

UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 9, 2025

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency was held at the Ventura River Water District Meeting Room, 409 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, CA on Thursday, October 9, 2025. Chair Kaiser called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

C. ROLL CALL

Executive Director Bondy called the roll.

Directors Present:

Pete Kaiser, Chair

Bruce Kuebler, Vice Chair

Jim Kentosh, Director

Emily Ayala, Director

Sarah Mulder, Alternate Director

Jeff Palmer, Director (departed at 2:23 p.m. during Item 6a)

Earthea Nance, Alternate Director (replaced Director Palmer at 2:23 p.m. during Item 6a)

Directors Absent: Vivon Sedgwick

Staff Present:

Bryan Bondy, Executive Director

Keith Lemieux (Agency Counsel – Online)

Maureen Tucker (Admin Assistant – Online)

Members of the Public:

In Person: Alma Quezada, Alternate Director

Online: Mike Flood (Casitas MWD), Kelley Dyer (Casitas MWD), Paul Jenkins, Burt Handy, Steven Humphrey (Intera), and three unidentifiable participants.

D. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Kaiser asked for any proposed changes to the agenda. No changes were requested.

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

Chair Kaiser asked for public comments on items not appearing on the agenda. No comments were offered. Chair Kaiser declared the agenda approved.

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a) Approve Minutes of September 11, 2025 Regular Board Meeting
- b) Approve Financial Report for September 2025
- c) Approve Fiscal Year 2024-2025 4th Quarter Investment Report

Chair Kaiser asked if any Director wanted to pull any items off the consent calendar for discussion. No requests were made.

Director Palmer moved approval of the consent calendar items. Seconded by Director Kuebler.

Director Ayala said she wanted to abstain from the vote because she did not attend the prior meeting. Agency Counsel Lemieux clarified that attendance is not required to vote on the minutes.

Roll Call Vote: P. Kaiser - Y B. Kuebler – Y J. Kentosh– Y
 S. Mulder – Y J. Palmer – Y E. Ayala - Y

Directors Absent: Vivon Sedgwick

2. DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Kaiser called for Director announcements. No announcements were made.

3. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Bondy reviewed the written staff report with the Board.

Director Palmer asked about enforcement for the two unregistered wells. Executive Director Bondy explained that enforcement provisions are laid out in the Agency's Ordinance No. 4. He recommended that the Board discuss next steps during a future meeting if the wells remain unregistered after sending another round of letters.

No Public Comments.

4. AGENCY COUNSEL'S REPORT

No report.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

a. Proposed Joint Powers Agreement Amendments

Executive Director Bondy and Agency Counsel Lemieux summarized the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) amendments previously requested by the Board by reviewing the JPA redline attached to proposed Resolution No 2025-05. Agency Counsel Lemieux emphasized that, while the board's adoption of the resolution signals intent, the JPA amendments will not become effective until each Member Agency has approved them.

The Board requested that cover letter be included with the resolution when delivering to the Member Agencies.

No Public Comments.

Director Kuebler moved approval of Resolution 2025-05, requesting approval of the proposed JPA amendments by the Member Agencies. Seconded by Director Palmer.

Roll Call Vote: P. Kaiser - Y B. Kuebler – Y J. Kentosh– Y
 S. Mulder – Y J. Palmer – Y E. Ayala - Y

Directors Absent: Vivon Sedgwick

6. GSP IMPLEMENTATION ITEMS

a. Model Sensitivity Analysis and Calibration Update

Executive Director Bryan Bondy gave a presentation summarizing the model sensitivity analysis and calibration update work. Steven Humphrey of Intera was available via Zoom for questions. The presentations slides are attached to these meeting minutes for reference.

Director Palmer departed the meeting at 2:23 p.m. during the presentation. Alternate Director Nance replaced Director Palmer.

