

# MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

123B Valley Road  
Chalfant, California 93514

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Greg Allen, Chairperson  
Don Moss, Vice-Chairperson  
Geri Bassett, Secretary  
Carol Ann Mitchell  
Ed Parkinson  
Josh Rhodes  
Matt Doonan

Rhonda Duggan, Mono County District 2 Supervisor (Ex-Officio Member)

## REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

**Chalfant Community Center**  
**123 Valley Rd., Chalfant, CA 93514**

*Mission: The mission of the Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District is to comply with the California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)\* of 2014 and other applicable laws (government code, water code etc.) as the law pertains to the District.  
Core Vision: To preserve the groundwater within the boundaries of the District (Chapter 844 of 1989 California Statutes).*

### 1. Advisory Board.

#### A. Report.

B. Recommendation and possible action on renewing term of office for one year for Jarret Phillips.

C. Review and possible approval of Spring 2025 TVGMD Newsletter. (See attachment # 1C)

### 2. Public Comment.

3. Discussion and possible approval of minutes from the January 22, 2025 meeting. (See attachment # 3)

4. Discussion and possible nominations for the Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, and Secretary/Treasurer seats.

5. Update on the Strategic Plan. (See attachment # 5)

### 6. Conflict of Interest Code

A. Review of proposed update and related appendices. (See Attachment # 6 A)

B. Discussion and possible adoption of Resolution 25-01, updating Conflict of Interest Code. (See attachment # 6 B)

7. Review, discussion, and possible action on Board Rules from January 26, 2022 regarding frequency and dates of regular meetings. (See attachment # 7)

8. Board of Directors reports.

9. Adjourn to Special Meeting, Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 6:30 p.m. at the Chalfant Community Center.

# Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District

Newsletter  
Spring 2025

1  
attachment  
# 1C

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[View this email in your browser](#)

**TVGMD Core Vision:** To preserve the groundwater within the boundaries of the District (Chapter 844 of 1989 California Statutes.)

**Mission Statement:** To comply with the California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (2014) and other applicable laws (government code, water code, etc.) as the law pertains to the District.

## TVGMD Board Upcoming Meetings

### Special Meeting, March 26th, 2025

Groundwater Model Update by DBS&A and Inyo County Water Dept.  
Chalfant Community Center, 6:30 PM.

The groundwater model work plan states that once the hydrogeologic conceptual model has been updated, data have been reviewed, and there's been a preliminary analysis, the consultant will meet with TVGMD to present and discuss findings and to provide recommendations for the numerical model. DBS&A, the contractor, will be there to present, and Tim Moore from Inyo County will be there as the project manager.

### Regular Meeting, June 4, 2025, Benton Community Center.

To get on the mailing list from Mono County so you receive agendas, go to the [Mono County website](#) and in the lower left of the page, subscribe to agendas.

## Groundwater Awareness Week March 9-15, 2025

Do you know where your water comes from? All of us here in the Tri Valley area get our water from our wells. And our wells go deep into the ground to access the waters from our aquifer. I mean, likely we all know this, but we don't much think about it.



Until something goes awry. [Do You Know Where Your Water Comes From](#) has lots of good information and links to where you can find out more about "how well is your well". :)

Your Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District (TVGMD) board is charged with making sure groundwater is preserved for all uses, domestic and agricultural. Get involved! We need advisory board members and more people to attend the meetings.

## Update on Monitoring Wells Chalfant, Hammil, Fish Slough

Some of you may have seen wells being drilled in Hammil and Fish Slough. Those recent wells are not extractive wells but a way to monitor the aquifers in our area.

From CDFW: The Fish Slough/ Tri-Valley groundwater monitoring well project has progressed nicely. Beginning in October both the USGS drill team and the CDFW private driller mobilized to Hammil Valley to begin work on the northernmost MW3 monitoring site (USGS drill team) and the central MW2 groundwater monitoring site, both located on federal BLM lands. Upon reaching total depth at MW2 (1,200 below ground surface (bgs)) the CDFW driller mobilized to northern Fish Slough where they drilled and completed construction of the MW1 monitoring site located on LADWP lands. Depth to water measurements are being taken in the wells manually until the wells are outfitted with loggers by DWR, which is expected to occur in the next few months. Groundwater level data for the wells will be hosted on the [DWR CASGEM](#) system once the loggers are operational.

