people, such as alfalfa being used for dairy operations and the food that is generated from that. Smaller operations pretty much just benefit their own business.

Director Allen presented two handouts, "These NASA images show the staggering impact of drought" and "Colorado River states gather for Las Vegas meeting; Lake Mead and Lake Powell at 25% capacity" (see attached items 1 and 2). He summarized them as saying that we are in a mega-drought and that we might need to look at other ways to save water. Again, the Groundwater Model should give us more information on this. He believes the information on pumping at Laws should be available from the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA).

Director West had forwarded a National Weather Service Report/Summary of the recent storms. He commented that, even if all pumping in the Tri-Valley was completely stopped, water levels would continue to drop, as water will seek the lowest elevation. The situation we are in with drought and water levels dropping is cyclical.

Director Allen added that every year of drought takes approximately 7 years of good moisture to get water levels back up.

3. Discussion and possible action to approve the November 30, 2022 minutes. (Attachment A)

A motion to approve the November 30, 2022 meeting minutes as written was made by Director Allen and seconded by Director Puhvel.

Vote – all directors in attendance – "yes", with the exception of Director West, who abstained due to not being at the November 30, 2022 meeting.

Peter Stickells commented that the minutes were not included with the agenda that was sent out by Mono County. A.C.C. Beck will check on this.

4. Resolution No. 22-12 authorizing remote teleconference meetings from December 14, 2022 until January 14, 2023. (Att. B).

A motion to approve the Resolution 22-12 was made by Director Allen and seconded by Director Parkinson.

Vote – all directors in attendance – "yes".

5. Annual Report on the 2022 Strategic Plan (Attach. C).

Director Puhvel read the Annual Report of the 2022 Strategic Plan (attach. C).

Director Mitchell offered the website for GSA information:

<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/#intro> The Tri-Valley and the other Mono County GSA's status can be found there.

Director West will put the Annual Report on the TVGMD website.

A.B. McDonald will put a summary of the Annual Report in the newsletter.

Director Duggan, in regard to #5 on page 4 of the Annual Report, "District Finance...", and asked about at the November 30, 2022 meeting, reported that she discussed with M.C. Counsel Stacey Simon the possibility of regular, annual funding from the Mono County Board of Supervisors to the TVGMD. M.C.C. Simon said that, yes, this would be legal. TVGMD needs to let Director Duggan know what they need the funds for and how much they are requesting. A suggestion of \$5,000 per year, for "General Administrative Expenses" was made.

A motion to approve the Annual Report on the 2022 Strategic Plan was made by Director Allen and seconded by Director Puhvel.

Vote – all directors in attendance – "yes".

A motion to prepare a request to M.C. for District funding was made by Director Allen and seconded by Director Puhvel.

Vote – all directors in attendance – "yes".

6. Groundwater Model Grant.

Per A.C.C. Beck, he has received no new information on the \$229,000 grant project.

7. Brief Reports from Directors

Director Bassett reported that the "Notice of Vacancy" for the Director A position has been posted at the Benton Community Center and Post Office, the Chalfant Community Center, Flo's Diner, and Chalfant Big Trees Farm and Feed; sent via email to the TVGMD newsletter group, the M.C. TVGMD group, and for posting on the TVGMD website; submitted for publication to the Inyo Register, the Sierra Reader, and The Sheet; and sent via email for announcement on KIBS/KBOV and Sierra Wave. It was also sent via email to the Board, the Advisory Board, and two individuals at their request.

Director Bassett also reported that the water meter mentioned during the November 30, 2022 meeting has been returned in good condition.

8. Further discussion on insurance coverage for the District. (Attach D).

A.C.C. Beck reported that he had no new information on the cost of coverage; a request for a quote needs to be submitted. He believes that General Liability coverage should include Director's coverage; if it doesn't, that could be added in.

A motion to request a quote for coverage was made by Director Allen and seconded by Director Puhvel.

Vote – all directors in attendance – "yes".

Director Mitchell to prepare the request.

9. Proposed changes to the 2023 Rules of the Board (Attach E).

The changes, specifically, Chapter 1, section 104 D. and E., were discussed.

