

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin May 20, 2020

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Western Management Area (WMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Wednesday, 20 May 2020. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency and Governor Newsom's Executive Orders to protect public health by issuing shelter-in-home standards, limiting public gatherings, and requiring social distancing, this meeting occurred solely via teleconference as authorized by and in furtherance of Executive Order Nos. N-29-20 and N-33-20.

GSA Committee Directors Present: Chris Brooks, Meighan Dietenhofer (Acting as Alternate), Myron Heavin (Acting as Alternate), Steve Jordan, Jim Mosby

Alternate GSA Committee Director Present: Art Hibbits, Katherine Stewart

Staff Present: Joe Barget, Bill Buelow, Loch Dreizler, Amber Thompson, Kevin Walsh, Kristin Worthley, Matt Young

Others Present: Jose Baer, Zoe Carlson (Dudek), Maygan Cline (GeoSyntec), Ken DaMako, Karen Kistler, Jeannette Lombardo, Christina Lucero (EKI), Miles McCammon (Stetson Engineers), Tim Nicely (GSI), Anita Regmi (DWR)

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

GSA Committee Director Brooks called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., welcomed all in attendance and asked Ms. Thompson Call Roll. Three Committee Directors and two Alternates were present providing a quorum.

II. Introductions and Review of SGMA in Santa Ynez River Valley Basin

Mr. Buelow announced names of all phone attendees who introduced themselves.

Mr. Buelow reviewed history of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requirements and what has been completed so far in the Santa Ynez River Basin including the creation of the three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Basin (EMA, CMA, WMA), securing Department of Water Resources (DWR) Prop. 1 Grant (Grant) funding, hiring Consultants, coordinating efforts between the eight agencies participating in the three GSAs, and establishing a Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) in each of the Management Areas of the Basin.

III. Additions or Deletions, if any, to the Agenda

No additions or deletions were made.

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

V. Review and Consider Approval of Minutes

GSA Committee Director Brooks submitted the minutes of the meetings of February 26, 2020 for GSA Committee approval.

GSA Committee Director Mosby suggested an amendment to the meeting minutes adding a detail he made to his comment in Item X, "as well as export of water out of Cachuma Lake to the South Coast."

GSA Committee Director Jordan made a MOTION to approve the minutes as amended. GSA Committee Director Mosby seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by Roll Call vote.

VI. Receive WMA GSA financial update and approve WMA Warrant Lists

Mr. Buelow presented the financial reports of FY 2019-20 Periods 7 through 9 (through March 31, 2020) and the Warrant Lists for January, February and March 2020 for GSA Committee review. There were no comments.

The GSA Committee unanimously approved the January, February and March 2020 Warrant Lists as presented (Nos. 1008 – 1010). GSA Committee Director Jordan made a MOTION to approve the warrant lists and financial reports as submitted. GSA Committee Director Heavin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by Roll Call vote.

VII. Receive update on GSP activities in the WMA and Basin

Ms. Cline, Geosytec Consultants, along with Zoe Carlson (Dudek) and Miles McCammon, Stetson Engineer, presented an update on the consultants GSP activities in the WMA GSA. The presentation included an update of consultant team activities since the last GSA Committee meeting in February 2020. The presentation included a SGMA overview, GSP milestones timeline, community outreach, review of Draft Technical Memorandum of Data Compilation and Management and review of Draft Technical Memorandum of 3D Geologic Model for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin. The consultants reviewed newly initiated work, ongoing activities, and the next steps to create a SGMA compliant GSP for the WMA GSA.

There was public comment, GSA Committee Member, consultant and staff discussion throughout the presentation.

- Ms. Lombardo, American Agri-Women, voiced concern about the cost for and reliability of data provided by SkyTEM survey and asked about electro-magnetic field concerns with SkyTEM survey. Ms. Cline replied that the electro-magnetic exposure by conducting a SkyTEM survey is estimated to be 1/100 of general exposure, similar to the exposure of standing one-foot from a toaster.

