

# FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

A STATE OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCY



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## INTERIM EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**Arne Anselm**

October 23, 2024

Board of Directors  
Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009-1600

**SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report – (Returning Item)**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Receive and file this informational report.

## MONTHLY BUDGET TO ACTUAL ACCOUNTING: SEPTEMBER 2024

### FCGMA Balance Report

The September 2024 FCGMA balance report is included on your Board's Consent Agenda. Revenue increased by \$258,635.45 (388%) in September (AP03/September in the report) from August (AP02), from the collection of pumping charges, GEMES Reserve fees, and Sustainability fees. Interest earnings received from the County Pooled Investment Fund totaled \$44,282.25. The Agency received \$46,472.00 total from United Water Conservation District and Pleasant Valley Water Conservation District for the third SGM Grant consultant grant administration services agreement payment. Expenses increased by \$274,661.57 (23%) in September due to expenses incurred from ongoing Dudek contract work, Agency Counsel legal expenses, and continued Wild Heron Drilling, LLC work on the Oxnard Basin and PV Basin Monitoring Wells (which will be reimbursed by the DWR SGM Grant). No other significant variances have been noted.

### LPV Watermaster Balance Report

The September balance report for LPV Watermaster is the inaugural release of this report for Watermaster. It is included on your Board's Consent Agenda. No significant variances noted to report.

## LPV WATERMASTER

### Extraction And Use Reporting Update:

The online semi-annual Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting Tool (tool) is available as of October 15, 2024, for reporting extractions and usage occurring between April 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024. On October 3, 2024, staff sent a notification email (attached to this report as Exhibit 6A) alerting water right holders of an imminent email from its consultant Regional Government Services (RGS), containing a custom link to the tool, noting that reporting is due November 15, 2024.

As of October 11, 2024, Groundwater Extraction and Use Reporting for the LPV Basin for the period between October 1, 2023, and March 31, 2024, stands at 78% complete, 21% no response, and 1% partially completed.

### **Basin Assessment Updates: 2024-1**

On September 25, 2024, the Watermaster Board adopted a Basin Assessment for Las Posas Valley Basin for Water Year (WY) 2024 of \$64.58 to be invoiced quarterly at \$16.145.<sup>1</sup> The first quarterly Basin Assessment (BA) Invoices for Water Year 2024 were sent to water right holders via email on October 2, 2024. BA payments are due November 1, 2024. Payments not received within a month of the due date will be considered delinquent and shall bear interest at the current real property tax delinquency rate for Ventura County.<sup>2</sup> Adopted Annual Allocations for WY 2024 and the schedule of quarterly installments are available on the Watermaster website at: <https://fcgma.org/annual-allocations-wy-2024/>.

Shareholders with multiple email contacts may have received a second email containing invoices on October 3, 2024, due to a technical error. The error prevented all contacts from receiving invoices in the first email send. Staff immediately identified and resolved the matter, then followed up with an email notification on October 8, 2024, informing stakeholders of the matter (attached as Exhibit 6B).

### **2023-1**

As of October 15, 2024, staff have processed \$1,287,217.90 from LPV Basin Assessments for WY 2023. Delinquent payments for WY2023 as of September 27, 2024, amount to \$23,242.72 from 10 WMIDs<sup>3</sup>. Staff is taking the next steps within the current enforcement mechanisms available to Watermaster.

### **Insurance Coverage for LPV Watermaster Committees**

LPV Watermaster inquired and has heard back from agent Erin Highberg of AssuredPartners, who coordinated and delivered a response from Glatfelter, the underwriter for the Agency's insurance policy. Dated October 15, 2024, (and attached to this report as Exhibit 6C), the response states that coverage for Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members falls under the Public Officials and Management Liability section of the Agency's current coverage. The response also notes that an administrative assistant to the PAC Administrator, who is not an appointed member to any committee but a subconsultant, would not be able to be added to the Agency's policy by a rider. PAC and TAC members, and the prospective PAC Administrative Assistant who would subcontract to the PAC Administrator, were also

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<sup>1</sup> September 25, 2024, Board Agenda (see Item 21) and recording available at <https://ventura.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=19261>; draft minutes in 10/23 Agenda.

<sup>2</sup> LPV Judgment § 2.8.2

<sup>3</sup> The updated Delinquency List for WY 2023-1 Basin Assessments is available via the LPV Watermaster homepage: <https://fcgma.org/las-posas-valley-watermaster/>.

informed of this response on October 15 (this correspondence is also included in Exhibit 6C).

#### **BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

If needed, the special meeting tentatively scheduled for Friday, November 8, 2024, at 1:30 P.M. will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) due to construction in the Board of Supervisors (BOS) Hearing Room during the month of November. The room change and directions to the MPR will accompany the agenda notification, if the special meeting is confirmed to be held. This information item will remain part of the Administrative Report for meetings held during the duration of the construction project in the BOS.

For more information about Board and Committee meeting logistics, please refer to the updated list of scheduled meetings for 2024 (attached as Exhibit 6D).

#### **Committee Meetings:**

The Executive Committee met on Monday, October 14, 2024, to review and discuss the ongoing staffing analysis work by consultant Hallmark Group, and to discuss Resolution 2008-08 and next steps regarding defining the Executive Officer role. The draft material and presentation given to the Executive Committee is attached as Exhibit 6E. Staff anticipate that Hallmark Group will present their findings and finalized deliverable during the Friday, December 13, 2024, Board special meeting.

The Operations Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled to meet on Monday, December 2, 2024.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

This letter has been reviewed by Agency Counsel. If you have any questions, please call me at (805) 654-3942.

Sincerely,



Arne Anselm  
Interim Executive Officer

#### **Attachments:**

**Exhibit 6A** – LPV Watermaster Extraction & Use Reporting Tool Notification, Sent October 2, 2024

**Exhibit 6B** – Clarification RE-LPV WY 2024-1 Annual Groundwater Allocation Invoice, Sent October 8, 2024

**Exhibit 6C** – LPV Watermaster Committee Insurance Query Response from Glatfelter, Received October 15, 2024

**Exhibit 6D** – Updated List of Scheduled Meetings for Calendar Year 2024

**Exhibit 6E** – Staffing Analysis Materials Presented to Executive Committee, October 14, 2024