A motion to approve the changes as written was made by Director Puhvel and seconded by Director Allen.

Vote – all directors in attendance – "yes".

10. 2023 Meeting Schedule

Director Mitchell reported that, unless otherwise requested, our regular meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday of the month, alternating between the Chalfant and Benton Community Centers, with the exception of possibly the July meeting which will most likely need to be held in Chalfant due to schedule conflicts with the Benton Community Center.

A motion was made to move the May 2023 meeting to the third Wednesday to avoid lack of a quorum on the fourth Wednesday was made by Director West and seconded by Director Allen.

Vote – all directors in attendance – “yes”.

11. Public Comment (on any matter).

Director Duggan reported that the Planning Commission meeting regarding the use permit for the new cell tower in Chalfant was to be held via Zoom on Thursday, December 15, 2022. Interested parties can go to the M.C. website to get the Zoom link. She also reported that the Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife have listed the White Bark Pine.

12. Adjournment to Wednesday, January 25, 2023, 6:30 p.m. at the Benton Community Center.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made Director Allen and seconded by Director Parkinson.

Vote – all directors in attendance – “yes”. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Next regular meeting will be held on the fourth Wednesday of January 2023:

**The next regular meeting will be:
January 25, 2023
At 6:30 P.M. at the Benton Community Center**

Geri Bassett, Secretary, TVGMD

Payment Receipt

1
ba
INYO REGISTER

PO Box 4050
Palmdale, CA 93590-4050

Phone: 661-441-6373

Fax: INYO@AVPRESS.COM

GERI BASSETT
TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MGMT DIST
1236 VALLEY RD
BISHOP, CA 93514

Acct #: 00006145
Phone: (760)933-2369
Date: 12/28/2022
Trans #: Unposted

Description

Payment Reference

.VS Visa

73111/64457

Credit Card # \$-42.10

Total

-42.10

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

This space is for County Clerk's Filing Stamp

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
COUNTY OF INYO

I am a citizen of the United States
and a resident of the County aforesaid.
I am over the age of eighteen years,
And not a party to or interested in the
above-entitled matter. I am the principal
clerk of the printer of the
The Inyo Register

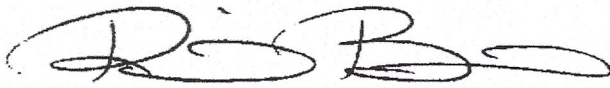
County of Inyo

The Inyo Register has been adjudged a
newspaper of general circulation by the
Superior Court of the County of Inyo,
State of California, under date of
Oct. 5, 1953, Case Number 5414;
that the notice, of which the annexed
is a printed copy (set in type not
smaller than non-pareil), has been
published in each regular and entire
issue of said newspaper and not in
any supplement thereof, on the
following date, to with:

December 17th,
In the year of **2022**

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury
that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Bishop, California, on this
19th Day of December, 2022



Signature

Proof of Publication of Public Notice

NOTICE OF VACANCY ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Notice is hereby given that a
vacancy exists on the Board of
Directors of the Mono County
Tri-Valley Groundwater Man-
agement District and that the
Board of Directors intends to fill
this vacancy by appointment at
the regular Board meeting in
January 2023. Persons inter-
ested in being considered for
this appointment to the Board
of Directors must be a resident
and owner of real property lo-
cated within the District, must
be a registered voter, and must
have their own well for domes-
tic use. Interested people need
to be willing to participate in
monthly meetings involving
groundwater issues within the
District, come to meetings pre-
pared to participate in agenda
items, respond to emails from
other Directors, and be willing
to accept additional assign-
ments on occasion. Interested
persons are encouraged to
provide a letter of interest to
the Secretary of the Board of
Directors via U.S. Mail at the
above address or via email to
secretary@tvgmd.org no later
than 5:00P.M. on Tuesday,
January 10, 2023. Questions
concerning this appointment
may be addressed to the
Chairman of the Board of Di-
rectors at 760-873-8648
(IR 12.17, 2022 #21333)

Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District Strategic Plan 2023-24

Introduction

Tri-Valley groundwater supports both residential and agricultural wells. Groundwater in the Tri-Valley area is likely thousands of years old due to low precipitation amounts and the slow recharge rate in our desert environment. California is currently experiencing a drought unprecedented in modern times. With modern well technology, groundwater can be pumped at high flow rates that can quickly lower the water table.

