

MINUTES
BORREGO SPRINGS INTERIM WATERMASTER SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
Conducted Virtually via GoToMeeting
Monday, October 19, 2020, 11:30 a.m.

- A. Chairman Duncan called meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.
- B. Chairman Duncan led the meeting participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Samantha Adams (Executive Director) called roll and confirmed that all members of the Board were present. The following individuals were present at the meeting:

Directors Present	Chairman Dave Duncan – Borrego Water District
	Vice Chairman Shannon Smith – Recreational Sector
	Jim Bennett – County of San Diego
	Mike Seley – Agricultural Sector
	Mark Jorgensen – Community Rep.
Watermaster Staff Present	James M. Markman, Legal Counsel
	Samantha Adams, Executive Director (WEI)
	Andy Malone, Technical Consultant (WEI)
	Kristan Culbert – Staff Scientist, WEI
Others Present	Kathy Dice, BWD Board Member (Board Alternate)
	Lyle Brecht, BWD Board Member
	Rebecca Falk
	Geoff Poole, BWD General Manager
	Trey Driscoll, Dudek
	Gary Worobec
	Timothy Ross, DWR
	Nancy Karas
	Michele Staples, Jackson Tidus
	Martha Diechler, Board Alternate – Community Rep.

- D. Comments from the Public on Items on the Agenda – *none*.
- E. Discussion of providing a letter to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors on its ordinance concerning Hemp growing and any impact it may have on Borrego water supplies. Chairman Duncan introduced the item and opened the discussion to the Board. A discussion ensued, with the following key points:
 - A letter to the Board of Supervisors is warranted.
 - Mr. Malone explained that the Anza-Terwilliger Water Basin (ATWB) lies upgradient from the Borrego Springs Groundwater Subbasin, but the subbasins are separated by fractured rock. Mr. Malone pointed out that there is not enough data available to understand the potential impacts of hemp farming on the Borrego Springs Subbasin, but

any increase in groundwater use in the ATWB could reduce surface or groundwater outflows to adjacent basins, including Borrego Springs.

- Mr. Malone noted that The Terwilliger Basin is not subject to SGMA compliance.
- The letter should focus the communication as a concern over increased groundwater use and its impacts on the Borrego Springs Groundwater Subbasin.
- The letter should address the need to study and monitor the ATWB to enable assessment of impacts from groundwater pumping.
- Director Bennett volunteered to support Executive Director Adams in drafting the letter.

Motion: Motioned by Director Smith, seconded by Director Jorgensen to Direct Executive Director Adams to Send a Letter to the Riverside County Board of Supervisors Reflecting the Concerns of the Interim Borrego Springs Watermaster. *Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).*

F. Adjournment. Chairman Duncan adjourned the meeting at 11:49 am.

Kristan Culbert

Recorded by: Kristan Culbert
Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.



Attest: Shannon Smith, Board Secretary