

**UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 13, 2026**

1. 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, 409 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, CA.

Chair Tribo called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. ROLL CALL

Admin Assistant Tucker called the roll.

Directors Present:

Jenny Tribo, Chair
Bruce Kuebler, Vice Chair
James Kentosh, Secretary
Emily Ayala, Director
Pete Kaiser, Director
Jeff Palmer, Director

Director Absent: Vivon Sedgwick

Staff Present:

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Director Kuebler moved agenda approval. Seconded by Director Kaiser.

Voice Vote: J. Tribo - Y B. Kuebler – Y J. Kentosh - Y E. Ayala -Y
 P. Kaiser - Y J. Palmer-Y

Directors Absent: V. Sedgwick

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA

Chair Tribo asked for public comments on items not appearing on the agenda. No comments were offered.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A) Approve Minutes of June 11, 2026 Regular Board Meeting**
- b) Approve Financial Report for June 2026**
- c) Approve Financial Report for July 2026**
- d) Approve Fiscal Year 2025-2026 4th Quarter Budget Report**
- e) Approve Fiscal Year 2025-2026 3rd Quarter Investment Report**
- f) Rincon Consultants, Inc. Master Services Agreement Amendment No. 2**

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

Executive Director Bondy stated that an updated version of Item No. 6d was posted to the website and is available in the paper copies. He said a note was added concerning the timing of the funds transfer from the investment account to the checking account.

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

Voice Vote: J. Tribo - Y B. Kuebler – Y J. Kentosh - Y E. Ayala -Y
 P. Kaiser - Y J. Palmer-Y

Directors Absent: V. Sedgwick

7. DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

Director Ayala asked how many small groundwater sustainability agencies are eligible for the sustainable groundwater management grant. Executive Director stated there are about two to three dozen.

Director Ayala asked how surface water flow at Camino Cielo is compared to last year. Executive Director Bondy said he did not recall last year's flow values.

No Public Comments.

9. AGENCY COUNSEL'S REPORT

Agency Counsel Lemieux provided a brief update on the Indian Wells Valley adjudication.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

No administrative items this meeting.

11. GSP IMPLEMENTATION ITEMS

a. Aquatic Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems Monitoring Plan Amendment

Executive Director Bondy summarized the proposed amendments to the aquatic groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDE) monitoring workplans. In general, the proposed amendments are designed to further focus the monitoring activities on conditions most relevant to the sustainable management criteria included in the groundwater sustainability plan, which may help reduce monitoring costs.

Director Kaiser requested clarification concerning the applicability of the reference Flosi et al, 2010 showing in the workplans. Executive Director Bondy will follow up.

Director Kentosh moved approval of the proposed amendments to the aquatic groundwater dependent ecosystems monitoring workplans. Seconded by Director Kuebler.

Voice Vote: J. Tribo - Y B. Kuebler – Y J. Kentosh - Y E. Ayala -Y
 P. Kaiser - Y J. Palmer-Y

Directors Absent: V. Sedgwick

b. Rincon Consultants, Inc. Work Order No. 14 for Field Monitoring Programs for Water Year 2026/2027

Executive Director Bondy briefed the Board on proposed Rincon Consultants, Inc. Work Order No. 14 for water year 2026/2027 field monitoring services, including groundwater level, streamflow, aquatic and riparian GDE monitoring, and reporting services. This is a continuation of the services Rincon has been providing. The adopted fiscal year 2026/2027 budget allocates \$225,000 for field monitoring and includes \$68,000 of contingency for all services. The approval of Rincon Work Order No. 14 would be \$240,691 total authorization and would take the entire approved field monitoring budget and \$15,691 (23%) of the approved contingency budget.

Director Palmer moved to approve Rincon Consultants, Inc. Work Order No. 14 with three stipulations:

1. Notify the Board if optional tasks or contingency is authorized.
2. Review monitoring for the forthcoming physical solution to ensure it is not covered by existing monitoring programs.
3. Respond to Director Kaiser's inquiry made during the previous agenda item.

Seconded by Director Kaiser.

Voice Vote: J. Tribo - Y B. Kuebler – Y J. Kentosh - Y E. Ayala -Y
P. Kaiser - Y J. Palmer-Y

Directors Absent: V. Sedgwick

c. Intera, Inc. Work Order No. 16 for Annual Report Preparation

Executive Director Bondy briefed the Board on proposed Intera, Inc. Work Order No. 16 for Annual Report preparation and numerical model updates for an amount not to exceed \$54,848 and \$5,484 (10%) contingency to be authorized at the discretion of the Executive Director (\$60,332 total authorization).

Director Kentosh asked for clarification on the model update portion of the scope of work given that the model was recently updated. Executive Director Bondy explained that the model is extended by one year for each annual report; whereas, the work referred to by Director Kentosh was an update to the model calibration.

Director Kuebler asked when the annual report is due. Executive Director Bondy said April 1.

Director Kuebler moved approval of Intera, Inc. Work Order No. 16. Seconded by Director Kaiser.

Voice Vote: J. Tribo - Y B. Kuebler – Y J. Kentosh - Y E. Ayala -Y
P. Kaiser - Y J. Palmer-Y

Directors Absent: V. Sedgwick

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Executive Director Bondy noted that Director Sedgwick notified him of her intent to resign from the UVRGA Board. She will be taking a new job in northern California working on forest issues.

Chair Tribo called for a five minute break at 1:45 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 1:50 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

The Board went into closed session at 1:50 p.m. Conference with Legal Counsel; Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)).

REGULAR SESSION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

The Board returned to open session at 2:40 p.m.

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

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

The next scheduled Board meeting is Thursday, September 10, 2026.

Action: _____

Motion: _____

J. Tribo_ B. Kuebler_ J. Kentosh_ E. Ayala_ P. Kaiser_ J. Palmer_