### **MW1 Northern Fish Slough (LADWP)**

3 nested monitoring wells  
 MW1C 220 ft, MW1B 660 ft, MW1A 1200 ft, bgs

### **MW2 Southern Hammil Valley (BLM)**

3 nested monitoring wells  
 MW2C 300 ft, MW2B 640 ft, MW2A 980 ft, bgs

### **MW3 Hammil Valley (BLM)**



2 nested monitoring wells  
MW3B 420-ft 420 ft, MW3A 660 ft, bgs

***The TVGMD invites public comment on this draft strategic plan for 2025. You may reply to this email with your comments, questions, suggestions. Thank you!***

## **TVGMD Strategic Plan 2025--Draft**

**Introduction**—Groundwater in the Tri-Valley area is likely thousands of years old owing to low precipitation amounts and the slow recharge rate in our desert environment. This precious resource supports both residential and agricultural wells. It is the work of the TVGMD to assess the impacts of drought, climate change, residential use and agricultural pumping on this desert aquifer and then take action to preserve groundwater for all concerned.

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\*This plan will be reviewed by the Board of Directors on a semi-annual basis and may be amended as needed. An end-of-year summary of progress on strategies will be developed at the start of each new year.

### **Enhance Groundwater Monitoring and Data Collection**

1. Continue to monitor the wells at the Benton and Chalfant landfills and enter this data into CASGEM.
2. Continue to work with the CA Department of Water Resources (DWR) to proceed with the well transducer placements in domestic wells in the Tri-Valley.
  1. Verify with responsible agencies on the frequency of QA/QC at the new monitoring sites to ensure accurate data is being logged and downloaded.
1. Work with the appropriate agencies, track progress on the installation of 2 monitoring wells being constructed on BLM land in Hammil Valley and the monitoring well in Fish Slough if that is within the TVGMD GSA boundaries.

1. 1. Determine where this data will be logged, that QA and QC protocols are followed, and ensure TVGMD Board has access to the data.
1. Continue to work with Mono and Inyo Counties and the designated consultant on the Tri-Valley Groundwater Model Project. Assist with data/information as needed.
2. Ask agricultural users in the Tri-Valley to provide any data they have on well size, depth, and gpm output and water level, level changes, and quality.

**Promote Education and Awareness via Community Involvement**

Improve communication with Tri-Valley Communities by:

1. Advertise Board of Directors meetings by announcing in the community calendar of the Inyo Register newspaper, on KIBS radio, and KMMT in Mammoth.
2. Offer meeting attendance for the public via Zoom on a regular basis.
3. Determine how to involve the Bishop Paiute Tribe and Utu Utu Gwaitu Paiute Tribe of Benton and follow through on that connection.
4. Ask each Board member to do a short bio for each newsletter and the website.
  1. Suggest topics for newsletter articles
1. Invite the community to a workshop style meeting of the Board of Directors in 2025 on the following topics—one in Benton and one in Chalfant
  1. SGMA (w/County Counsel)
  2. Fish Slough as a part of the TVGMD GSA

**Promote Sustainable Groundwater Practices**

1. Promote and support the adoption of irrigation efficiency technologies.
  1. Along with the Advisory Board, research funding opportunities/grants for securing more efficient irrigation technologies.
2. With assistance from the Advisory Board, educate residents on water conservation practices

**Action Plan**

*Quarter 1*

1. Work with Mono County to implement a hybrid option/zoom for the public to attend the board meetings by early 2025.

*Quarter 2*

*Quarter 3*

*Quarter 4*

**Evaluation and Reporting**

1. Establish metrics for evaluating successful completion of goals and objectives
2. Schedule a mid-year report summarizing achievements and lessons learned.
3. Create a year end report summarizing achievements, lessons learned, and adjustments for the following year.

### **Budget Considerations**

This strategic plan provides a roadmap for TVGMD to ensure responsible management of groundwater resources, emphasizing community involvement and education throughout the process.

## **Volunteer Corner**

TVGMD is an all volunteer organization and has been since its creation by the legislature in January 1990. TVGMD has many opportunities for volunteer service.

