

## **UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING APRIL 14, 2022**

The Regular Board meeting was held via teleconference, in accordance with Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency Board Resolution No. 2021-05. Directors present were Vivon Crawford, Bruce Kuebler, Susan Rungren, Pete Kaiser, Glenn Shephard, Emily Ayala, Jim Kentosh (alternate director). Also present: Executive Director Bryan Bondy, Agency Counsel Keith Lemieux, and Administrative Assistant Maureen Tucker. Identified public members present: Jennifer Tribo, Mary Bergen (UVRGA alternate director), William Weirick, Michael Flood, Burt Handy, Trey Driscoll, Kelly Dyer, Laura Ward, Burt Rapp, Emily McCord, Matthew Summers, John Mundy, and Kiernan Brtalik.

### **1) CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Kuebler called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

### **2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Executive Director Bryan Bondy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3) ROLL CALL**

Executive Director Bondy called roll.

Directors Present: Bruce Kuebler, Susan Rungren, Pete Kaiser, Glenn Shephard, Vivon Crawford, Emily Ayala, and Jim Kentosh (alternate director)

Directors Absent: none

### **4) APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND RENEWAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 2021-05**

Vice Chair Kuebler asked for any proposed changes to the agenda.

Director Shephard said he needs to leave the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Director Shephard moved agenda approval and renewal of Resolution 2021-05. Director Ayala seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:            B. Kuebler – Y      J. Kentosh – Y   G. Shephard – Y   E. Ayala - Y  
                                 S. Rungren – Y      P. Kaiser – Y    V. Crawford - Y

Directors Absent: None

## **5) PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA**

Vice Chair Kuebler asked for public comments on items not appearing on the agenda.  
None were offered.

## **6) CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. Approve Minutes from March 10, 2022, Regular Board Meeting
- b. Approve Minutes from March 24, 2022, Special Board Meeting
- c. Approve Financial Report for March 2022
- d. Receive and File 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Report

Vice Chair Kuebler asked if there needs to be discussion of any of the consent calendar items.

Director Kaiser moved to approve the consent calendar items. Director Shephard seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:                B. Kuebler – Y      J. Kentosh - Y   G. Shephard – Y   E.Ayala - Y  
   S. Rungren – Y      P. Kaiser – Y    V.Crawford – Y

Directors Absent: None

## **7) DIRECTORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Directors may provide oral report on items not appearing on the agenda.

Director Crawford:        No report.

Director Kuebler:         No report.

Director Rungren:         Director Rungren announced that she will be retiring at the end of May. The City of Ventura will identify its new UVRGA director before the June meeting.

Director Shephard:        No report.

Director Kaiser:           No report.

Director Ayala:            No report.

Director Kentosh:         No report.

## **8) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Bondy reported on Agency matters since the last Board meeting and reviewed correspondence for a Public Records Act request from Ojai Valley News, correspondence with Ojai Valley Land Conservancy (OVLC) regarding GSP comments, and a letter sent to the State Water Resources Control Board concerning model documentation report comments.

Director Ayala asked questions about the well monitoring on Burnham Road. Executive Director Bryan Bondy said that staff has been in communication with the owner and is evaluating options.

Director Crawford explained why OVLC did not comment on the draft GSP and will be commenting to the Department of Water Resources. Director Crawford hopes she can improve outreach to environmental stakeholders now that she is a stakeholder director on the UVRGA Board. Vice Chair Kuebler expressed disappointment with OVLC and said he hopes communication will improve.

Public comments: none.

## **9) ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

### **a. Resolution 2022-04 Honoring Diana Engle**

Executive Director Bryan Bondy reviewed the draft resolution and summarized the contributions to the Agency by former Director Diana Engle.

Board comments:

Vice Chair Kuebler stated Diana gave her heart and soul on this GSP process.

Director Rungren stated Diana was a great leader with lots of knowledge and appreciated her time and effort.

Director Shephard agreed with Vice Chair Kuebler and Director Rungren. She was technically very well versed. She led the Board through the GSP development.