The Board provided positive feedback and expressed gratitude for the work completed on the numerical model.

b. Intera, Inc. Work Order No. 13 for Modeling Support for Implementation of Actions to Address Indirect Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water GSP Management Action

Executive Director Bondy briefed the Board on Intera, Inc. Work Order No. 13 to use the updated numerical model to prepare updated interconnected surface water depletion estimates. The scope of work includes three tasks: (1) quantify model uncertainty in estimating interconnected surface water depletion; (2) update the basic depletion estimates included in the GSP; and (3) perform additional modeling to help understand the relationship between the location and timing of groundwater extraction and depletions of interconnected surface water. The results of this work order will help inform the next step in the overall process to address indirect depletion of interconnected surface water, as called for in the groundwater sustainability plan (GSP).

The proposed fee for this work is \$64,938, with a 10% contingency bringing the total authorization to \$71,432. The work would be funded with \$40,480 of committed contingency from the current fiscal year budget and \$30,953 from operating reserves. Approving the work order will exhaust remaining uncommitted contingency funds for the year. Although \$150,000 was allocated in the budget for model updates and depletion estimates, the model update costs exceeded original estimates. This modeling effort is recognized as a key step in GSP implementation.

Director Kentosh moved approval of Intera Work Order, No. 13 for Modeling Support for Implementation of Actions to Address Indirect Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water GSP Management Action for a total amount of up to \$71,432. Seconded by Director Ayala.

No public comments.

Roll Call Vote: P. Kaiser - Y B. Kuebler – Y J. Kentosh– Y
 S. Mulder – Y E. Nance – Y E. Ayala - Y

Directors Absent: Vivon Sedgwick

c. Intera, Inc. Work Order No. 14 for GSP Periodic Evaluation

Executive Director Bondy briefed the Board regarding Intera, Inc. Work Order No. 14 for the GSP Periodic Evaluation. Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) are required to perform a periodic evaluation for their GSPs at least once every five years. The first periodic evaluation of the UVRGA GSP is due in January of 2027.

Intera will be responsible for developing the periodic evaluation document, with review and oversight by the Executive Director. The work order budget is \$99,710 plus a 10% contingency (\$9,971) to be authorized at the discretion of the Executive Director (\$109,681 total authorization). The fiscal year budget allocates \$125,000 for the GSP periodic evaluation.

Director Kuebler moved approval of Intera Work Order, No. 14 for the GSP Periodic Evaluation for a total amount of up to \$109,681. Seconded by Director Ayala.

No public comments.

Roll Call Vote: P. Kaiser - Y B. Kuebler – Y J. Kentosh– Y
 S. Mulder – Y E. Nance – Y E. Ayala - Y

Directors Absent: Vivon Sedgwick

d. Intera, Inc. Work Order No. 15 for Annual Report Preparation

Executive Director Bondy briefed the Board on Intera, Inc. Work Order No. 15 for preparation of the fifth GSP annual report. The scope of work includes updating the model with the latest data. The work order budget is \$52,236 plus a 10% contingency (\$5,224) to be authorized at the discretion of the Executive Director (\$57,460 total authorization). Aside from this work order, an additional \$5,500 in costs associated with Executive Director support and review and input from Rincon Consultants, Inc. are anticipated, making the total budget for the annual report approximately \$63,000. The current

fiscal year budget allocates \$57,750 for the annual report. Operating reserves will be used to cover costs the exceed the budget allocation.

Executive Director Bondy noted that the previous year annual report did not include a model update because the model was out of service for its calibration update. Thus, as direct comparisons to last year's cost is misleading.

Director Kuebler moved approval of Intera Work Order, No. 15 for Annual Report Preparation Evaluation for a total amount of up to \$57,460. Seconded by Director Kentosh.

Vote: P. Kaiser - Y B. Kuebler - Y

S. Mulder - Y Y. Nance - Y E. Ayala - Y

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Unregistered wells enforcement (closed session).

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

The next scheduled Board meeting is Thursday, November 13, 2025.

Action: _____

Motion: _____

P. Kaiser B. Kuebler J. Tribo J. Palmer E. Ayala V. Sedgwick