

**UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING MARCH 12, 2026**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency was held at the City of San Buenaventura City Hall, Santa Cruz Meeting Room, 501 Poli Street, Ventura, CA 93001, March 12, 2026. Vice Chair Kuebler called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Executive Director Bondy called the roll.

Directors Present:

Bruce Kuebler, Vice Chair  
Emily Ayala, Director  
Peter Kaiser, Director  
Justin Martinez, Alternate Director  
Sarah Mulder, Alternate Director  
Jeff Palmer, Director

Director Absent: Vivon Sedgwick

Alternate Director Present: Mike Flood

Staff Present:

Bryan Bondy, Executive Director  
Keith Lemieux, Agency Counsel  
Maureen Tucker, Admin Assistant

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

Director Kaiser moved agenda approval. Seconded by Director Mulder.

Voice Vote:        B. Kuebler – Y        E. Ayala -Y        P. Kaiser – Y        J. Martinez- Y  
                         S. Mulder – Y        J. Palmer-Y

Directors Absent: Vivon Sedgwick



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

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

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

Directors Absent: Vivon Sedgwick

## **9. DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Vice Chair Kuebler called for Director announcements. No announcements were provided.

## **10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Bondy reviewed the written staff report with the Board concerning updates on Agency activities since the last meeting.

Public Comments: none

## **11. AGENCY COUNSEL'S REPORT**

Agency Counsel Lemieux stated the only update he has will be provided during closed session.

## **12. GSP IMPLEMENTATION ITEMS**

### **a. Approve Water Year 2024/2025 Annual Report**

Executive Director Bondy briefly summarized the Water Year 2024/2025 Annual Report.

Director Ayala asked which wells had reduced groundwater pumping. Executive Director Bondy said he does not recall the specific differences for individual wells.

Public Comments: none

Director Ayala moved approval of the Water Year 2024/2025 Annual Report. Seconded by Director Kaiser.

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

Directors Absent: Vivon Sedgwick

### **b. Indirect Depletion Modeling Update**

Executive Director Bondy reviewed the updated interconnected surface water (ISW) depletion results included in the staff report for the item.

The ISW depletion estimates from the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) were compared with the updated ISW depletion estimates prepared using the updated UVRGA numerical model. The updated model predicts smaller duration and magnitude minimum threshold exceedances for 6 of the 8 minimum threshold exceedance events predicted in the GSP (i.e., Event Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8). This is due to the incorporation the updated protocols for operation of the City of Ventura's Foster Park extraction facilities (a.k.a. Interim Order Protocols) and improved model calibration. In contrast, two events (Nos. 1 and 5) are predicted to be longer duration and higher magnitude using the updated model. However, Event No. 1 is likely smaller than the model uncertainty and, therefore, might not actually manifest under real world conditions. Inspection of Event No. 5 reveals that the minimum threshold exceedance would likely be avoided given real world implementation of Interim Order Protocols. In addition, the minimum threshold exceedances would likely be avoided for Event No. 2 given real world implementation of Interim Order Protocols.

The updated model predicts two additional events (i.e., event nos. 9 and 10); however, these events are likely smaller than the model uncertainty and, therefore, might not actually manifest under real world conditions. Additionally, inspection of Event Nos. 9 and 10 reveals that the minimum threshold exceedances would likely be avoided given real world implementation of Interim Order Protocols.

After considering model uncertainty and whether real world implementation of Interim Order Protocols would prevent a minimum threshold exceedance, Event Nos. 3, 6, 7, and 8 remained as possible candidates for detailed modeling analysis. Given the close timing of Event Nos. 6 through 8, they can be treated as single event for analysis purposes. Executive Director Bondy recommended that the detailed modeling analysis be performed twice using (1) Event No. 3 and (2) combined Event Nos. 6 through 8.

Executive Director Bondy reviewed the modeling analysis approach. The model will be run multiple times for each group of wells for each selected depletion event. Each model run will progressively eliminate one month of pumping from the well group starting with the last month of the depletion event and going backward in time until no change in depletion quantity is observed. Based on the February Board meeting discussion, the model will also be run multiple times removing individual months of pumping. The output from the model runs will be processed to quantify the effect pumping from the different well groups at different lead times on indirect depletion in the Foster Park Aquatic Habitat Area.

Director Mulder asked what years comprise the predictive period. Executive Bondy said it is the same 50-year period that was selected for the GSP projections. He will look up the years and email following the meeting.

Director Palmer expressed concerns about the impact of San Antonio Creek tributary flows on the Agency's management of conditions along the Ventura River.

Director Kaiser inquired about budget for the modeling work. Executive Director Bondy said the work is included as part of a previous Board-approved work order issued to Intera, Inc.

There was consensus to proceed with the next steps in the modeling analysis.

No public comments.

**13. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

None

**CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

Directors Kaiser and Ayala departed the meeting. Alternate Director Flood replaced Director Kaiser.

The Board entered closed session at 2:21 p.m. Conference with Legal Counsel; Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)).

**REGULAR SESSION AGENDA (CONTINUED)**

The Board returned to regular session at 2:47 p.m.

Agency Counsel reported that there was no reportable action taken in closed session.

**14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

No future agenda items were requested.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

The next scheduled Board meeting is Thursday, April 9, 2026.

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

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

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