Director Ayala will miss Diana's thoroughness, thoughtfulness, and scientific mind.

Director Kentosh states she was an amazing Director and will be a big loss for the Meiners Oaks Water District Board.

Director Kaiser said Director Engle did a fantastic job on the Board.

Director Kaiser moved to approve Resolution 2022-04 honoring Diana Engle. Seconded by Director Rungren.

Roll Call Vote:            B. Kuebler – Y      J. Kentosh – Y   G. Shephard – Y   E.Ayala - Y  
                                 S. Rungren – Y      P. Kaiser – Y    V. Crawford - Y

Directors Absent: None

**b. Groundwater Extraction Fee, Well Registration, Metering, and Reporting Requirements**

Executive Director Bondy gave the Board an update concerning the process for implementing the fiscal year 2022-2023 groundwater extraction fees and developing well registration, metering, and reporting requirements.

Executive Director Bondy explained that fee adoption is a two-step process. The annual budget would be adopted in May and then the fees would be based on the budget and adopted in June following a public hearing. He said there are some outstanding issues that staff and counsel need the Board's feedback on.

1. Member Agency invoicing. Staff proposes to bill the Member Agencies up front at the beginning of the fiscal year to address cash flow issues. No objections were voiced.
2. Private well invoicing. Executive Director Bondy said the Board needs to figure out how to transition in to metering by July 1, 2022. It is unreasonable to adopt a fee in June, and then ask everyone to be compliant with the forthcoming metering requirements by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff proposes to make the 2022/2023 be a transitional year, unless the well owner already has a meter installed and can meet the forthcoming metering requirements.

Director Ayala asked if the public hearing would be online or in person. She would like to reach out to the pumpers. Executive Director Bondy said it is up to the Board.

Public Comments:

Burt Handy noted a typo on page 2 of the staff report.

Regarding well registration, metering, and reporting requirements, Executive Director Bondy explained that staff proposes that UVRGA adopt an ordinance based on the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) rules. He said the meeting packet

includes an FCGMA ordinance and resolution that addresses the requirements and the staff report requested that the Directors review and identify any concerns.

Director Ayala proposed giving the private pumpers a one-year grace period for meter calibration and accept “uncalibrated” meter readings during that period for fee calculations. After some discussion, the Board agreed on the waiver period and that private pumper fees during fiscal year 2022/2023 would be based on meter readings regardless of calibration status, subject to a reasonableness check by the Executive Director. If a private pumper does not have a meter, the fee would be based on the 2017 extraction estimate.

Director Ayala asked about the notification requirement for meter maintenance. Executive Director Bondy clarified that it is only for planned maintenance. Director Kentosh said he is somewhat concerned about the notification requirement for planned maintenance.

Director Ayala asked about reporting – snail mail vs e-mail? Executive Director Bondy suggested accepting both, but he hopes that everyone can use e-mail. He added that it may be possible to set something up on the website, budget permitting.

Vice Chair Kuebler wants to make sure that it is clear the de minimis wells are exempted.

Director Shephard said he thinks the approach presented by staff is good and recommends combining the FCGMA ordinance and resolution into a single document.

Executive Director Bondy explained the proposed extraction reporting and fee invoicing schedule. The proposal is to require quarterly reporting of extractions, but to only bill twice a year. Quarterly reporting is necessary because SGMA reporting requirements are on a water year basis, but the Agency’s fiscal year is not.

Public Comments:

No additional public comments were offered.

Executive Director Bondy said he will work with Agency Counsel to put together a draft ordinance for the May 2022 Board meeting.