- GSA Committee Director Jordan requested follow-up on nitrate issues and is the Basin's SGMA effort to track nitrates coordinated with the State of California's efforts. Mr. Buelow asked the Stetson team to follow up about nitrate issues and his concerns using some previously published data.

a. Draft Technical Memorandum of Data Compilation and Management

Mr. Buelow presented the Draft Technical Memorandum of Data Compilation and Management. He reported that it is intended as a contractual document to document technical tasks completed by the consultant and includes very technical terms.

b. Draft Technical Memorandum of 3D Geologic Model for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

Mr. Buelow presented the Draft Technical Memorandum of 3D Geologic Model for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin. He reported it has very technical terms and is not intended for the public. It is intended as a contractual document to document technical tasks completed by the consultant.

GSA Committee Member discussion followed. There was no public comment. Unanimous consensus by GSA Committee Directors was to forward the two Draft Technical Memorandums to EMA CAG for review and comment.

VIII. Receive update on Proposition 68 Grand Award for Aerial Electro-Magnetic Survey of WMA

Mr. Buelow announced Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, on behalf of the CMA and WMA portions of the Basin, was awarded a \$296,000 grant with requirement of about \$100,000 to be spent by the CMA and WMA GSAs toward SkyTEM survey of the CMA and WMA. The survey should take one to two days possibly in late Summer 2020. The flight path will be a planned route and notification will be made to landowners as well as presentations and outreach made to the public. There was no public comment.

IX. Receive update of WMA Outreach Efforts

Mr. Buelow announced that based on community outreach discussions by the WMA GSA CAG and feedback from public, consultants, with staff input, created a Quarterly Newsletter. The first edition contains a basic SGMA overview for those members of the public not familiar with SGMA. The newsletter will be translated into Spanish and will be distributed by participating agencies in the Basin this summer.

Public comment and discussion followed. Unanimous consensus by GSA Committee Directors was to forward newsletter to WMA CAG for review and comment before publishing.

X. Next WMA Meeting: Monday, August 24, 2020, 10:00 AM, location TBD

Mr. Buelow announced that the next WMA GSA Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, August 26, 2020, 10:00 AM, location TBD. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, it may be held via teleconference call.

XI. WMA GSA Committee requests and comments

Mr. Buelow stating that the Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Agreement) had been endorsed by all three GSAs and adopted by all eight GSA Member Agencies in the Basin and is now effective

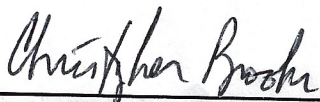
Mr. Barget, VVCSD, suggested a "SGMA Road Show" to be presented to all participating agency boards to increase stakeholder engagement.

GSA Committee Director Jordan expressed concerns regarding surface water movement and a model used.

Alternate GSA Committee Director Hibbits suggested the committee may want to send a letter to the Governor alerting him to the possible need to adjust timelines due to current COVID-19 restrictions. Mr. Buelow stated a group of GSAs are lobbying legislation for a change to the SGMA statute. However, at this point the GSAs in the Santa Ynez Basin are moving forward with the timeline as if no changes will be made.

XIII. Adjournment

GSA Committee Director Brooks adjourned the meeting at 11:29 a.m. GSA



Chris Brooks, Chairman



William J. Buelow, Secretary

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA (CMA)
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

JANUARY 2020 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1010	01/30/20	Valley Bookkeeping	FY 2019-20 1st-2nd Quarter Bookkeeping (July, Aug., Sept. 2019 and Oct., Nov., Dec. 2019)	\$ 300.00
1011	01/30/20	Stetson Engineers	Oct., Nov., Dec. 2019 Engineering Service (Task Order #2)	\$ 44,034.79
TOTAL				\$ 44,334.79

FEBRUARY 2020 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
TOTAL				\$ -

MARCH 2020 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1012	03/25/20	Stetson Engineers	Jan. 2020 Engineering Service (Task Order #2)	\$ 11,295.88
TOTAL				\$ 11,295.88

TOTAL THIS QUARTER: \$ 55,630.67