**"The broadest, and maybe the most meaningful definition of volunteering: Doing more than you have to because you want to, in a cause you consider good." – Ivan Scheier**

## **How Well Is Your Well?**

Are you interested in knowing how your well water is faring regarding biological and chemical health? It's pretty simple to have your water tested.

1. **Mono County Environmental Health** can test your water for microorganisms (760) 924-1830.
2. **Nevada State Health Laboratory at the University of Nevada Reno School of Medicine** is able to test for arsenic and uranium, as recommended for our area by Mono County Environmental Health. 775-688-1335.

*Information from: Mono County Environmental Health, Mammoth Lakes Office at (760) 924-1830 or the Bridgeport Office at (760) 932-5580*

### **Links to Previous Newsletters**

[Winter 2024](#)

[September 2023](#)



[June 2023](#)

[February 2023](#)

[November 2022](#)

## Contacts and Links

[TVGMD Website](#) for more information

For meeting reminders, etc. email: [secretary@tvgmd.org](mailto:secretary@tvgmd.org)

### Links

[California Department of Water Resources \(DWR\)](#)

[Sustainable Groundwater Management Act \(SGMA\) Overview](#)

[SGMA Best Practices Website](#)

[CASGEM](#)--site where well monitoring data is input and available

[California Department of Fish and Wildlife](#)

[UC Davis re Alfalfa Production](#) (lots of different articles)

### TVGMD Board of Directors

#### DIRECTOR A—Domestic Well

- Carol Ann Mitchell term expires 11/30/2026
- Joshua Rhodes (newly appointed to a vacancy), term expires 11/30/2026
- Geri Bassett term expires 11/30/2028
- Donald Moss, term expires 11/30/2028

#### DIRECTOR B—Resident/(Agricultural/100 GPM Well)

- Edward Parkinson term expires 11/30/2026
- Matt Doonan, term expires 11/30/2028
- Greg Allen term expires 11/30/2028

#### DIRECTOR EX-OFFICIO

- Mono County District 2 Supervisor Rhonda Duggan

### Advisory Board Members

#### Chalfant

Gina Barsi

Betsy McDonald

#### Benton

Jarret Phillips

#### Hammil

Dennis Murphy

**DRAFT  
MINUTES**

**Attachment # 3**

**MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
Regular Meeting of January 22, 2025 6:30 P.M.  
Benton Community Center**

Chairperson Allen called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, January 22, 2025. The meeting was held in person.

**Roll Call:**

Directors Present: Allen, Moss, Mitchell, Parkinson, Rhodes, Doonan, Duggan, and Bassett  
Directors Absent: None  
Advisory Board (A.B.) present: McDonald, Cleland  
Mono County (M.C.) Personnel in attendance: County Council (C.C.) Chris Beck

**1. Advisory Board.**

**A. Report**

No report, no meeting had been held.

**2. Public Comment.**

A.B. McDonald commented that it seems like there are a lot of TVGMD Board meetings being held in Benton.

Olga Glidewell (Chalfant) asked Director Bassett about the training on the new I.T. equipment. The training was to be held during the first couple of weeks of December 2024. She and another volunteer were interested in attending the training. She hadn't heard anything about the training to date. Director Bassett replied that, as far as she knew, the training had not yet been held. Director Duggan confirmed that this was the case. Director Bassett let Olga know that she would keep her informed.

**3. Discussion and possible approval of minutes from the November 20, 2024 meeting.  
(See attachment # 3)**

A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Director Doonan and seconded by Director Rhodes.

Vote – ayes – Directors Allen, Moss, Rhodes, Doonan, and Bassett.

Nayes – none.

Abstain – Directors Mitchell and Parkinson (both were absent on 11/20/2024)

**4. Update from the Strategic Plan committee.**

Director Mitchell reported that the committee had not had a meeting since before the 11/20/2024 Board meeting. They are still waiting for additional Board comments.

A.B. McDonald handed out copies of the draft Strategic Plan to date. She reported that the action plan wasn't done and suggested that the Board hold a workshop during one of the Board meetings to prepare a quarterly action plan. She feels that the ball is now in the Board's court.



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### **5. TV Groundwater Model Project (See attachment # 5)**

#### **A. Update**

Director Bassett read an email from Tim Moore, Inyo County Water Department. See attachment #5 in minutes package.

#### **B. Discussion and possible vote on holding a special meeting on March 26, 2025 for update from contractor.**

As noted in the attached update, a special meeting was asked to be held at the end of March for the consultant to give a presentation on their work to-date, including the hydrogeologic conceptual model.

A motion to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 6:30 PM in the Chalfant Community Center was made by Director Bassett and seconded by Director Mitchell.

Vote – ayes – Directors Allen, Moss, Mitchell, Parkinson, Rhodes, Doonan, and Bassett.  
Nays – none.

Director Bassett added that she had confirmed the availability of the Chalfant Community Center on that date and time.

Lynn Boulton commented that she felt it is very important that all Board members attend the March meeting, as the consultant might need future guidance from the Board.

### **6. Brown Act review presentation.**

M.C.C. Beck presented the Brown Act review and updates for 2025. One of the big changes in the law is how Board members, not the public or staff, can remotely attend Board meetings. See attached document.

In response to a question from Director Mitchell, M.C.C. Beck said that it is Ok to ask for a private party's name and put it in the minutes, as long as giving the name is not a condition of the person attending the public meeting or being able to make their comment(s) during the meeting.

### **7. Board of Directors reports.**

Director Bassett reported that:

- Chairperson Allen and she took a reading on the Benton monitoring well on 1/9/2025. The reading was 130.85 feet, up 5" from October 2024 and up 9.4" from January 13, 2024. **In reviewing the data after the meeting, Director Bassett realized she had given the wrong information for the January 2024 comparison. The January 2025 reading was up only 1.4" compared to January 2024.**
- Director Mitchell and she took a reading on the Chalfant monitoring well on 1/10/2025. The reading was 71.11 feet, up 7.68" from October 2024 and up 6.84" from January 2024.

The readings were entered into CASGEM on 1/10/2025.

- As a GSA, the Board is required to submit their Form 700's directly to the FPPC, not to Mono County. An email with the information for submitting the form will be coming out shortly. This is instead of submitting to Mono County, not in addition to. The submission covers the 2024 calendar year and is due in April 2025.

## **DRAFT**

- As mentioned earlier in the meeting, the I.T. training for the new equipment has not yet happened. Director Duggan commented that it should be coming soon.

Director Duggan commented that the TVGMD 24/25 Budget Allocation should be transferred to us soon. She is not sure how the process works.

Chairperson Allen reported that the Director's insurance through Golden State Risk Management Association should be in place. The invoice for payment should be coming shortly.

### **8. Adjournment to Wednesday, February 26, 2025, 6:30 p.m. at the Chalfant Community Center.**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Director Parkinson and seconded by Director Mitchell.

Vote – ayes – Directors Allen, Moss, Mitchell, Parkinson, Rhodes, Doonan, and Bassett.  
Nays – none.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.

**The next regular meeting is Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.  
at the Chalfant Community Center.**

**Geri Bassett, Secretary, TVGMD**

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### **Action Plan**

#### *Quarter 1*

1. Work with Mono County to implement a hybrid option/zoom for the public to attend the board meetings by early 2025.

#### *Quarter 2*

#### *Quarter 3*

#### *Quarter 4*

### **Evaluation and Reporting**

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**EXHIBIT “A-2025”**

**Attachment # 6A**

**MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE**

The Political Reform Act (Government Code Section 8100, et seq.) requires state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate conflict of interest codes. The Fair Political Practices Commission has adopted a regulation (2 Cal. Code of Regs. Sec. 18730) that contains the terms of a standard conflict of interest code, which can be incorporated by reference in an agency’s code. After public notice and hearing, the standard code may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission to conform to amendments in the Political Reform Act. Therefore, the terms of 2 California Code of Regulations section 18730 and any amendments to it duly adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission are hereby incorporated by reference. This regulation and the attached Appendix A-2025, designating positions, and Appendix B-2025, establishing disclosure requirements, shall constitute the Conflict of Interest Code of the Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District (District).

Individuals holding designated positions shall file their Statements of Economic Interests with the Mono County Clerk-Recorder, who shall be and perform the duties of the Filing Officer for the District.