**c. City of Ojai Request to Join Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency Joint Powers Agreement.**

Executive Director Bondy said that Staff and Agency Counsel reviewed the request and determined that the City of Ojai is eligible to become a member of the Agency. Executive Director Bondy reviewed a map showing the location of the City's boundary and sphere of influence relative the UVRGA boundary. Executive Director Bondy explained the joint powers agreement requirements for adding a member, including unanimous approval by the member agency boards and terms and conditions to be developed by the UVRGA Board. Executive Director Bondy said that the joint powers agreement does not require terms and conditions and does not provide any guidance. He said that the Board could consider terms and conditions related to financial assistance. He also suggested that the Board consider potential issues related to having an even number of directors on the Board and that the Board could discuss voting privileges. Executive Director Bondy suggested that the Board receive a presentation from Matthew Summers, City Attorney for the City of Ojai.

Mr. Summers presented a slide show a copy of which is attached to these minutes (Attachment A). Bill Weirick said the Ojai City Council has been moving in a direction of more collaboration on water issues since UVRGA was formed.

Vice Chair Kuebler called for Board member comments and questions.

Director Kaiser said the presentation was well done and believes UVRGA should collaborate with the City of Ojai. He views this request from a collaborative outreach perspective and thinks there are many beneficial aspects, including financial.

Director Kaiser asked Executive Director Bondy what the estimated costs would be for the City of Ojai to join. Executive Director Bondy it would be a relatively minor expense

Director Kaiser asked Executive Director Bondy how much each member agency pays. Executive Director Bondy did not know off the top of his head, but researched during the discussion and posted the following in the Zoom chat window:

- Casitas MWD: ~\$15K/yr
- City of Ventura: ~\$188K/yr
- Meiners Oaks Water District: ~\$43K/yr
- Ventura River Water District: ~\$68K/yr
- County of Ventura does not pay because it does not extract groundwater.

Director Kaiser asked Executive Director Bondy what the beneficial aspect would be of the City of Ojai joining the Agency. Executive Director Bondy said staff does not have an opinion on political matters.

Director Shephard said he supports the request, and an even number of board members does not concern him. He departed the meeting at 2:25pm.

Director Kentosh said he supports the request but wonders about conflict of interest related to the City's participation in the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA). Executive Director Bondy noted that Casitas MWD is already a member of both agencies, and he is not sure it is a conflict. Agency Counsel and Matthew Summers both agreed there is no conflict of interest; they are not incompatible offices.

Director Kaiser asked why the member agency boards must approve adding a member versus their UVRGA appointees. Agency Counsel explained that the joint powers agreement is a contract and can only be amended by the contracting parties, which are the member agencies.

Director Kaiser asked who would draft the amendments? Agency counsel proposed having Matthey Summers prepare a draft for him and an ad hoc Board committee to review.

Vice Chair Kuebler said he has not seen this matter before the Ojai City Council. He said that Ventura River Water District's position is that the Ojai City Council should vote on the request before moving forward. He would like more information on the City's interests, why it wants to join, and proposed compensation.

Matthew Summers stated that the Ojai City Council voted on this matter in closed session in March 2022 and they need the terms and conditions before an open session vote will take place. He added that the adjudication case is stayed pending mediation until September. Some solutions proposed would rely on the groundwater sustainability agencies. The City of Ojai wants to join UVRGA to promote successful mediation, which is why the subject of joining UVRGA was discussed in closed session.

Director Kentosh said the City needs to sort out the terms and conditions to join and has not heard anything offered up to them yet. He shares Vice Chair Kuebler's concern regarding closed session vs. open session. He would like to consider a limitation on the City of Ojai's voting on matters that have conflict between OBGMA and UVRGA. He departed the meeting at 2:35pm.

Director Kaiser suggested having the attorneys work on the amendments.

Vice Chair Kuebler said the Board needs to develop terms and conditions.

Director Kaiser said he thinks it is wise to have the City of Ojai join.

Director Rungren suggested an ad hoc committee to develop draft terms and conditions.

Director Ayala thanked Bill Weirick for his involvement in water issues over the years and getting the City of Ojai more engaged. She would like to hear from the rest of the Ojai City Counsel in open session. She does not have an issue with the City of Ojai becoming a member and thinks it would help bring OBGMA and UVRGA together.

Director Crawford likes the idea of having representation from more entities and would like to add the Chumash to the UVRGA Board.

Vice Chair Kuebler called for public comments from non-City of Ojai attendees. No comments were offered.

After further discussion, the Board agreed to form an ad hoc committee consisting of Directors Kaiser and Rungren to develop draft terms and conditions. Vice President Kuebler suggested including Director Kentosh if he is interested. Director Kaiser will chair the ad hoc committee.

Director Kaiser moved formation of an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Director Kaiser and Rungren, and possibly Director Kentosh, to discuss the terms and conditions of the City of Ojai joining UVRGA and for Agency Counsel Lemieux and City Attorney Summers to discuss joint powers agreement amendments. Director Rungren seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:                      B. Kuebler – Y      E. Ayala - Y

   S. Rungren – Y      P. Kaiser – Y   V. Crawford - Y

Director Absent: Kentosh and Shephard

## **10) GSP IMPLEMENTATION ITEMS**

### **a. Executive Director Review of Ojai Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

The Executive Director explained the scope of his Ojai Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) review that was requested by the Board. The scope was limited to assessing whether the GSP includes required elements under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act for depletion of interconnected surface water and assessment of effects of the GSP on sustainable management of the Upper Ventura River Basin. He said that the detailed review findings are included in the staff report if there are any questions. He summarized the findings by saying he feels the GSP probably has some elements that do currently not meet the regulations, but OBGMA recognizes that they need to collect more data and the GSP will be updated. He said this is a path that many GSAs are on, and he is not particularly concerned about it. He said the proposed actions to address data gaps are vague and suggested that OBGSA provide more information.

Director Ayala thanked Executive Director Bondy for his review and said she is uncomfortable with sending a letter to DWR. She would rather send a letter to OBGMA. She would like to see the two agencies to work together.



Director Kaiser echoes Director Ayala and wants to see the two agencies working together.

Director Rungren agreed with the other director's comments.

Vice Chair Kuebler said he is comfortable with receiving the report and moving on.

Vice Chair Kuebler called for public comments.

John Mundy, OBGMA Executive Director, thanked Executive Director Bondy for his summary and then read prepared comments, which are attached to these minutes (Attachment B).

Director Kaiser moved to receive and file the report and include the John Mundy's comments in the meeting minutes. Seconded by Director Rungren.

Roll Call Vote:                B. Kuebler – Y      E. Ayala - Y  
   S. Rungren – Y      P. Kaiser – Y   V. Crawford - Y

Director Absent: Kentosh and Shephard.

## **11) COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **a. Ad Hoc Stakeholder Engagement Committee**

Director Ayala said there is no committee report. She plans to work with the Executive Director on outreach to the private pumpers regarding metering.

## **12) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

No items were requested.

## **13) ADJOURNMENT**

Next meeting May 12, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Kuebler\_ M. Etchart\_ P. Kaiser\_ S. Rungren\_ G. Shephard\_ V. Crawford\_ E. Ayala\_

# Ojai Membership in Upper Valley Ventura River Groundwater Agency

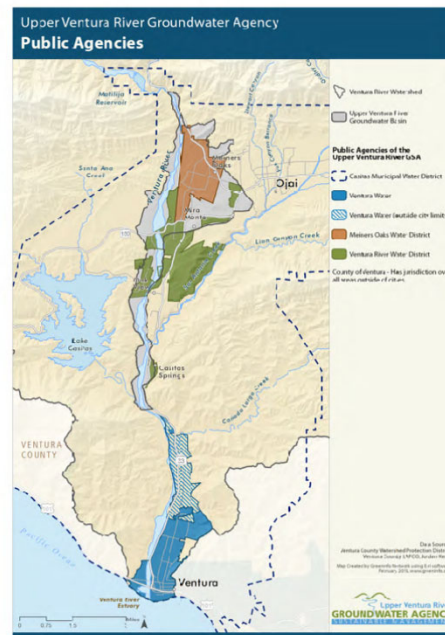
Presented by  
Matthew T. Summers  
City of Ojai City Attorney  
msummers@chwlaw.us  
(213) 542-5701

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## Ojai & UVRGA History

- In a different time, Ojai declined to be a charter member
- Ojai rightly belongs in UVRGA
  - As an overlying agency (Water Code §10723 (a))
  - As a land use regulator (Water Code §10723.2)
  - 1/4 of Ojai is within basin managed by UVRGA
- Ojai is prepared to support UVRGA's work
- Ojai would now like to be a member
- Ojai submitted membership application on Feb. 17, 2022
- Ojai has a number of rate payers to the UVRGA in its jurisdiction and a responsibility to enhance groundwater recharge with its land use management policies.

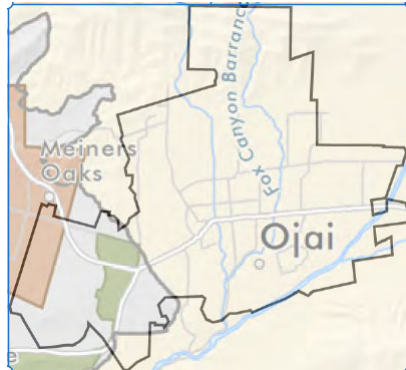


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## Quarter of Ojai is in UVRGA Basin



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## SGMA Criteria for Membership

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) mandates that local agencies establish locally-controlled groundwater sustainability agencies
- Any local agency/combination of local agencies overlaying a groundwater basin may become a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA)
- SGMA does not impose additional requirements on new members

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## Joining a GSA

- Governed by the joint-powers agreement or memorandum of agreement that established the GSA
  - Difference is SGMA authorities exercised by JPA
- Other agencies have joined formed GSAs since SGMA was adopted by the Legislature in 2015
- Example: Monroeville Water District joined the Glenn Groundwater Authority in 2019 (GSA formed in 2017)

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## Joining the UVGRA

- Joint Powers Agreement (December 2016)
- Section 5.2 (New Members)
  - "Additional public agencies or mutual water companies may become members of the Agency upon such terms and conditions as established by the Board of Directors and upon the **unanimous consent** of the existing Members, evidenced by the execution of a written amendment to this Agreement[.]"

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## Ojai Request of UVRGA Board

- Provide UVRGA Board direction re terms and conditions of Ojai joining UVRGA
- Ojai City Council can then formally agree and each agency can approve an amended Joint Powers Agreement
- Goal is to complete this fiscal year, ensuring full funding for UVRGA for next fiscal year

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## Terms of Membership

- City is open to negotiations about its terms of membership
  - Financial contribution amount
  - Voting membership
- City is open to negotiations related to having even number of board members or selecting an option to add a seventh seat
  - Six Seat Board – promotes collaboration
  - Seven Seat Board – ideas:
    - Local Indigenous Community Representative (Water Code § 10723.2(h) states GSAs have to consider interests of "Native American Tribes")
    - Appointed Public Member at agreement of six agencies
    - Ojai Valley Sanitation District Board seat

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# OJAI BASIN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY



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## MEMBER AGENCIES

Ojai Water Conservation District  
Casitas Municipal Water District  
City of Ojai  
Community Facilities District

Ojai Basin Mutual Water Companies  
Senior Canyon MWC  
Siete Robles MWC  
Hermitage MWC

April 14, 2022

Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency  
202 W. El Roblar Dr.  
Ojai, CA 93023  
Attention: Board of Directors

## **Reference: Executive Director Review of Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)**

This letter is to provide comments to the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency (UVRGA) regarding Mr. Bondy's review memorandum of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan which is part of the meeting package to be presented at its Board of Directors Meeting on April 14, 2022.

### **UVRGA Comments:**

#### **Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water**

#### **2. Basin Setting: Executive Director Findings.**

Paragraph 2: *Does the GSP estimate the quantity and timing of interconnected surface water system depletions?*

Section 2.3.4.6, page 2-141 of the GSP states:

"The shallow perched aquifer is separated from the deeper confined production aquifers by an extensive clay aquitard (Kear 2005, 2021; OBGMA 2018). Groundwater levels in the shallow perched aquifer exhibit a stable trend with little seasonal fluctuation or response to groundwater extraction while groundwater levels in the primary production aquifer show the effects of groundwater extraction."