Mission: The mission of the Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District is to preserve the groundwater within the boundaries of the District (Chapter 844 of 1989 California Statutes).

Core Vision: Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District has become a Groundwater Sustainable Agency (GSA) under the Department of Water Resources and California water laws, with the purpose of preserving the rural nature of our area and developing long term sustainable groundwater yield.

Strategies 2023-24

Appoint a Board of Directors Finance Committee

To explore and address short and long term funding for operations, consulting, equipment, administrative costs, grant writers.

- Create an annual budget
 - Education
 - Consulting
 - Management of Groundwater Model grant monies with Mono County
- Research applicable water conservation modalities applicable to the Tri-Valley.

Improve Communication and Outreach

Stakeholder involvement is critical as we prepare to develop a Groundwater Sustainability plan (GSP).

- Develop landowner/parcel database with mailing addresses from Mono County.
 - This will allow more complete communication as we move forward with surveys regarding well levels, solicit ideas for conservation projects, etc.
- Mail a newsletter to all residents, especially important for those not receiving the e-newsletter.

- Engage with local communities on a summer/fall event (one in Benton, one in Chalfant) to educate about groundwater, SGMA, and the responsibilities and ongoing work of TVGMD.
- Engage with the local school to encourage students to learn about and develop community education resources about local groundwater issues, drought, and climate change.
 - Solicit interest and provide resources to teachers
- Continue emailed quarterly TVGMD newsletter.

Increase Coordination with Mono County

- Research how TVGMD might be consulted when new well permits are applied for in Mono County. New wells will impact the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
- Ask Mono County to provide emergency water tanks in Chalfant and Benton communities.

Continue Education for Board and Stakeholders

To preserve groundwater, our core vision, we must continually educate ourselves and stakeholders (all community members) about groundwater, how it works, and how it is impacted by humans and nature.

- Research and document impact from climate change and long drought periods in the TVGMD area.
- What are the impacts of pumping groundwater to meet agricultural needs? What are the elements of sustainable agricultural practices?
- Solicit knowledgeable speakers to present at meetings and special events.

Prepare for Groundwater Model Work

- Work with Advisory Board, special interest groups (i.e. Sierra Club) and the public arena to develop critical skills and the knowledge base required to select a consultant to perform the groundwater model and isotope test.
- Begin to research companies to hire for the Groundwater model consulting firm.
 - Develop a specific list of what TVGMD expects from the consultant.
 - Ask for recommendations from other GSA's and professionals in the field, particularly those with knowledge of the Tri-Valley area and its specific needs.

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Application for TVGMD Director A Board Position

January 6, 2023

My name is Dennis Murphy. I live at 260 Hammil Valley Road in Hammil Valley. I am applying for the open Director A position at the TVGMD.

I am concerned about the inevitable intervention coming from governmental and quasi-governmental agencies enforcing planning, control and reporting aimed at our wells and groundwater management. I want to help prepare to have answers and rationale to ensure our sustainability and a predictable future.

I am interested in understanding the dynamics of the diverse hydrology systems that invigorate the Tri-Valley. The anticipated hydrology study grant is a big step in that direction. Following the collection of as much data as possible, I look forward to weighing the tradeoffs of potential technologies, solutions, and decisions.

My wife Vicki and I bought First Light Ranch in 2018 and moved here full time in 2019. We moved from Ventura County. We have some livestock and gardens and are investing a lot of energy into improving the property. We feel very blessed to have been given an opportunity to steward our land and ranch and we do our best to apply practical, efficient, and sustainable eco systems such as solar arrays, composting and a windmill to augment water pumping from our well.

I have a background in business and have worked for two large corporations and two medium sized ones. I earned a master's degree in business and then started my own business in telecommunications test. I sold that company in 2016 to a public company in Canada.

My interest in applying for a position on the board is to bring my energy, experience and ability to work towards solutions to ensure groundwater sustainability, balance and a viable future for everyone in the Tri-Valley.