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**MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE**

**EXHIBIT "A-2025"  
APPENDIX "A-2025"  
LIST OF DESIGNATED EMPLOYEES**

<u>JOB TITLE</u>	<u>DISCLOSURE CATEGORY</u>
Legal Counsel	1
Technical Staff/Advisor	1
Consultant	1

\* Consultants are included in the list of designated positions and shall disclose pursuant to the broadest disclosure category in the code, subject to the following limitation:

The District Board may determine in writing that a particular consultant, although a "designated position", is hired to perform a range of duties that is limited in scope and thus is not required to fully comply with the disclosure requirements in this section. Such written determination shall include a description of the consultant's duties and, based upon that description, a statement of the extent of disclosure requirements. The District Board determination is a public record and shall be retained for public inspection in the same manner and location as this Conflict of Interest Code. (Gov. Code Section 81008.)

NOTE: Members of the District Board of Directors are not designated within this Code because they must file under Government Code Section 87200.



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**MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE**

**EXHIBIT “A-2025”  
APPENDIX “B-2025”  
LIST OF DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES**

<u>DISCLOSURE CATEGORY</u>	<u>CATEGORY DESCRIPTION</u>
1	Investments and business positions in business entities and sources of income (including receipt of gifts, loans and travel payments) if the business entity or sources of income are located in or doing business in the District.
2	Interests in real property located in the District, including property located within a two mile radius of any property owned or used by the District.
3	Investments and business positions in business entities and sources of income (including receipt of gifts, loans and travel payments) of the type which are subject to the regulatory, permit, or licensing authority of the District.
4	Investments and business positions in business entities and sources of income (including receipt of gifts, loans and travel payments) of the type which engage in land development, construction, or the acquisition or sale of real property.
5	Investments and business positions in business entities and sources of income (including receipt of gifts, loans and travel payments) of the type which are: private water companies; engaged in farming, real estate development, ownership of real property, or the delivery of concessions or services on behalf of the District by virtue of the District’s authority.

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**Resolution 25-01**

**Attachment # 6B**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ADOPTING AN UPDATED CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Political Reform Act, the Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District has reviewed its Conflict of Interest Code and finds that some revisions are necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, the most expedient way to accomplish the necessary revisions is to adopt a new Conflict of Interest Code;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Directors of the Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District that the Conflict of Interest Code attached hereto as Exhibit "A-2025" and incorporated herein by this reference is hereby adopted as the Conflict of Interest Code for the District and said Code shall supersede any other Conflict of Interest Codes previously adopted by the Board of Directors.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025, by the following vote, to wit:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Allen, Chairperson  
Mono County Tri-Valley  
Groundwater Management District  
Board of Directors

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agency Counsel

RULES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

attachment  
#7

CHAPTER 1. ORGANIZATION

101. Powers and Duties of Board

The Board of Directors ("Board") of the Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District ("District") is organized pursuant to, and has those powers and duties granted in, Chapter 844, Statutes of the 1989 General Session of the California Legislature, which is more specifically known as the Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District Act ("Act"). In 2018, the act was amended in Sections 401, 402, 403, 404, and 802 of the Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District Act (Chapter 844 of the Statutes of 1989), relating to the groundwater management district.

102. Adoption of Rules

These rules, which may from time to time be amended, are adopted pursuant to Section 402 of the Act.

103. Manner of Action

The Board shall act by ordinance, resolution or minute order. The adoption of civil penalties for violations of the act, the creation of exemptions from the provisions of the act, the implementation of water management programs, the adoption of a schedule of fees on water export permits, and the creation and amendment of zones of benefit shall be by ordinance. The adoption of rules and amendments thereto and the establishment of regular meeting dates shall be by resolution. All other actions may be taken by ordinance, resolution or minute order as the Board deems appropriate.

104. Meetings

A. The Board shall meet monthly at a location within the District, unless the Board determines by resolution that more or less frequent meetings are suitable. Special meetings may be held outside the District in the discretion of the Board.

B. The regular meeting day and time shall be established by resolution. If any regular meeting day falls on a holiday, the Board shall provide for an alternate meeting date at a prior meeting, or it may in its discretion not meet in that month.

C. Regular meetings, adjourned meetings, special meetings and emergency meetings of the Board shall be posted or otherwise noticed and held in accordance with relevant provisions of law, including the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Section 54950, et seq.)

105. Quorum and Official Actions

A. A quorum of the Board shall be four members.

B. All official actions of the Board shall require four affirmative votes.