I interpret this text to mean the GSP is concluding that there is no depletion of interconnected surface water (i.e., rate of depletion is zero) because the effects of pumping are not observed in the perched groundwater level data. It is noted that the

GSP describes data gaps for depletion of interconnected surface water and proposes actions to address those gaps and further analyze depletions. The GSP requirements are substantially met because the GSP appears to make a preliminary conclusion that there is no depletion and includes a plan to address data gaps to confirm the conclusion. However, it is noted that the GSP could be improved by more clearly and directly stating that the preliminary conclusion is no depletions.

**OBGMA Response:** *The preliminary conclusion was presented in the GSP as a result of limited data collected prior to publication. We believe it is inaccurate to conclude there are no depletions in surface water until further data is collected and analyzed for surface flow, groundwater pumping in the basin and water level measurements taken of the Depth Discrete Monitoring Well recently installed. It is expected this work will result in OBGMA making a more definitive conclusion on the interaction between surface water and pumping within the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin (OVGB).*

### UVRGA Comments

5. Monitoring Network §354.34(c): Each monitoring network shall be designed to accomplish the following for each sustainability indicator:

(6) Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water. Monitor surface water and groundwater, where interconnected surface water conditions exist, to characterize the spatial and temporal exchanges between surface water and groundwater, and to calibrate and apply the tools and methods necessary to calculate depletions of surface water caused by groundwater extractions. The monitoring network shall be able to characterize the following:

(A) Flow conditions including surface water discharge, surface water head, and baseflow contribution.

(B) Identifying the approximate date and location where ephemeral or intermittent flowing streams and rivers cease to flow, if applicable.

(C) Temporal change in conditions due to variations in stream discharge and regional groundwater extraction.

(D) Other factors that may be necessary to identify adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water.

Executive Director Findings:

The existing interconnected surface water monitoring network does not meet the §354.34(c) requirements. However, the GSP acknowledges this by identifying data gaps and including a plan to address them, as is provided for in §354.38. Therefore, the question is whether the future monitoring network will meet the §354.34(c) requirements. GSP Section 3.5.7.2 describes the data gaps in very general terms but stops short of identifying data gap locations and other details. GSP Section 4.2.4 describes proposed actions to improve the monitoring network consisting of identifying additional sites for multi-completion monitoring wells and stream gauges. Again, no details are provided, such as the number or approximate location of wells and gauges. While it is perfectly



acceptable to identify data gaps and address them before the first 5-year GSP assessment, the GSP does not provide enough information to determine whether the proposed data gap filling actions will lead to a monitoring network that meets the §354.34(c) requirements. Therefore, I conclude the GSP does not comply with the depletions of interconnected surface water monitoring network requirements.

**OBGMA Response:** *As part of the planning and implementation of requirements in the GSP OBGMA Chapter 4 speaks to Projects and Management Actions that will be addressed to fully comply with SGMA. As these programs are further developed detail will be provided to clearly define the monitoring actions to be taken by OBGMA in compliance with SGMA. Discussion of the monitoring program is found in the following sub-sections:*

*4-2 Introduction to Projects and Management Actions*

*4.2.1 Conduct Groundwater Level, Groundwater Quality, and Streamflow Monitoring..... 4-6*

*4.2.2 Conduct Groundwater Extraction Monitoring .....4-8*

*4.2.3 Prepare Sampling and Analysis Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan..... 4-10*

*4.2.5 Develop Data Management System..... 4-14*

**UVRGA Comments:**

Assessment of Effects on Sustainable Management of the Upper Ventura River Basin

1. Description of Plan Area §354.8(a)(1): One or more maps of the basin that depict the following, as applicable:

(1) ... the name and location of any adjacent basins.

