

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin January 5, 2022

A special meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Western Management Area (WMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Wednesday, January 5, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting occurred solely via teleconference in accordance with the latest Santa Barbara County Health Officer Order, as authorized by State Assembly Bill 361, and Resolution WMA-2021-001 (passed on 10/20/2021, reaffirmed 12/8/2021).

GSA Committee Directors Present: Jeremy Ball, Chris Brooks, Myron Heavin, and Steve Jordan

Alternate GSA Committee Director Present: Katherine Stewart, Kristin Worthley

Staff Present: Joe Barget, Bill Buelow, Brad Hagemann, Amber Thompson, Kevin Walsh,
Matt Young

Others Present: Bryan Bondy, Doug Circle, John Fio (EKI), Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Miles McCammon (Stetson Engineers), Dan Redman, Anita Regmi (DWR), Steve Slack (CDFW), Brett Stroud (Young Woolridge), and Susan (last name was not registered)

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

WMA GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Bill Buelow to call roll. A quorum was met with three Directors in attendance. WMA GSA Director Myron Heavin joined the meeting late during Item IV.

II. Consider findings under Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution WMA-2021-001

GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan made a MOTION to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution WMA-2021-001. GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball seconded the motion and it passed 3-0-1 by roll call vote with GSA Director Myron Heavin absent.

III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment. WMA GSA Director Myron Heavin joined the meeting.

V. Public Hearing on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Western Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (WMA GSP)

WMA GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks opened the public hearing at 10:07 a.m. Mr. Buelow announced the public hearing was properly noticed, gave a brief history of the WMA GSP preparation process. Comments of thanks and congratulations were received. There was no other public comment.

GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan made a MOTION to close the Public Hearing at 10:20 a.m. GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin seconded the motion. There was no discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VI. Consider Resolution Number WMA-2022-001 adopting the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Western Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

Mr. Buelow presented verification from the member agencies granting GSA Directors authority to vote for adopting the WMA GSP on behalf of the member agency. He read Resolution WMA-2022-001 and noted a couple typographical errors to be corrected. There was no discussion.

GSA Committee Director Myron Heavin made a MOTION to adopt RESOLUTION WMA-2022-001, ADOPTING GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN with corrections for typographical errors. GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball seconded the motion. There was no discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VII. Update and discussion on WMA GSP and Future Governance Options

There was no update and no discussion.

VIII. Update on WMA Annual Report

Mr. Curtis Lawler, Stetson Engineers, provided an update on the WMA First Annual Report. The report will include data from October 2018 through September 2021 and is due to DWR by April 1, 2022. Consultants are expecting to deliver a Draft of First Annual Report to the WMA GSA Committee at the February 23, 2022 regular meeting for review.

IX. Next Regular WMA GSA Meeting, Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Buelow announced the next regular WMA GSA meeting will be Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., either in person at City of Lompoc, Water Treatment Plant, Conference Room or via remote, to be determined based on continuing health concerns presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

X. WMA GSA Committee requests and comments

WMA GSA Committee Alternate Director Katherine Stewart asked if SkyTEM data collected help. Mr. Lawler advised the data will be included in the First Annual Report as part of the implementation process.

WMA GSA Committee Director Jeremy Ball asked for explanation of the expected DWR process of GSP review. Mr. Buelow and Ms. Anita Regmi, DWR, explained the DWR process.

WMA GSA Committee Director Chris Brooks expressed appreciation for the work and cohesiveness of consultants and member agency staff. He thanked CAG members for their participation in the process.

WMA GSA Committee Director Steve Jordan expressed concern on the need to determine the future governance.

XI. Adjournment

WMA GSA Director Chris Brooks adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.



Chris Brooks, Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

RESOLUTION WMA-2022-001

RESOLUTION ADOPTING GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR THE WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) requires that each groundwater basin in the state be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”), or multiple GSAs, and that such management be pursuant to an approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”), or multiple GSPs;

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (“WMA GSA”), formed by Memorandum of Agreement dated January 11, 2017 (“WMA MOA”), is the exclusive GSA for the Western Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Bulletin 118 Basin No. 3-015) (“Basin”);

WHEREAS, the WMA GSA has prepared a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) for the Western Management Area;

WHEREAS, on August 6, 2021, the WMA GSA gave notice under Water Code section 10728.4 to the City of Lompoc and to Santa Barbara County regarding its intent to adopt the GSP;

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2021, the WMA GSA released the Public Draft GSP (dated September 2021), requesting comments from interested persons and agencies by October 26, 2021;

WHEREAS, on December 17 and December 24, 2021, notice was published in the Santa Barbara News Press of the public hearing on adoption of the GSP to be held at 10:00 a.m. on January 5, 2022;

WHEREAS, the Final GSP, with responses to public comments received, was presented to the WMA GSA Committee in a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. on January 5, 2022;

WHEREAS, the WMA GSA, together with the other two GSAs in the Basin, has entered into the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Coordination Agreement (“Coordination Agreement”), effective January 1, 2022; upon adoption of the GSP, Water Code Section 10733.4 requires that the GSP be submitted to DWR for review on or before January 31, 2022

NOW THEREFORE, the WMA GSA hereby resolves as follows:

- 1) Each of the recitals above is true and correct and is incorporated herein by reference.
- 2) The GSA finds that that the GSP and Coordination Agreement comply with the requirements of SGMA.
- 3) Pursuant to Water Code section 10728.4, the WMA GSA hereby adopts the GSP as the GSP for the Western Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
- 4) The GSA hereby authorizes and instructs the Plan Manager designated under the Coordination Agreement to submit or direct the submittal of the GSP to the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") as required by SGMA and the SGMA Regulations. The Plan Manager is authorized to make any minor, administrative changes to the GSP that are required for submittal to DWR.
- 5) Should DWR require substantive changes to the GSP adopted herein, the Plan Manager shall bring such changes back to the WMA GSA Committee for review and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the governing Committee of the WMA GSA on January 05, 2022 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Jeremy Ball, Chris Brooks, Myron Heavin, Steve Jordan

NOES: None

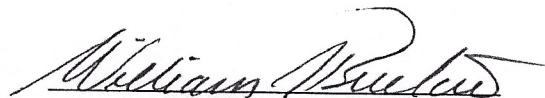
ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

ATTEST:



Chris Brooks, Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary