

## UKIAH VALLEY BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY 340 Lake Mendocino Dr. ♦ Ukiah ♦ California 95482 ♦ (707)463-4363 ♦ fax (707)463-5474

DATE: Tuesday, August 17, 2021

TO: Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (UVBGSA) Member

Agencies

SUBJECT: Additional Member Contributions from Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater

Sustainability Agency (UVBGSA) Member Agencies

## Dear Member Agencies:

On August 13, 2021, the Ukiah Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (UVBGSA) Board of Directors met to discuss funding for the implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and ongoing administrative costs of the UVBGSA. Following a presentation by the Financial Ad Hoc Committee, the Board adopted the Committee's recommendations including funding by member contributions in the immediate future, subject to commitment of funds by the respective Boards and Councils, until such a time that fees can be imposed. We also discussed conducting a study in order to implement a regulatory fee for ongoing funding. The estimated average annual costs for GSP implementation and UVBGSA administration, including funding for the fee study, are \$275,000, or \$68,750 for each of the four Member Agencies.

Additionally, the Board approved a budget augmentation for immediate additional groundwater monitoring in Fall 2021, subject to funding from additional member contributions. The Board discussed the lack of data currently being collected to analyze the impacts of the 2021 drought on groundwater conditions and the need for additional monitoring to study these conditions. Upon consideration, the Board authorized staff to expend funds up to but not exceeding \$16,000. This is \$4,000 for each member agency if divided evenly.

Based on our projected budget, the Ukiah Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency respectfully requests each Member Agency commit to additional contributions in the annual amount of \$68,750, beginning in Fiscal Year 2021/22, until such a time that a regulatory fee can be implemented for ongoing funding of the UVBGSA. It is anticipated the fee study and implementation of a regulatory fee will take 2-3 years, although no timeline is guaranteed. Additionally, it is requested each Member Agency contribute \$4,000 immediately to perform additional groundwater monitoring to study the effects of the current drought emergency on the groundwater levels in the Ukiah Valley Basin.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

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Sincerely,

Glenn McGourty Chair, UVBGSA