Executive Director Findings:

The GSP does not fully address this requirement. While the location of the Upper Ventura River Basin (UVRB) is depicted and labeled on Figure 2-1, the entire extent of the UVRB is not shown. Importantly, the Foster Park area of the UVRB, which has numerous beneficial uses and users of water, is not shown.

**OBGMA Response:** *The entire extent of the UVRB is not depicted on Figure 2-1 due to scale and page size. OBGMA will develop a figure to show the full extent of the UVRB and include it in its annual report.*

**UVRGA Comments:**

2. Minimum Thresholds §354.28(b)(3): How minimum thresholds have been selected to avoid causing undesirable results in adjacent basins or affecting the ability of adjacent basins to achieve sustainability goals.

Executive Director Findings:

Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels Sustainability Indicator: The requirement is not applicable because there is very limited groundwater underflow between the Ojai and Upper Ventura River Basins.

Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring: I was unable to locate any text in the GSP that describes consideration of impacts to the Upper Ventura River Basin in the design of the depletions of interconnected surface water monitoring network. Therefore, it does not appear that the §354.34(f)(3) requirements have been met.

Reduction of Groundwater Storage Sustainability Indicator: The requirement is not applicable because there is very limited groundwater underflow between the Ojai and Upper Ventura River Basins.

Seawater Intrusion Sustainability Indicator: The requirement is not applicable because the GSP concludes that this indicator is not applicable to the Ojai Basin.

Degraded Water Quality Sustainability Indicator: The requirement is not applicable because there is very limited groundwater underflow between the Ojai and Upper Ventura River Basins.

Land Subsidence Sustainability Indicator: The requirement is not applicable because the GSP concludes that this indicator is not applicable to the Ojai Basin.

Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water Sustainability Indicator: The GSP does not establish a minimum threshold for the depletions of interconnected surface water sustainability indicator because data gaps must first be filled, as described above. Therefore, compliance with the §354.28(b)(3) requirements cannot be evaluated until the GSP is updated.

**OBGMA Response:** As OBGMA collects and evaluates future data on its Depth Discrete Monitoring Well, surface flow within San Antonio Creek and discharge from the OVGB it is expected to provide a more accurate picture of any effect of pumping within the basin on surface flows and discharges to UVRB. This work will assist OBGMA to develop minimum thresholds, if necessary, to limit any downstream impacts that may exist.

**UVRGA Comments:**

4. Assessment and Improvement of Monitoring Network §354.38(e): Each Agency shall adjust the monitoring frequency and density of monitoring sites to provide an adequate level of detail about site-specific surface water and groundwater conditions and to assess the effectiveness of management actions under circumstances that include the following:

(4) The potential to adversely affect the ability of an adjacent basin to implement its Plan or impede achievement of sustainability goals in an adjacent basin.

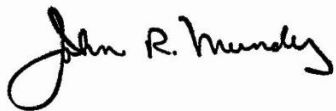
Executive Director Findings:

Same finding as the previous item.

**OBGMA Response:** *As OBGMA further develops and implements its monitoring program it will be in a better position to determine if there is any effect on adjacent basins.*

The initial OVGB GSP was not expected to fully identify and solve all of the problems and interactions within the basin and adjoining basins. It is a baseline document to help guide the agency over the next 20 years in identifying and establishing a direction for sustainability within the Ojai basin. . Each year an Annual Report will be prepared to identify the actions taken and results that may occur within the OVGB. Over each succeeding five year period OBGMA will identify, evaluate, plan and implement programs and projects that will work toward achieving sustainability. At the end of these five year periods an updated report will be provided to DWR demonstrating the planning and actions taken by the OBGMA. It is expected through this process a better understanding of the basin will be achieved resulting in a balanced approach to water use and management of the OVGB.

It is recommend that the Upper Ventura River GSA provide specific recommendations regarding additional monitoring required to evaluate interconnected surface water – groundwater in respect to potential impacts to the Upper Ventura River GSA. In addition, it is recommend that UVRGA technical staff coordinate directly with OBGMA technical staff to collaboratively discuss these matters further.



John R. Mundy  
General Manager

Cc; OBGMA Board of Directors