I would be honored to be of service as a board member of the TVGMD which is part of one of the most critical and historically diverse water systems in the country.

Dennis Murphy

260 Hammil Valley Rd.

Hammil Valley, CA 93514

805 208 0252

"D"

Donald Moss

**15978 Highway 6
Bishop, CA 93514**

Phone (916) 715-6023

January 10, 2023

Secretary
Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District
123B Valley Road
Bishop, CA 93514

RE: Board of Directors Vacancy

Dear Secretary:

In response to the advertisement, I am providing this Letter of Interest for the Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District Board of Directors vacancy.

I grew up in Hammil Valley, starting in about 1971, and went to school in both Benton and Bishop. My parents still live in Hammil Valley, and my daughter and her family reside in Benton. My wife and I bought our own property in Hammil Valley in 2021 that is served by its own domestic well. My wife retired from her teaching job, and we now live here full time.

After high school, I went on to college and obtained a degree in Agricultural Engineering from Cal Poly and I hold a current California Civil Professional Engineers license. I have worked for Henwood Energy Services, Inc, and then Henwood Associates, Inc. both with offices based in Sacramento since 1988. I served as President of Henwood Associates, Inc. for several years, and now hold the position of Vice President of Engineering with the company. My primary occupation since 1988 has been engineering and operations of hydroelectric power plants throughout California for both private and municipal owners. 7 of my existing projects are located in the Eastern Sierra, with 4 being located in the Tri-Valley area.

Even with the traveling, I have remained familiar with the importance and the issues in the area with both groundwater and surface water. I have always been in the area at least once a month, and the hydroelectric business is intimately tied to the surface water issues. As I have observed, two of the most important issues in the Tri-Valley area are that

ground water levels are managed, and that they are managed locally by those that use them.

I am familiar with the duties the position involves, and as a registered voter, property and domestic well owner in the Tri-Valley area, I would like be considered for the Board of Directors position.

Thank you for your consideration,

Donald Moss, P.E.

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RESOLUTION 23-01

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS
FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 25, 2023 THROUGH FEBRUARY 22, 2023
PURSUANT TO AB 361**

Comment [A1]: Delete all red text prior to adopting

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which Proclamation remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20, modifying the teleconferencing rules set forth in the California Open Meeting law, Government Code section 54950 et seq. (the "Brown Act"), subject to compliance with certain requirements; and

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, providing that the modifications would remain in place through September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed AB 361, providing that a legislative body subject to the Brown Act may continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules if the meeting occurs during a proclaimed state of emergency and state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer and the Director of Mono County Public Health have recommended that measures be implemented to promote social distancing, including the holding of virtual meetings of legislative bodies within the County of Mono, a copy of that recommendation is attached as an exhibit and incorporated herein; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, and in response to the local recommendation for measures to promote social distancing, the MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (the "Legislative Body") deems it necessary to invoke the provisions of AB 361 related to teleconferencing;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE LEGISLATIVE BODY FINDS AND RESOLVES that:

SECTION ONE: The recitals set forth above are true and correct and are adopted as findings of the Legislative Body.

SECTION TWO: The Legislative Body has considered the circumstances of the State of Emergency and determines that, as a result of the existence of a state of emergency related to COVID-19, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

SECTION THREE: State or local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing, including the holding of virtual meetings for legislative bodies within the County of Mono that are subject to the Brown Act.

SECTION FOUR: Meetings of the Legislative Body may be held virtually in accordance with the procedures set forth in AB 361 from January 25, 2023 until February 22, 2023.

1 **SECTION FIVE:** Staff is directed to return to the Legislative Body no later than thirty
2 (30) days after the adoption of this resolution, or at the next meeting of the Legislative Body, if
3 later, for the Legislative Body to consider whether to make the findings required to meet under
4 the modified teleconference procedures of AB 361.

5 **PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 25th day of January 25, 2023, by the
6 following vote, to wit:

7 **AYES:**

8 **NOES:**

9 **ABSENT:**

10 **ABSTAIN:**

Carol Ann Mitchell, Chair

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