

MINUTES
BORREGO SPRINGS INTERIM WATERMASTER BOARD MEETING
Conducted Virtually via GoToMeeting
Thursday, March 23, 2021, 3:00 p.m.

I. Opening Procedures

- A. Chairman Duncan called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
- B. Chairman Duncan led the meeting participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Samantha Adams (Executive Director) called roll and confirmed that four of five members of the Board were present. Director Seley was absent from roll call but arrived at 3:02 pm. The following individuals were present at the meeting:

Directors Present	Chairman Dave Duncan – Borrego Water District (BWD)
	Rich Pinel
	Jim Bennett – County of San Diego
	Mike Seley – Agricultural Sector (arrived at 3:02 p.m.)
	Mark Jorgensen – Community Representative
Watermaster Staff Present	Samantha Adams, Executive Director, West Yost
	Andrew Malone, Lead Technical Consultant, West Yost
	Jim Markman
	Kristan Culbert, Staff Scientist, West Yost
Others Present	Tammy Baker, BWD Board Member
	Leanne Crow, County of San Diego (Board Alternate)
	Martha Diechler, Board Alternate – Community Rep.
	Kathy Dice, BWD Board Member
	Dr. Michael Wells, Borrego Springs Watermaster Environmental Working Group Member
	John Peterson, Borrego Springs Watermaster Environmental Working Group Member
	Michele Staples, Jackson Tidus
	Cathy Milkey, Rams Hill
	Anita Regmi, DWR
	Steve Anderson, BB&K
	Diane Johnson, BWD Board Member
	Trey Driscoll, Dudek
	Esmeralda Garcia, BWD
	Leonardo Urrego-Vallowe
	Jim Dax
Devin Pritchard-Peterson, Dudek	

- D. Approval of Agenda.

Motion: Motioned by Director Bennett, seconded by Director Jorgensen to approve the Agenda as included in the Board meeting package. *Motion carried unanimously (5-0-0).*

II. Items for Board Consideration and Possible Action

A. Consideration of Approval of the Borrego Springs Subbasin 2020 Annual Report.

Executive Director (ED) Adams presented a high-level overview of the contents of the Borrego Springs Subbasin 2020 Annual Report and a detailed discussion on the differences in the methodologies used to compute the change in groundwater storage for 2019 by Dudek vs for 2020 by West Yost, explaining that the results from the different methods are not comparable to each other.

ED Adams recommended that:

- (1) the Board discuss the methodology that should be used to finalize the change in storage calculations for the 2020 Annual Report,
- (2) direct staff to update the report per the Board discussion, and
- (3) choose a Board-appointed representative to review the final calculation of groundwater storage and the 2020 Annual Report before it is submitted to DWR by the April 1, 2021 deadline.

At the conclusion of the presentation Chairman Duncan opened the floor to public comment, followed by Board Discussion. A discussion ensued, with the following key points:

- Changing the methodology for groundwater storage calculation for a single year is not advisable as it results in an ‘apples-to-oranges’ comparison of the year-to-year changes.
- Trey Driscoll of Dudek provided further explanation of the methodology used for the 2019 Annual Report and offered its support to Watermaster staff to complete the work for 2020.
- The Board directed staff to work with Dudek to complete the change in storage calculation for spring 2019 to spring 2020 based on the Dudek methodology.
- Figure 3 in the 2020 Annual Report should include the correct precipitation station identification number for clarity.
- The Board directed Watermaster staff to complete the minor editorial changes presented by AAWARE and T2 and work with their representative to ensure that the changes are consistent with the proposed Stipulated Judgment.
- The Board appointed Chairman Duncan and Director Bennett to do a final review of the 2020 Annual Report before it is submitted to DWR.
- For future work, the Board directed that the TAC should discuss change in storage methodologies and make a recommendation to the Board on a methodology to apply going forward.

Director Duncan inquired with ED Adams if the Board direction was clear and sufficient to proceed. ED Adams confirmed.

III. Next Meetings of the Borrego Springs Watermaster

A. Regular Board Meeting – Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 4:30 pm.

- TAC Meeting Agenda
- Mid-year pumping report

- WY 2021/22 Budget

IV. Adjournment

- A. Director Duncan adjourned the meeting at 4:06 p.m.

Kristan Culbert

Recorded by: Kristan Culbert
West Yost

David Duncan

Attest: David Duncan, Board Chairperson