

done. Director Brecht explained that with the exception of the last figure in the GSP Development costs Estimate (All Pumpers including District, \$1,385,522), which is an estimate, the money has already been spent. He added that the tasks outlined are designed to meet DWR requirements, withstand legal challenge and support bond market eligibility.

Turning to the adjudication issue, Director Brecht pointed out that adjudication would define who has what water rights, but money would still have to be spent to acquire those rights. He added that everyone in the Borrego Valley is using water illegally, not just the farmers, because once the basin is in overdraft everyone is limited in the amount of water they may use. President Hart assured the attendees that as the District proceeds with the GSA process, all meetings will be public.

Hearing no further comments, President Hart closed the public hearing at 9:55 a.m.

D. Discussion and possible approval of Resolution 2015-10-02 Electing to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency: Peter Quinlan of Dudek presented a slide show outlining a proposed request for a basin boundary adjustment on behalf of the District. He explained that BWD wants to serve as the GSA for a portion of the Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin. DWR has included Imperial County, which is not overdrafted, in the BVGB, therefore designating the entire Basin as “medium priority” although Borrego’s aquifer is definitely overdrafted. The proposed adjustment would limit BWD’s purview as GSA to the area that is actually in overdraft. Mr. Quinlan explained the hydrogeology on which the proposed adjustment is based. The subbasin would include Rams Hill and the Air Ranch, but not Ocotillo Wells. Upon submission of the proposed boundary adjustment to DWR, they will look at the likelihood that the subbasin can be sustainably managed (good), whether it would limit the ability of adjacent basins to be sustainably managed (no), and is there a history of sustainably managed groundwater levels in the proposed subbasin (see USGS study and cooperation with other agencies). Jim Bennett of the County of San Diego suggested obtaining written assurance from USGS as to what, if any, effect the boundary adjustment would have on their study. Mr. Rolwing noted that the application cannot be submitted to DWR until January. In the meantime, he hoped to obtain letters of support from the Counties of Imperial and San Diego.

MSC: Brecht/Tatusko adopting Resolution 2015-10-02 Electing to Become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

E. Discussion of progress meeting the Executive Order B-29-15 requiring a 25% mandatory reduction in water use by the District: Jerry Rolwing announced that the overall District water use reduction is presently at 11 percent. He is working with the *Borrego Sun* to disseminate the information, and another flyer will be included in this month’s water bills. President Hart added that Superintendent Martha Deichler is sending information home with students.

F. Briefing on the rate structure: Mr. Rolwing explained that as the Board examines reevaluation of the rate structure, it is important to consider reducing the meter rate and possibly revisiting the tiered rate structure with legally defensible modifications. Harry Ehrlich noted the importance of sales, marketing and information in working with the community.

G. Discussion and possible approval of Resolution 2015-10-01 Authorizing the General Manager to submit an application for funding under the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (proposition 1) for Water and WWTP projects: Director Tatusko reported he had been working with Dudek on Proposition 1 funding for clean water and wastewater treatment projects. Dudek recommends a resolution to accompany the grant applications, the first of which will hopefully be submitted in mid-November. **MSC: Brecht/Delahay approving Resolution 2015-10-01 Authorizing the General Manager to submit an application for funding under the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) for water and WWTP projects.** Mr. Rolwing added that he hopes to eventually include funding for the Wilcox Reservoir, following extensive public comment.

H. Report from John Peterson on Water Conservation Policy Recommendations from the Citizens Committee group: John Peterson reported that the Citizens Committee has nine members and is working on a recommendation toward meeting the 25 percent water conservation goal. Director Brecht

suggested they review the California Drought Contingency Plan and information from the National Drought Mitigation Center. They have never found a community that met mandatory drought reduction goals by voluntary means.

I. Discussion of potential agenda items for October 28th board meeting: Agenda items for the next meeting will include changing the dates of the November and December Regular Board Meetings, discussion of a letter from AAWARE regarding the critical overdraft designation for Borrego Valley, Executive Committee letter to former Tier 2 users, approval of claims against the District, cost sharing for the GSP, update on the solar system, CIP, and water credits.

III. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- Miscellaneous articles: Director Tatusko invited the Board's attention to photos of solar facilities at the wastewater treatment plant, the Energy and Water 2015 Summit and photos from the featured bus tour.
- DRAFT discussion document: *Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA): Why Now?* Prepared by Director Brecht. This discussion deck is Director Brecht's own analysis based on his research and not representative of the District or the Board's views: Director Brecht invited questions and comments on his document.

IV. CLOSING PROCEDURE

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 10:45 a.m. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for October 28, 2015 at the Borrego Water District.